

Appendix 1 – Responsibilities of the Health Board

The Board must ensure:

IPC Standards

1.1 Executive leaders and their teams have a working knowledge, appropriate to their role in the organisation, of the infection prevention and control policies and procedures as well as the national and local priorities that impact on care within their organisation.

1.2 There is an executive board member assigned to lead on infection prevention and control for the organisation.

1.3 There are local arrangements to ensure HAI issues are addressed by NHS board management.

1.4 There is an infection prevention and control team with the necessary expertise and leadership skills to support the organisation.

1.5 The organisation agrees and monitors key performance indicators for infection prevention and control, and executive leadership receives, reports and acts on these.

1.6 There is an infection prevention and control accountability framework, approved by executive leadership, which specifies the responsibilities, reporting structure and clinical governance of infection prevention and control risks at all levels in the organisation.

1.7 The organisation can demonstrate to patients, their representatives and staff:

- (a) HAI risk assessments are undertaken to ensure continuity of safe patient care during periods of service planning and reorganisation, and
- (b) effectiveness and improvement in maintaining a safe care environment.

1.8 The organisation can demonstrate effective management of outbreaks, including:

- (a) preparedness
- (b) assessment of patient care and safety
- (c) reporting, and
- (d) remedial action plans.

1.9 The organisation has strategic, operational and quality assurance systems, with clinical governance oversight to demonstrate compliance with infection prevention and control policies.

1.10 The organisation demonstrates a culture of learning from positive reporting, and adverse events, including outbreaks and incidents, and seeks confirmation of system change to reduce risk, prevent recurrence and promote resilience.

1.11 The organisation uses data from a variety of internal and external sources to meet its objectives and to support learning and continuous improvement in infection prevention and control practice.