Dear Colleagues

Winter Planning 2018/19

Please find enclosed the Winter Plan for NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. It builds on the learning from last winter and the joint working across the Acute Division and all six Health and Social Care Partnerships.

The Plan addresses the priorities identified in the Cabinet Secretary’s letter providing assurance on appropriate staffing at critical periods, measures to improve resilience and leadership, and analysis of demand to determine surge capacity requirements. Specific attention on improving discharge processes at weekends and earlier in the day are outlined, with a trajectory to achieve a 5% improvement by December 2018.

Our cross system working is focused on developing ways of working to respond appropriately to patient demand outside of hospital. Considerable collaborative progress has been made across the six IJBs to improve and implement consistently measures intended to support patients within the community, or manage more effectively admission pathways that result in shorter hospital stays. This work continues and is reflected within the Winter Plan.

The Winter Plan also recognises the need to ensure planned care, cancer and ED performance is not adversely impacted throughout the winter period.

This year’s Winter Plan includes similar levels of additionality as last winter with respect to bed capacity and staffing across the health economy. We welcome the central allocation of £2.1 million. However, this falls short of required levels of spend and we will continue to both prioritise our plan to match available resources whilst continuing discussions with the Scottish Government on potential additional funding.

The Winter Plan was approved by the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Board on the 16th October 2018 reflecting our primary aim to deliver safe and effective care.

The letter has been signed by the Chair and Chief Executive of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and respective IJB chief Officers. We are in the process of seeking IJB Chair signatures and will forward this by the end of the week.

Yours sincerely

John Brown
Chair
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Jane Grant
Chief Executive
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde