

<b>Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership</b>	<b>Integration Joint Board</b>		
<b>Held on</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b>		
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>5</b>		
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Chief Officer's update report</b>		
<b>Summary:</b>			
<p>This report provides an update to the South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board on behalf of the Chief Officer on items that do not merit a full report but the Board may wish to note. Topics covered in this report include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) COVID-19 response and system pressures</li> <li>b) Announcement(s) on additional funding from Scottish Government</li> <li>c) Public Health update</li> <li>d) Public Involvement Representative on IJB</li> <li>e) South Ayrshire Council Best Value Audit</li> </ul>			
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Tim Eltringham, Chief Officer</b>		
<b>Recommendations:</b>			
<p><b>It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. Considers the content of this report and offer any reflections</b></li> </ul>			
<b>Route to meeting: Report for IJB only.</b>			
<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"/>

## CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report provides an update to the South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board on behalf of the Chief Officer on items that do not merit a full report but the Board may wish to note. Topics covered in this report include:

- a) COVID-19 response and system pressures
- b) Additional funding from Scottish Government (Winter Planning)
- c) Public Health update
- d) Public Involvement Representative on IJB
- e) South Ayrshire Council Best Value Audit

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

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

- i. Considers the content of this report and offers any reflections.**

### 3. REPORT

3.1 Topics for noting are detailed below.

#### **COVID-19 response and system pressures**

##### *COVID-19 in the community*

3.2 Advice from Scottish Government remains in place for communities to exercise caution, adhere to infection control measures in public places where possible and to take the vaccine when offered. Infection rates do remain high in Ayrshire as in the rest of Scotland, however recent figures show a reduction in COVID-19 related deaths, hospitalisations (including ICU) and overall infection rates. The weekly numbers of new positive cases across Ayrshire have fallen for the fifth consecutive week, down from 184 per day on average to 172 per day in the latest data (12<sup>th</sup> October 2021). Almost two-thirds (66.0%) of all cases in the under 18s were in young children aged between 2 and 11. The NHS and HSCP remain on an emergency footing.

3.3 The vaccination programme continues to be successful and impactful with all adults now having been offered two doses of the vaccine and rollout continuing for young people. Booster jags (administered alongside flu vaccination) are now being offered to relevant parts of the community and are being offered to all 'front-facing' HSCP staff.

##### *System pressures*

3.4 As IJB members are aware, the easing of restrictions, successful rollout of the vaccine, counterbalanced by the increased prevalence of COVID-19 makes for a complex picture for our services at the moment. There continues to be

particular pressure on the health and care system – unprecedented for this time of year.

- 3.5 A short verbal update will be provided on the current system pressures. Since the previous meeting of the IJB, the Directorate Management Team have established a Short Life Working Group dedicated to finding solutions to recruitment and retention challenged in care at home.

#### *Future Operating Model*

- 3.6 Work continues within South Ayrshire Council to define and move to the Future Operating Model and within NHS Ayrshire and Arran to move to the distributed working model. The HSCP plays a full part in the development of these initiatives and has been working through the senior management to ensure there is a strategic direction to how we wish to use buildings and deploy staff in the short, medium and long term.

#### **Additional funding from Scottish Government (Winter Planning)**

- 3.7 On 5<sup>th</sup> October the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care [announced](#) recurring investment of **£300m** to support the direct response to the intense winter planning and system pressures highlighted by health boards, local authorities, integration authorities, service providers and trade unions.
- 3.8 The new funding will support a range of measures to maximise capacity in health and social care, ensuring that those in the community who need support receive effective and responsive care, that people can be cared for in the most appropriate setting for their needs, improve pay for social care staff, and maximise capacity in hospitals and primary care.
- 3.9 The NHS and Social Care Winter Package of additional funding includes:
- Recruiting 1,000 additional NHS staff to support multi-disciplinary working
  - £40 million for ‘step-down’ care to enable hospital patients to temporarily enter care homes, or receive additional care at home support, with no financial cost to the individual or their family
  - Over £60 million to maximise the capacity of care at home services
  - Up to £48 million will be made available to increase the hourly rate of adult social care staff offering direct care, from a minimum of £9.50 to a minimum of £10.02.
  - £20 million to enhance Multi-Disciplinary Teams, enable more social work assessments to be carried out and support joint working between health and social care
  - £28 million of additional funding to support primary care
  - £4.5 million available to Health Boards to attract at least 200 registered nurses from outwith Scotland by March 2022
  - £4 million to help staff with their practical and emotional needs, including pastoral care and other measures to aid rest and recuperation.

