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| **AGENDA ITEM** |
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| **EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES COMMITTEE** |

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| CHAIR’S REPORT |

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| **Date of meeting** | 09/03/2021 |

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| **FOI Status** | Open/Public |

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| **If closed please indicate reason** | Choose an item. |

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| **Prepared by** | Assistant Director Corporate |
| **Presented by** | Chris Turner, Chair of the Committee |

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| **Report purpose** | FOR DISCUSSION / REVIEW |

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| **ACRONYMS** | |
| CASC  WAST | Chief Ambulance Services Commissioner  Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust |

1. **SITUATION/BACKGROUND**
   1. The purpose of this report is for the Committee to receive an update on key matters related to the work of the Chair.
2. **SPECIFIC MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THIS MEETING (ASSESSMENT)** 
   1. Since the last Committee meeting Members should note that I have attended the following:

* Meeting with M Woodford Chair, WAST (11 November, 11 February,3 March)
* Ministerial Ambulance Availability Taskforce (11 December, 1 February, 15 February)
* National Programme for Unscheduled Care Board (22 January)
* Integrated Clinical Governance Task and Finish Group (13 January, 3 February, 24 February).

The meetings noted above have their own specific remits but there are multiple overlaps about system working.

* 1. Regular contact has also been maintained with CASC and Committee Secretary and attendance at monthly Chairs’ Peer Group meetings.
  2. Ministerial Objectives

In October 2020 NHS Chairs provided a summary of their achievements against their objectives for 2019-20. At that time the intention of the Minister for Health and Social Services was to issue objectives for 2020-21 for discussion at the mid-year reviews scheduled for January/February 2021. However, due to the unprecedented pressure placed on both the NHS and Welsh Government these have been stood down to allow for the focus to be on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members should note that I have now received a letter from the Minister for Health and Social Services in relation to my mid-year appraisal for 2020-2021 and will be responding in due course on the following:

1. Oversight and scrutiny of EASC Q3/4 Plans and planning of responsive and high quality emergency ambulance services
2. Oversight and scrutiny of regional and partnership working
3. Arrangements in place to ensure quality of care and prevention of nosocomial infections
4. Oversight of the Committee with regard to technology and digital innovation, ensuring momentum is maintained whilst evaluating benefits to service users and organization
5. Leadership provided to support WAST in relation to workforce
6. Consider the *four harms* from COVID-19.
   1. New members to EASC

I would like to formally welcome new Members to the Committee. You will note that the Governance Update to the Committee has included the Standing Orders, EASC Directions and EASC Regulations which should be reviewed annually.

I have asked the Committee Secretary to provide access for all Members to the information developed for the Ministerial Ambulance Availability Taskforce as this provides a clear (and short) overview of the work with Emergency Ambulance Services.

I would welcome an opportunity at the next meeting within a ‘Focus On’ session to discuss the effectiveness of the Committee so this can be included within our Annual Governance Statement.

1. **KEY RISKS/MATTERS FOR ESCALATION TO BOARD/COMMITTEE**
   1. Importance of addressing system pressures and supporting WAST as the pandemic in re-setting for the future.
2. **IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

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| **Quality/Safety/Patient Experience implications** | There are no specific quality and safety implications related to the activity outined in this report. |
| **Related Health and Care standard(s)** | Governance, Leadership and Accountability |
| **Equality impact assessment completed** | Not required |
| **Legal implications / impact** | There are no specific legal implications related to the activity outlined in this report. |
| **Resource (Capital/Revenue £/Workforce) implications /**  **Impact** | There is no direct impact on resources as a result of the activity outlined in this report. |
| **Link to Main Strategic Objective** | The Committee’s overarching role is to ensure its Commissioning Strategy for Emergency Ambulance Services utilising the five step patient pathway outlined within the National Collaborative Commissioning Quality and Delivery Agreement and the related outcomes for each care standard aligned with the Institute of Healthcare Improvement's (IHI) ‘Quadruple Aim’ are being progressed.  This report focuses on all the above objectives, but specifically on **providing** strong governance and assurance. |
| **Link to Main WBFG Act Objective** | Service delivery will be innovative, reflect the principles of prudent health care and promote better value for users |

1. **RECOMMENDATION** 
   1. The Emergency Ambulance Services Committee is asked to:

* **DISCUSS** and **NOTE** the information within the report.