West Midlands Radiotherapy Network 2025-26 workplan

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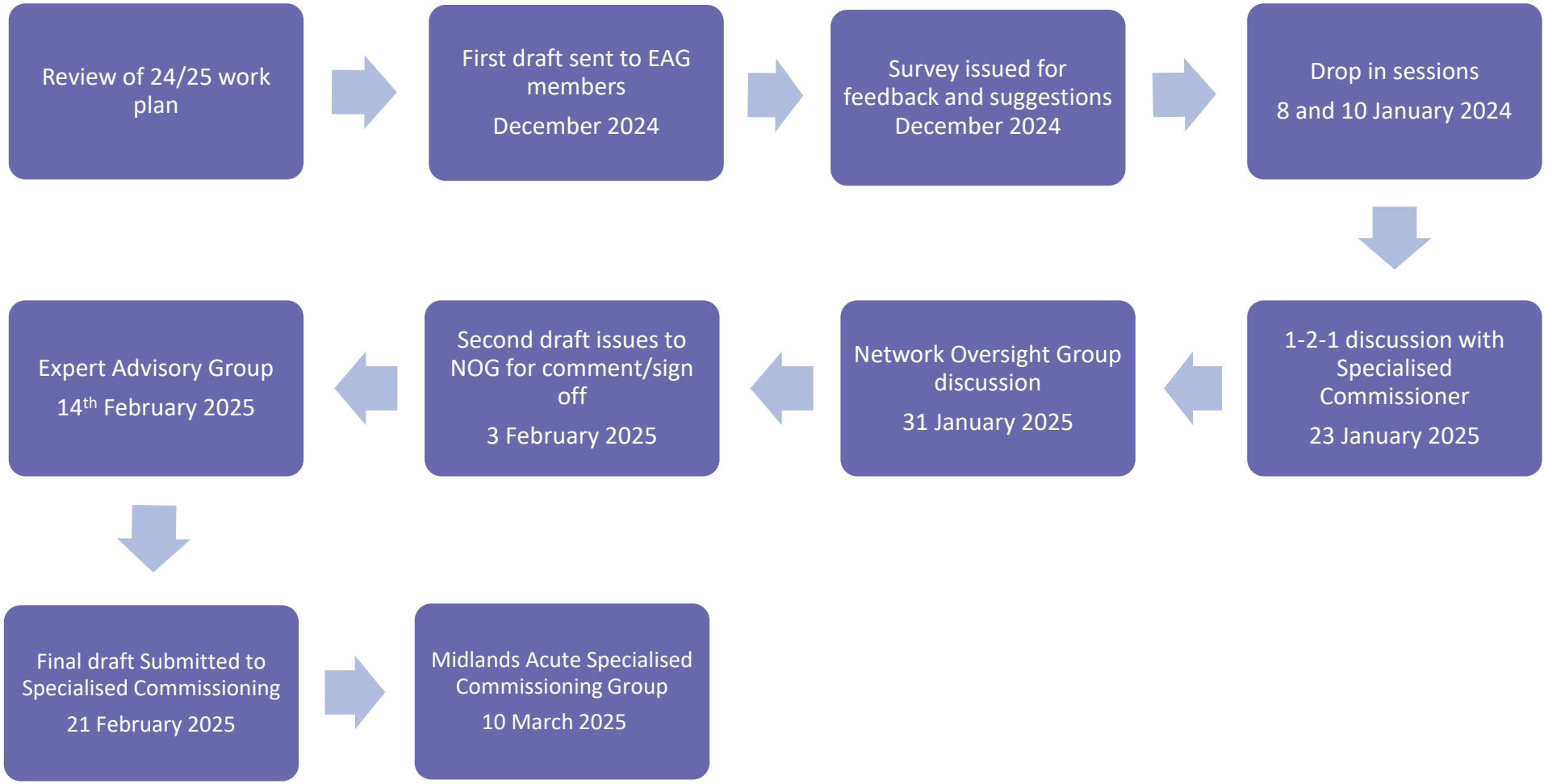
Process followed: engagement activities



Engagement – feedback received so far

What activities from the 2024-25 workplan would you like to see continue?

- SABR study day, promote and evaluate impact of patient facing videos, educational videos
- Workforce, protocols and performance improvements
- Workforce is imperative, biggest concern SpR recruitment within the West Midlands, seems we have no growth.
- Ensure we plan to evaluate the patient videos
- Put 'marker in the sand' to support operational performance

What activities from the 2024-25 work plan do you think we should stop?

