

Meeting of  
Lanarkshire NHS Board

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**SUBJECT: NHS Lanarkshire Winter Plan 2008/2009**

**1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of the paper is to describe the actions that will be taken by NHS Lanarkshire and partner agencies to address anticipated additional pressures on health and social care services over the period 3rd December 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

**2. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

The plans for Winter 2008/09 began with a debrief of the Winter 2007/08 plan in late March 2008. An event to follow up on the debrief and to agree what should be included the 2008/09 plan in more detail was held on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2008. Feedback from this event informed the first draft of the Winter Plan for 2008/09.

Guidance received from Scottish Government in August 2008 has been taken into account and specifically a self assessment of the Out of Hours plans. This assessment was submitted to Scottish Government on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

The Winter Plan seeks to address a range of key elements covering issues such as the two four day breaks, the workforce requirements within the A&E departments, the development of flexible “surge” capacity and the need to ensure compliance with waiting times guarantees. These issues are described in more detail on pages 2 & 3 of the attached report.

A detailed action plan for each part of the service has been developed and a high level summary is attached outlining the actions that will be taken across the system, in the acute and primary care sectors and in the Out of Hours service.

The additional capacity and actions outlined to ensure a robust services is in operation of the period come at an additional non recurrent cost which will be circa £553,000 at a maximum. Details of these costs are shown in the attached appendix.

**3. ACTIONS FOR THE SERVICE**

To support the implementation of the Winter Plan, a Whole System Action Plan has been developed and is attached to this report. This plan must now be performance managed in terms of implementation

Local detailed plans, rotas, on call lists and so forth along with the communications exercise will now begin to be put in place

The Emergency Access Board will closely monitor progress on implementation, and a core group has been convened, where all partners are represented, to oversee the implementation process. This group now meets fortnightly with effect from 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATION**

The Board is asked to receive the attached Winter Plan for 2008, to approve the additional finance consequences and to receive further ongoing progress reports in the run up to and the plan period.

#### **5. FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information or clarification of any issues in this paper please contact.

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