

<b>Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership</b>	<b>Integration Joint Board</b>		
<b>Held on</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>		
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>11</b>		
<b>Title:</b>	<b>IJB Agile and Remote Governance Arrangements</b>		
<b>Summary:</b>			
<p>This report provides a summary of agile and remote governance arrangements in place since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and outlines steps taken by the HSCP to ensure good governance.</p>			
<b>Author:</b>	<b>John Wood, Senior Manager HSCP</b>		
<b>Recommendations</b>			
<p>It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Notes the content of this report, outlining the current and previous governance arrangements during the pandemic; and</li> <li>ii. Notes the internal audit report on IJB Agile Governance Arrangements at Appendix 1.</li> </ul>			
<b>Route to meeting:</b>			
Internal review.			
<b>Directions:</b>		<b>Implications:</b>	
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"/>

## IJB Agile and Remote Governance Arrangements

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of agile and remote governance arrangements in place since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and outlines steps taken by the HSCP to ensure good governance.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

#### **2.1 It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:**

- i. Notes the content of this report, outlining the current and previous governance arrangements during the pandemic; and**
- ii. Notes the internal audit report on IJB Agile Governance Arrangements at Appendix 1.**

### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Since March 2020, as a result of the national 'lockdown' in response to COVID-19, the IJB has had to adapt its governance arrangements to adhere to national guidelines on physical distancing as well as to allow the HSCP to focus operationally on the immediate response to COVID-19. This report sets out how the arrangements that have been put in place over the past year and how they will adapt in future.

### 4. REPORT

- 4.1 This resulted initially in the 'pausing' of governance meetings albeit the IJB were kept informed via correspondence and briefing meetings via Skype with delegated authority being passed to the IJB Chief Officer, as agreed on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020:

*The Integration Joint Board approved the delegated authority for the Chief Officer and S95 Officer to take decisions for the period of the COVID-19 Pandemic in respect of those matters that would normally require IJB Board approval, subject to consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board, and in addition where the matter relates to the NHS or the Council after consultation with the Chief Executives of the NHS and Council respectively as required and to report such decisions to the first available Board.*

- 4.2 Given this happened before immediately prior to the summer recess and meetings recommenced remotely (via Skype and then MS Teams) this resulted in just two meetings of the IJB being cancelled and one meeting of the Performance and Audit Committee. Thereafter all meetings took place remotely but as scheduled. The exception was the Strategic Planning Advisory Group (SPAG) which was under review and had a first full meeting in January 2021 to review the Strategic Plan.

4.3 During this period of time, no meetings have been made accessible to the public however the IJB will ensure public access to its meetings from **28<sup>th</sup> April 2021**. This will be done in a way that replicates the NHS Ayrshire and Arran Board approach (i.e. a MS Teams link is sent to those who wish to attend) until we have a technical solution to livestream the meetings.

4.4 The attached internal audit report highlights key actions that should be taken by the IJB to ensure good governance following the initial lockdown period and now that the IJB has adapted to the use of MS Teams for its meetings. Responses to each recommendation are outlined in the report and actions will include: making all meetings accessible to the public online; continued work to develop directions (being progressed in collaboration with North and East Ayrshire).

## **5. STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

5.1 Good governance is fundamental to the successful functioning of the IJB and the Health and Social Care Partnership. Our revised Strategic Plan places an emphasis on community engagement and transparency as well as being efficient and effective organisation – governance is key to this, in particular the ability for the public to attend our meetings.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

### **6.1 Financial Implications**

6.1.1 There are no financial implications to agreeing this report however elements around directions relate to improving financial governance and transparency.

### **6.2 Human Resource Implications**

6.2.1 There are no HR implications to agreeing this report.

### **6.3 Legal Implications**

6.3.1 There are no direct legal implications of agreeing this report. The Appendix refers to relevant provisions made within the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020.

### **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. RISK ASSESSMENT**

7.1 There is no risk associated with agreeing this report. As outlined above, within the Appendix, there is a risk to the IJB's quality of governance if the actions outlined are not progressed.



## **REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT**

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