

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Integration Joint Board		
Held on	28th April 2021		
Agenda Item:	5		
Title:	VASA and HSCP Strategic Relationship		
Summary:			
<p>This report seeks the IJB's endorsement of a proposed new strategic relationship between the third sector in South Ayrshire through VASA (Voluntary Action South Ayrshire) and the Health and Social Care Partnership.</p>			
Author:	John Wood, Senior Manager HSCP Linda West, VASA		
Recommendations:			
<p>It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Consider and provide comment on the proposed agreement between VASA – as the representative organisation of the third sector – and the HSCP; ii. Agree that the IJB Chief Officer (and broader management team) meet with VASA twice per year to review the relationship; and iii. Endorse the draft agreement at Appendix 1. 			
Route to meeting:			
<p>Discussed internally within the HSCP and at Strategic Plan public engagement meetings with VASA members; endorsed by Strategic Planning Advisory group on 20th April 2021.</p>			
Directions:		Implications:	
1. No Directions Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Directions to NHS Ayrshire & Arran	<input type="checkbox"/>	HR	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Directions to South Ayrshire Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Directions to both SAC & NHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Equalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
		ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>

VASA and HSCP Strategic Relationship

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks the IJB's endorsement of a proposed new strategic relationship between the third sector in South Ayrshire through VASA (Voluntary Action South Ayrshire) and the Health and Social Care Partnership.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:

- i. Consider and provide comment on the proposed agreement between VASA – as the representative organisation of the third sector – and the HSCP;**
- ii. Agree that the IJB Chief Officer (and broader management team) meet with VASA twice per year to review the relationship; and**
- iii. Endorse the draft agreement at [Appendix 1](#).**

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 South Ayrshire IJB recently approved a refreshed Strategic Plan for the Health and Social Care Partnership, developed with the support of engagement by VASA (Voluntary Action South Ayrshire) representing third sector organisations in South Ayrshire. The Strategic Plan emphasises the importance of partnership working and specifically recognises the contribution of the third sector to improving outcomes for the people of South Ayrshire.
- 3.2 The HSCP is clear that it cannot achieve its objectives without the support of the third sector – a fact that was particularly apparent throughout the initial 'lockdown' period of the pandemic during which VASA and its members provided vital support to the community.
- 3.3 In order to build on this positive relationship between the third sector and the HSCP, formalise it and provide future commitment to it, a partnership agreement is proposed at Appendix 1. Although this work has been led and developed locally, primarily by VASA, it also reflects national work to develop a strategic partnership between [COSLA and the SCVO](#) (Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations).

4. REPORT

- 4.1 It is hoped that the Agreement at Appendix 1 contributes to and underpins the positive growing relationship between South Ayrshire HSCP and the Third Sector in South Ayrshire and displays a shared vision and clear ways of

working that will further strengthen the partnership, demonstrating collaborative, co-produced and joined up working; supporting communities together.

- 4.2 It recognises and validates the Scottish Government mandated role of the Third Sector Interface (VASA) and the national commitment to including the Third Sector in the Integrated Joint Board (IJB) Strategic Planning. It sets out a structure for joint working, bringing localism within communities, embedding the power of partnership working for the benefit of South Ayrshire's people.
- 4.3 South Ayrshire HSCP and the Third Sector, which includes community groups, voluntary organisations, faith groups, charities and social enterprises have different approaches, different cultures, and face different challenges. The South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Strategic Plan aspires to support people to live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, and resilient. Therefore, there is a shared interest in the wellbeing and sustainable development and empowerment of the people in South Ayrshire.
- 4.4 Both the Third and Independent Sectors should therefore be recognised and appreciated as equal partners for their commitment and contribution to our communities. By building effective relationships between Third and Independent Sectors and the Health and Social Care statutory services, partners we are pledging to strengthen the Health and Social Care Sector as a whole, bringing greater collaboration and delivering real benefits to the people of South Ayrshire.
- 4.5 Ultimately, both sectors prioritise the wellbeing of the South Ayrshire community. Partners should recognise the value in the different roles played by the statutory sector and the Third Sector and that there is also a right for Third Sector organisations to disagree, debate and challenge decisions.
- 4.6 The Third Sector Interface (VASA) will collaborate effectively to ensure that the Third Sector of South Ayrshire has the opportunity and the means to participate in and engage in discussions that harness the voice of communities. The HSCP will also work with Vasa and Scottish Care locally to ensure a collaborative approach to commissioning services where possible, in partnership with the community and the people we support. Ensuring that the Third and Independent Sectors have the opportunity to work to continuously improve and enhance relationships that build strong trust and confidence that their voice is actively listened to and reflected. Investing in the voice of the people and the relationships built between Third Sector services and the communities they serve.
- 4.7 The should note, in particular, the separate but invaluable relationship between the HSCP and independent sector providers of care who are represented by Scottish Care. Locally, we enjoy a strong relationship with Scottish Care and we have engaged with them around how their members also fit into and will benefit from this agreement.

5. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

5.1 Agreement to this report will support the achievement of the IJB's Strategic Objectives. In particular:

1. *We focus on prevention and tackling inequality*
2. *We nurture and are part of communities that care for each other and,*
6. *We are transparent and listen to you*

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

6.1.1 There are no direct financial implications of agreeing this report.

6.2 Human Resource Implications

6.2.1 There are no direct HR implications of agreeing this report.

6.3 Legal Implications

6.3.1 There are no direct legal implications of agreeing this report.

6.4 Equalities implications

6.4.1 There are no equalities implications of this report.

6.5 Sustainability implications

6.5.1 There are no direct sustainability implications of agreeing this report.

6.6 Clinical/professional assessment

6.6.1 This report does not require clinical or professional considerations to be reflected to the IJB.

7. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

7.1 This report relates directly to partnership working and the partnership agreement at Appendix 1 was discussed during consultation on the IJB Strategic Plan as well as receiving input at the SPAG on 20th April.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1. There is no risk associated with this report. A strong partnership with the third sector should support a range of risk mitigations.

REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT

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