

HSCB Meeting, 10 December 2020

Matters Arising

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Mrs Frazer undertook to respond to Non-Executive Directors on: whether Covid monies would provide for the vaccine and its distribution and the impact of EU Exit on the pharmacy budget.

Covid Vaccine

Further to discussions with DoH colleagues it can be confirmed that a figure of £140m was reported to the Health Committee as part of October monitoring – being the best estimate of costs of delivery vaccine of the (including vaccine purchase) at that time.

This was not included in the bid to DoF but highlighted as a potential additional requirement and we have been assured that funding will be made available if we need it.

(Lindsay may also wish to reference in the meeting that current estimates are lower than this as we are now working on the assumption that we will not be required to purchase the vaccine itself).

Impact of EU Exit on the pharmacy budget

Whilst government planning is predicated on no significant interruptions to the supply chain, there may be some degree of volatility in the supply chain, not unlike previous periods which may bring the potential for increased costs of drugs. However, due to the 12 month derogation period, this is not expected to be as significant / acute as it otherwise might have been. In the meantime, work is underway to develop the arrangements to examine supply chain issues on a day to day basis.