Hello – and welcome to the first of our new look monthly bulletins on the Health and Care Transformation Programme. Each month, we’ll be sharing the key things those on the front-line may need to know, as well as some success stories along the way. For questions or suggestions, please get in touch with the team at HealthandCareTransformation@gov.im.

A few words from Robin and Clair…

“We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work together to create a health and care system that we can all be proud of. Following the 26 recommendations outlined in Sir Jonathan Michael’s report, the Transformation Programme team’s aim is to work with you all to deliver a transformed system that improves quality of care, organises care around patient and service-user needs; and delivers the right care, in the right place, at the right time, in the most affordable way.

In recent months, the Health and Care Transformation Programme has recalibrated its plans as a result of the significant changes brought on by the COVID-19 crisis and the additional pressures it has placed across the Island, and particularly on the health and care system. In this period, we have continued to progress the Transformation Programme and with the agreement of the Chief Secretary focussed on areas that needed limited input from our colleagues from Department of Health and Social Care in particular, while they focus on the response to the crisis. Since then, and as the phased recovery and restoration of the services on the Island continues, the work of the Transformation Programme has resumed more fully and continues to gather pace.

We know the incredible work that has been done in recent months to help our Islanders. In the months ahead, we look forward to being able to work with you more closely as we continue to deliver the Programme”.

Thank you for your support in making this a success.”

Robin O’Connor and Clair Barks, co-leads, Health and Care Transformation Programme

July highlights

Work to establish Manx Care in 2021 continues at pace.

In June the Programme Boards accepted the recalibrated plans that were necessary because of the impact of COVID-19 on resources. These plans mean that Manx Care will now be established in shadow form from January 2021; with ‘go live’ still planned for April 2021.

One key area of focus for the team is the recruitment of the Manx Care Board. This started with the recruitment process for the Manx Care Chair – applications closed on 12 July. There has been strong interest, with a significant number of applications received. Interviews are scheduled for late July, with the view to the Manx Care Chair being in post in September. Meanwhile, the application window opened for the Chief Executive Officer role on 20 July.

The Transformation Programme welcomes the Independent Clinical/Professional Adviser.

We are pleased to have Professor James Kingsland join us as the Independent Clinical/Professional Adviser to the Programme. Bringing a wealth of experience from his long career as a senior clinician in the UK, James will provide specialist support to the Programme and its projects. Responsible for Clinical/Professional engagement, including as Chair of the Clinical/Professional Transformation Panel, he will ensure the Programme reflects on and incorporates the views of local clinicians and professionals.

The Transformation Programme’s Annual Report is laid before Tynwald this month.

The Health and Care Transformation Programme’s first Annual Report will be laid before Tynwald this month, providing a detailed overview of the structure, purpose and activity of the Programme in the past 12 months. Since the annual report was prepared, the Transformation Programme has developed the Key Milestone Plan, which outlines the key milestones up to Manx Care ‘go live’ in April 2021. Both documents are available on the Health and Care Transformation Programme pages on gov.im here.

Work has restarted on the National Health and Social Care Bill.

Following COVID-19 disruption, work has now restarted on the National Health and Social Care Bill. The Bill is focused on providing an appropriate legal framework to cover all health and adult social care services in future. The Transformation Programme is working closely with DHSC and the Attorney General’s Chambers to develop the policy for the Bill. Throughout, we will look to capitalise on the innovation and momentum created in response to COVID-19. Later this month, we will be approaching operational service leads to get their input to the policy.

In other Legislation news, the Manx Care Bill started its passage through the branches of Tynwald on 23 June. This followed a public consultation earlier this year that informed the Bill. The Summary of Response for this consultation can be found here.