Specific allocations and further information will be provided to Chief Finance Officers and Directors of Finance in the near future. **A full report will be presented to the IJB on the specific funding allocations and how these will be utilised to support the measures intended.** Investment proposals will be presented for approval where required.

### **Public Health Update**

3.10 Following agreement at the September IJB to remove the request for a full report on Public Health activity across South Ayrshire (pre-dating the pandemic), the short update below has been provided by the NHSAA Public Health Team.

Since January 2020, the Public Health Department has responded to the ongoing Covid pandemic. Staff from all disciplines across the department have supported the Health Protection function, providing specialist support to our own organisation, and other key partners, including our Local Authorities, Health and Social Care Partnerships, Care Sector, and wider Third Party colleagues. As part of that response, a Test and Protect function has been developed, staffed and implemented at very short notice, and continues to be delivered in the shape of a robust Contact Tracing Service and Testing Service as we reach almost 22 months of our support of the effects of the pandemic. In addition to that, a vaccination programme has also been developed, implemented and continues to be delivered within Ayrshire and Arran.

Due to these unprecedented pressures, staff have not been able to focus and support local activity from their substantive posts. The majority of staff have been displaced and redeployed to aspects of the Covid response across the timeframe.

Although the expectation of the IJB was to receive an update on Health Improvement activity from Public Health at this time, the pressures of Covid have meant this is not possible. The update from Public Health is that all resources have been focussed on providing services to protect our population. As pressures ease across our systems, we would hope to see staff return to their roles. In our ambition to deliver World Class Public Health, adopting a place based approach to our work and within the context of Caring for Ayrshire, we have and will continue to play a key part in the progress of Community Planning activity across South Ayrshire, and have built positive relationships with our colleagues in the HSCP, where we would hope to support the implementation of the ambitions aligned with their Strategic Plan and Wellbeing Pledge.

### **Public Involvement Representative**

3.11 The IJB have been sighted on the efforts to appoint a new public involvement representative following the retirement of Hugh Millar. It was previously agreed that the HSCP should develop a new proposal for having 'public' involvement on the IJB. Since the last IJB meeting, HSCP officers met with HIS Engage colleagues

and discussed how this can be progressed as part of our revised community engagement strategy. The development of future arrangements will be taken through the SPAG before a recommendation is made to the IJB.

### **Best Value Audit of South Ayrshire Council**

3.12 Audit Scotland carried out a remote best value audit of South Ayrshire Council between January and June 2021. As part of the audit process, the Controller of Audit will present the Best Value Assurance Report on South Ayrshire Council to the Accounts Commission, for their consideration, on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

3.13 The council has welcomed the Controller of Audit's recognition of the council's quick response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the role council employees played in providing support, in conjunction with partners, to vulnerable individuals and communities, while continuing to deliver vital services.

3.14 The report finds that the Integration Joint Board's governance arrangements have improved over the last year, stating that the investment in the leadership team of the Health and Social Care Partnership has contributed to this improvement. It also finds that the IJB has made **improvements in children's services**, however, it has made slow progress in addressing other performance issues (e.g. in delayed transfers of care). It has recently set out plans for transformational change and there is evidence of recent improvement in delayed discharges. There are three specific findings relating to the IJB as well as positive reference to children's services:

- **“The governance arrangements between the IJB, council and NHS have been strengthened to provide clearer strategic direction.”** This refers to improvements in financial management and improved understanding between the IJB, NHS and SAC around governance.
- **“The IJB has made slow progress in addressing specific performance issues since its establishment and has only recently begun investing in transformation.”** The slow progress refers specifically to delayed discharges but does recognise improvements during the audit period (e.g. in bed days lost). Improvements are noted in children's services, with a significant reduction in “Out With Authority” placements which also resulted in savings of £2.7 million being achieved.
- **“The council and the HSCP work well with local communities, and locality plans have helped drive forward community-led initiatives.”** This section praises the HSCP and Council's collective approach to the Locality Planning Groups, the Champions Board and participatory budgeting.

3.15 The report is available on the Accounts Commission website at <https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/about-us/accounts-commission/commission-meetings>. The findings will be fully considered by the council and **a detailed report will be brought to the IJB and Performance and Audit Committee to identify and agree actions in response.**



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