

FORTH VALLEY NHS BOARD

PUBLIC SERVICES REFORM (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

INTRODUCTION

Under the requirements of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010, Forth Valley NHS Board is required to produce information on expenditure and certain other matters as soon as is reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year.

PUBLIC RELATIONS, OVERSEAS TRAVEL, HOSPITALITY & ENTERTAINMENT AND EXTERNAL CONSULTANCY

The Board is required to provide a statement of any expenditure incurred during the financial year on or in connection with the following matters:

- Public Relations
- Overseas Travel
- Hospitality & Entertainment
- External Consultancy

The following table summarises total expenditure for the period 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2012 within each heading. The statement has been prepared on an Accruals basis to reflect actual consumption during the period rather than simply recording Cash transactions.

Statement of Expenditure for the Period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012

Public Relations	£307,340
Overseas Travel	£8,498
Hospitality & Entertainment	£60,412
External Consultancy	£69,682

Public Relations

This figure is consistent with the amount quoted within Note 6 to the 2011/2012 Annual Accounts and goes beyond the requirements of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010, by including expenditure on internal publications too.

Overseas Travel

This is defined as per the Act and includes all costs associated with an overseas trip including accommodation, subsistence and transportation costs.

In 2011/2012 Forth Valley NHS Board incurred expenditure on 10 foreign trips, involving 11 delegates, at a cost of £8,498.

Hospitality & Entertainment

Under the Act, Hospitality & Entertainment should be interpreted widely as including any gifts, meals, parties, receptions, tickets for or invitations to public, sporting, cultural or other events or other similar benefits accorded by the Board to its own members or employees or third parties for whatever reason. A de minimis threshold of £25 for one-off gifts or benefits is recommended but Forth Valley NHS Board has opted to include all expenditure including items below the £25 level, for the purposes of completeness.

In interpreting the requirements of the Act, the Board has made the following assumptions / points of clarification:

- Forth Valley NHS Board does not fund events such as Long Service Awards and Retiral Teas.
- The Board operates both a Conference Centre and a Clinical Simulation Unit on a trading basis, providing facilities to third parties and invoicing accordingly. Expenditure incurred in both Units has been excluded.
- Current Board guidance requires that all meetings utilise Board premises where possible. Catering for meetings is restricted and is typically **not** provided for staff meetings and/ or training. However, the Act has been widely interpreted to include all identifiable expenditure on teas, coffees, milk, sandwiches etc. for User Groups, training, interviews, regional & national projects, away days and so forth. This includes costs of all day events/ training associated with GPs, nursing staff and other medical personnel.

External Consultancy

The definition of External Consultancy is taken from the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 which in turn refers to the following web-link for Scottish Government Procedures (including clarification of definitions), relating to Use of Consultancy:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/Procurement/about/SPDDOCFORMS/v>

The value quoted above includes both Revenue and Capital expenditure.

PAYMENTS WITH A VALUE IN EXCESS OF £25,000

The Board is required to provide a statement specifying the amount, date, payee and subject-matter of any payment made during the financial year which has a value in excess of £25,000, inclusive of VAT. This information is published separately on Forth Valley NHS Board's internet site, accessible from the following link:

<http://www.nhsforthvalley.com/publications/financial-information/>

MEMBERS OR EMPLOYEES WHO RECEIVE REMUNERATION IN EXCESS OF £150,000

Forth Valley NHS Board has 38 individuals who receive remuneration in excess of £150,000, (as defined by the Public Services Reform Act). This figure can be split into 3 Executive and 35 Clinical staff.

More detailed information can be accessed from Forth Valley NHS Board's Annual Accounts which are published on the Internet. These specific figures are published in the Remuneration Report as part of the Annual Report for the Executive Directors and in Note 2 (b) Higher Employees Remuneration for the Clinical Staff. It should be noted that the Note 2 (b) figures include payments in respect of voluntary severance and compromise agreements, which must be excluded, per Public Services Reform Act guidance.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Forth Valley NHS Board employs around 6,000 people and is responsible for providing health services for and improving the health of the population of Forth Valley.

Forth Valley NHS Board along with the NHS and the public sector in general is facing a significant financial challenge over the coming years. This challenge, along with the projected demographic changes, and the continuous efforts to improve the health of the population and to address health inequalities requires strong partnership working.

Following the completion of the major model and infrastructure changes the focus for Forth Valley NHS Board is to fully embed new and integrated models of care across the range of care settings from acute through to the network of four community hospitals, based in Falkirk, Stirling, Clackmannanshire and Bo'ness. This links the joint interests of the NHS and partners in not only delivering new models of care and facilities but in improving population health and reducing inequalities and sustaining the local workforce.

Forth Valley NHS Board remains committed to working with its partner organisations towards greater integrated service provision with improved outcomes by minimising cultural and structural barriers to joint working and maximizing collaborative approaches.