- AI auto contouring
- Linac replacements (this year funding is available). Proknow this is now implemented. AI need to be on agenda but is now funded for the next 3 years by NHSE
- Molecular Radiotherapy, should this be under Nuclear Medicine?
- De-prioritise Rad 18 as we've made significant improvements – just monitor via ODN quality reports

What new priorities do you think we should look at in 2025-26?

- Prehabilitation
- We need to engage more with our data and hopefully use the WMCA staff to support more analysis and support to gain improvements
- SpR recruitment if not possible support for further development of Consultant Radiographers

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Engagement – NOG feedback points 31.1.25

- Make productivity clearer on the workplan, in light of the 25-26 planning guidance published on 30.1.25
- Need to include AI auto-contouring given national funding no longer available and the productivity gains this can offer
- Capacity and demand is part of workforce strategy implementation plan for year 2, but needs to be made clearer or a stand-alone item on workplan
- Clinical oncologist workforce challenges are key issue
- Priorities from trusts include brachy, AI auto-contouring, productivity, peer review, capital replacement programme
- MRT less of a priority and RT service teams have little or not involvement (nuclear medicine instead)

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Engagement – EAG feedback points 14.2.25

- Put AI auto-contouring above ProKnow as more impactful on productivity
- Amend description for capital equipment, so that support is clearer

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West Midlands Radiotherapy Network 2025-26 'workplan on a page'

Improve access + increased participation in clinical trials

- SABR study day and improving MDT awareness of SABR
- **Brachytherapy - supporting WM capacity challenges**
- Promote clinical trials and evaluate impact patient facing videos

Improve experience of care + undertake workforce planning

- **Workforce strategy – ongoing implementation**
- **Capacity and demand tool implementation**
- Promote and evaluate breast patient information videos

Reduce variation in quality + Support RT waiting times

- Protocol reviews
- **Peer review**
- Head and neck pathway transformation and **productivity +** supporting operational performance

Review service provision, incl. capital equipment + Reduce variation in equipment utilisation

- **Ongoing support and maintenance of equipment register**
- Mapping Molecular Radiotherapy Service provision

Roll-out new and innovative technologies e.g. AI and ProKnow

- AI auto-contouring to support **productivity**
- ProKnow adoption

Network comms and engagement strengthened; communities of practice established; shared learning events

ICB stakeholder influencing and increasing visibility of radiotherapy

Improve access, improve patient experience, deliver a sustainable workforce strategy; and increase clinical trials participation

		Due	Status
SABR study day and MDT awareness	• Study day held 15th May 2025 • MDT awareness raising activities	Q1 Q2	
Brachytherapy – support capacity challenges	• Ongoing mutual aid arrangements	Q1-4	
Promote clinical trials to MDTs and patients facing	• Work with WMCA to promote clinical trials to MDTs • Light-touch evaluation of patient facing videos	Q1-4 Q3	
Workforce strategy implementation	• Review/lessons learnt for year 1 • Year 2 actions agreed & funding/partner support secured	Q1 Q1-4	
Capacity and demand tool implementation	• Roles & responsibilities for project agreed/project scoping • Testing tool, sharing learning and impact between trusts	Q1 Q1-4	
Promote and evaluate breast patient information videos	• Launch videos • Light-touch evaluation of patient facing videos	Q1 Q2	

Review service provision, reduce variation in quality, improve RT waiting times, plan for capital equipment replacement; and roll-out innovation

		Due	Status
Protocol reviews	• Review protocols as per schedule	Q1-4	
Pathway transformation	• ECAD data quality issues understood and addressed	Q1	
	• Head and Neck pathway: mapping workshop held and actions agreed	Q1	
	• Actions to support improved productivity implemented	Q2-41	
Peer review	• Stocktake findings presented to Midlands Acute Providers	Q2-4	
	• Good practice identified an implementation toolkit produced	Q3	
	• Peer review policy refreshed	Q3	
Capital equipment replacement	• Ongoing support and maintenance of asset register	Q1-4	
Molecular radiotherapy service provision	• Support to commissioners to ensure mapping exercise completed	tbc	
AI auto-contouring	• Implement the automated system evaluation tool project	Q1-4	
	• Facilitate access to commercial auto-contouring systems	Q1-4	
	• Stocktake/benchmarking exercise & sharing best practice/measure impact	Q1	
ProKnow adoption	• Review/lessons learnt from 24-25	Q1	
	• Ongoing implementation/participation in national audit programme	Q1-4	