

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Integration Joint Board	
Held on:	13th of December 2023	
Agenda Item:	10	
Title:	Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report	
Summary:		
The purpose of this report is to update IJB on the performance of statutory social work services for 2022 - 2023.		
Author:	Gary Hoey, Chief Social Work Officer	
Recommendations:		
It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board		
i. Considers and notes the performance of statutory social work service as summarised in paragraph 4.1.		
Route to meeting:		
Directions:		
1. No Directions Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Directions to NHS Ayrshire & Arran	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Directions to South Ayrshire Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Directions to both SAC & NHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Implications:		
	Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>
	HR	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Equalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>

CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update SAHSCP Integrated Joint Board on the performance of statutory social work services for 2022 - 2023.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Integrated Joint Board:

- 2.1.1 Considers and notes the performance of statutory social work service as summarized in paragraph 4.1 and the report attached in Appendix 1.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Every local authority must have a professionally qualified Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) as per Section 45 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994. The role of the CSWO is to ensure the provision of appropriate professional advice in the discharge of a local authority's statutory functions as described in Section 5 (1B) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.
- 3.2 The role covers the full range of a local authority's social work functions to provide a focus for professional leadership and governance. The role provides strategic and professional leadership in the delivery of social work services.
- 3.3 The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 provides for the delegation of certain social work functions by a local authority to an integration authority – for example, a Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 3.4 The Scottish Government requires the CSWO to produce an annual report of service quality and performance, key challenges, and for this particular year, the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The CSWO annual report (Appendix 1) highlights areas of performance across statutory Social Work services. The CSWO would wish to draw attention to the following key points within the report:
- 4.1.1 That overall, the report shows that as services return to operational status post covid demand continues to grow across the majority of service areas.
 - 4.1.2 The range of transformational work within Children's Health, Adult Services and Justice Services to build on strengths and offer choice and control to those who use our services.
 - 4.1.3 The developments outlined for each service in relation to "looking ahead" that will drive improvement and therefore deliver better quality services to the people of South Ayrshire.
 - 4.1.4 The implementation of our Workforce Plan that seeks to address the retention and recruitment and wellbeing issues within the profession.
- 4.2 Alongside these key issues, the CSWO would wish to publicly recognise and acknowledge the skills and compassion shown by our practitioners, managers and partners every day to provide services to our community.

5. LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The CSWO has prepared an annual report of service quality and performance which complies with the Council's statutory duties and will submit this to Scottish Government as required.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report beyond those contextualised within the body of the annual report.

7. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no human resource implications arising from this report beyond those contextualised within the body of the annual report.

8. RISK

Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

- 8.1.1 There are no risks associated with this report beyond those contextualised within the body of the annual report.

Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

- 8.2.1 Rejecting the recommendation may impact on the reputation of the Council and SAHSCP.

9. EQUALITIES

9.1 The proposals in this report allow scrutiny of performance. The report does not involve proposals for policies, strategies, procedures, processes, financial decisions and activities (including service delivery), both new and at review, that affect the Council's communities and employees, therefore an equality impact assessment is not required.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

10.1 This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

11. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. LINK TO COUNCIL PLAN

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 4 of the Council Plan: Efficient and effective enabling services.

13. RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.

13.2 Consultation has taken place with Lead Officers, Heads of Service and Councillor Lee Lyons, Portfolio Holder for Health and Social Care, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

13.3 The contents of this report have been reported through other structures attended such as the Child Protection Committee and Adult Protection Committee.

14. NEXT STEPS FOR DECISION TRACKING PURPOSES

14.1 If the recommendations above are approved by Integrated Joint Board Members, the Chief Social Work Officer will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure implementation.



Person to Contact

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6/12/2023