Forth Valley NHS Board is committed to the principles of Best Value, the duty of which is to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in performance, while maintaining an appropriate balance between quality and cost; and in making those arrangements and securing that balance, to have regard to economy, efficiency, effectiveness, the equal opportunities requirements and to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It is also understood that there are close links between quality and efficiency, recognising that poor quality services can often cost more to deliver than those that are of high quality. Within the context of the current economic climate, balancing improving patient experience, improving health and maximising efficiency and effectiveness have become increasingly challenging. Ways to gain efficiencies through increased emphasis on partnership working across public services continue to be explored. For example a review of opportunities for sharing premises and certain support services where appropriate to do so is on-going, taking account of 'A Policy for Property and Asset Management in NHS Scotland', September 2010.

Supporting this and delivery of NHS Forth Valley Integrated Healthcare Strategy 2011 – 2014 are a number of supporting plans that detail how Forth Valley NHS Board is implementing the strategy and in doing so promoting and increasing sustainable growth whilst exercising its functions. Overarching is the Corporate Plan which details both national and local priorities for action, and is subject to annual review. The Local Delivery Plan (LDP) is an annex of this. In addition, the Healthcare Strategy is fully supported by enabling Strategies such as the eHealth Strategy, the Communications Strategy, the Financial Plan and the Workforce Modernisation Strategy.

Forth Valley NHS Board acknowledges that staff are vitally important in achieving its vision. By developing skills and competencies to best effect and breaking down traditional professional boundaries a modern workforce is being created, thus ensuring continuing provision of services that are equitable, sustainable, safe and effective, accessible and of good quality.

Forth Valley NHS Board works closely within its communities via the three CHPs where Equally Well continues to be implemented. This emphasises the importance of good partnership working within Community Planning Partnerships, embedding health and health inequalities within community planning and supporting development of the local economy. Improvement groups in each CHP area have been formed and are the main mechanism for developing and implementing Joint Health Improvement Plans or equivalent, and influencing the development of Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs). Specific Health contributions to SOAs are detailed within the LDP. An identified critical issue for the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) is summarised as part of the LDP process, detailing relevant evidence and intelligence indicating the need to address this issue along with the impact on the CPP area. This work describes the local actions supporting the national focus on Health inequalities, Early years, Tackling poverty and Socio-Economic Inequality and Economic recovery. Examples of this work are; Early years, children and young people, and a 'healthy village' or 'assets based' approach to addressing health inequalities issues.

Forestry Commission Scotland, Falkirk Council and NHS Forth Valley encourage staff, patients, visitors and the local community to make greater use of existing woodland and greenspace in the grounds of Forth Valley Royal Hospital, for health improvement, therapeutic activity, physical activity and relaxation. The Hospital Greenspace project is being developed to increase the presence of trees, woodlands and biodiversity at Forth Valley Royal Hospital for the benefit of staff, patients, visitors and members of the public. The project is concerned with the establishment and management of a well-designed and accessible woodland and greenspace in the hospital grounds. This is part of a joined up approach to creating a health promoting hospital environment, improving access to the existing woodlands and greenspace for active recreation, socialising, rehabilitation, relaxation and health improvement activity.

NHS Forth Valley attaches the greatest importance to Environment Management that is practicable, safe and sustainable for its employees and members of the wider community who may be affected by the day to day activities of the organisation. The Scottish Government expects NHS Boards to take a leading role within their communities in protecting and enhancing the environment and in particular reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. With this in mind, NHS Forth Valley Environment Strategy 2009 – 2014 provides a basis for doing all that is reasonably practical to achieve a service provision which minimises the impact of the organisation on the environment both now and in the future. Policies and strategies in support of the Environment Strategy include Energy, Waste, Transport and Procurement.

NHS Forth Valley's Strategic Travel Planning and Healthcare Transport Framework set out a vision to sustainably improve access to Healthcare for the people of Forth Valley. The Framework identifies that a key component of this vision is the need to work collaboratively with a range of key partners. This work is supported by a plan setting out the key actions in relation to the four main linkages between health and transport: Promoting Active Travel; Transport and Public Health; Access to Healthcare; and NHS Staff Travel. Specific actions emanating from the action plan will be taken forward by main partners; NHS Forth Valley, NHS Tayside, Scottish Ambulance Service and Tactran.

EFFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS AND ECONOMY

Continual improvement in efficiency, effectiveness and economy are essential to meeting Forth Valley NHS Board's organisational strategy and objectives.

Over the last year, recurring and non recurring savings plans totaling approx. £25million have been delivered across a wide range of services and functions and further plans are now in place to meet additional, estimated recurring requirements for 2012/2013 and beyond.

During 2011/2012 a significant level of workforce efficiencies were achieved through a voluntary severance program which focused on reducing the recurrent pay cost of management, administrative and redeployed staff groups, whilst ensuring that frontline services continue to be met. Workforce and vacancy controls which were adopted during the previous financial year continued to be implemented during 2011/2012 ensuring the effective management review and authorisation of staff recruitment.

The key areas targeted to generate savings in 2012/2013 include workforce redesign, strategic changes, further operational management savings and additional prescribing efficiencies.

All areas of discretionary spend continue to be monitored and assessed including temporary staffing costs, travel and stationery.