

CMAST Leadership Board Update March 2023

The Leadership Board met on 3 March and discussed a number of key system issues:

A discussion on preparations for and considerations associated with upcoming junior doctors industrial action took place. The discussion provided an opportunity for system leaders to be updated on discussions amongst Trust Medical Directors and promoted the need for clarity with the public, partners and workforce, consistency of approach and response and the paramount importance of patient safety. System communications will be led by the ICB Medical Director and cascaded to Trust Medical Directors.

An update was received on progress toward achievement on the elimination of patients waiting greater than 78 weeks for treatment by the end of March 2023. Solid progress was being made, however, industrial action was noted to be a destabilising factor and risk to delivery. The Board was also briefed on implementation of the Mutual Aid Hub whose priorities included minimising variation in access and inequalities across Cheshire and Merseyside and will, going forward, include the coordination of shared, equitable access to the independent sector.

The group also discussed progress in responding to the Liverpool Clinical Services Review. The principles previously discussed by CMAST were reiterated: the need to respond to the review's recommendations; the need for this to be done in sight of partners; and for wider system implications to be considered. The conclusions of a national visit were also shared which had provided assurance on progress and the collaborative approach to system delivery within C&M. Finally, the group noted that the first meeting of the ICB led aspect of the review and related to Women's Health had taken place and that as well as CMAST members being present in their own right at this committee CMAST was represented through the appointment of the Wirral Trust Medical Director following an ICB request.

The Leadership Board were informed that CMAST had been successful in its bid to the Provider Collaborative Innovators Scheme. The offer includes access to national policy development, peer support and a bespoke support offer which is to be confirmed.

CMAST Leadership Board will also meet at the end of the month in order to avoid Easter bank holidays in April.