CCG49. Healthcare Acquired Infection Performance Report

The Committee considered a report by the Area Infection Control Manager which provided an oversight of all Healthcare Acquired Infection (HAI) related activity across Falkirk Community Hospital and Bo'ness Community Hospital from October 2022 to December 2022. Included in the report were details of all Staph aureus bacteraemias (SABs), Clostridioides difficile Infections (CDIs), Escherichia coli Bacteraemia (ECBs) and Device Associated Bacteraemias (DABs) for these areas, with a brief summary of the investigations that had been carried out.

The report also provided details of Covid-19 work. The report contained more graphs to enable the reader to have a more comprehensive and clearer understanding of the data.

The Committee asked whether there had been a genuine fall in the number of Covid-19 cases or whether this had been attributed to a fall in the number of people testing. The Area Infection Control Manager explained that prior to September 2022, all Covid-19 testing conducting within healthcare settings had used PCR testing. This had been a more sensitive form of testing which could pick up any lingering bacteria from Covid-19 within 90 days of infection. This had returned positive test results even if the patient had been asymptomatic. Since September, healthcare settings had been using an LFT test which had been considered the better test for active infections. A positive result from an LFT test had always been verified by a PCR test. There had been no outbreaks because of the change in approach to testing.

The Committee asked for clarity on the amber rating for estates compliance levels at Falkirk Community Hospital. The Area Infection Control Manager explained that relatively minor things such as a chip in a skirting board or staining on bathroom sealant would reduce percentage scoring. Issues which had been identified are flagged at estates and domestic team meetings. Any fault or issue identified had been assessed for repair. A breakdown of areas of concern and the actions being taken to address them would be provided in future reports. In addition to this, data on infection prevention control activities within care homes would also be presented in future reports.

Decision

The Committee noted the report.