



Our community, we care, you matter.....



Annual Report 2013-2014

The Annual Review of the performance of NHS Orkney

This Annual Report and the Annual Review process give the opportunity to highlight some of the key activities and achievements of NHS Orkney during 2013-2014.

This year our Annual Review was non ministerial and was led by me as Board Chairman, with Cathie Cowan, Chief Executive, reporting on progress made on the issues that matter to the Board, looking at the good work being done by our dedicated staff and looking to the future.

The work over the last year has been around transforming service delivery and progressing the plans around the new healthcare facility – a new hospital that will support an environment where the language of quality, patient safety, improvement and innovation is part of our everyday practice and culture.

Patient safety is very clearly at the top of our agenda and we support a culture of continuous improvement through seeking out the voice of our patients, their families and our staff.

NHS Orkney Board has come a long way and our staff have travelled with us on our transformational change journey – and at times that has been hard. This Board does achieve and in being ambitious we can get it wrong but acknowledge our mistakes and learn from them.



John Ross Scott
Chair

This [Annual Report](#) is a brief summary of the performance of NHS Orkney.

Our website - www.ohb.scot.nhs.uk/ has considerably more information including:

- The full annual review self-assessment
- A letter from the Minister for Health and Social Care summarising the outcome of the Annual Review day
- A video of the Annual Review public meeting
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=K4JbNo89OT8
- The Annual Accounts will be made available once laid before Parliament

What is the Annual Review?

The performance of NHS Orkney is assessed formally by the Scottish Government Health Directorates each year through the Annual Review process. This includes a meeting in public where major areas of performance are discussed and the audience can ask questions. The topics, which are set by the Scottish Government, include performance against national targets as set out in the Board's Local Delivery Plan.

Some Highlights from the Annual Review

- we met our 31 and 62 day cancer targets as well as our treatment time guarantees, 18 week and 4 hour accident and emergency targets – targets that matter to all of us – targets that ensure we get care when we need it;
- in stroke care we have improved significantly and in June this year achieved above the 90% standard as a result of having designated stroke beds and our investment in a consultant led service with a consultant physician leading in this key area of care;
- whilst not up and running yet, a CT scanning service will be integrated in our hospital from early 2015.

We have made it our business to bring services back or to establish services in Orkney. Our investment in a consultant-led hospital model has to date recruited five to our seven consultant vacancies:

- We have ensured that we have sustainable maternity services going into the future. With two new obstetricians/gynaecologists we can deliver a service with our midwives that is no longer fragile and uncertain. We can repatriate services and already we are delivering gynaecology services having invested in staff and equipment, and we will do more when we have completed our interim build programme here in the Balfour – a build programme that will establish temporary additional theatre space.
- In medicine we have recruited two new consultants and we will begin to work with them to further establish out-patient clinics here in Orkney. We are out to

advert to increase this team to three and we are optimistic that we will appoint to this third consultant vacancy.

- In anaesthesia we now have a full complement of staff having appointed an additional consultant to the team.

Keeping with staffing we have invested in and appointed three new members of staff to our laboratories and we have recruited to our CT radiographer post. We have also invested in and appointed to additional radiography posts as well as our professional structure. We have also invested in a High Dependency Unit service.

We continue to look innovatively as to how to attract and recruit staff and we have secured a partnership with the Ministry of Defence to support clinical placements on the isles, in the community and in Accident and Emergency.

Integration

The Board and Orkney Islands Council have worked hard together around integration to ensure we make decisions that are right for Orkney. We have said Orkney is different and solutions agreed on the Scottish mainland often are not transferable to an island context and in reaching our decision to support a lead agency model led by NHS Orkney we aspired to do what is right for Orkney – a Body Corporate adds a layer of bureaucracy and cost that is in our opinion not needed or required.

We have already begun discussions with our colleagues in Orkney Islands Council and we are hopeful that elected and Board members can once again come together to reach agreement.

Performance and financial balance

Despite the need for additional brokerage the Board met its three key financial targets in 2013/2014 and is fully committed to meeting its financial responsibilities in future years. At a time of a growing elderly population, advances in treatment and technology, and issues around recruitment to remote and rural areas this is acknowledged as a challenge.

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Corporate Services:

Telephone: (01856) 888228 or

Email: ork-HB.Feedback@nhs.net