

<b>Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership</b>	<b>Integration Joint Board</b>
<b>Held on</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b>
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>Item 5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Chief Officer's update report</b>
<p><b>Summary:</b></p> <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 recovery</li> <li>b) System pressures</li> <li>c) Adult Social Work Learning Review (ASWLR) update</li> <li>d) National Care Service update</li> <li>e) Audit Scotland Social Care briefing</li> </ul>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Tim Eltringham, Chief Officer</b>
<p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p><b>It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:</b></p> <p><b>i. Considers the content of this report and offer any reflections</b></p>	
<b>Route to meeting: Report for IJB only.</b>	
<p><b>Directions:</b></p> <p>1. No Directions Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2. Directions to NHS Ayrshire &amp; Arran <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3. Directions to South Ayrshire Council <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>4. Directions to both SAC &amp; NHS <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>Implications:</b></p> <p>Financial <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>HR <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Legal <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Equalities <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sustainability <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Policy <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>ICT <input type="checkbox"/></p>

## CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### 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 recovery
- b) System pressures
- c) Adult Social Work Learning Review (ASWLR) update
- d) National Care Service update
- e) Audit Scotland Social Care briefing

### 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 recovery

3.2 The HSCP along with the NHS continues to be in emergency response mode in order to deal with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and wider system pressures. Weekly meetings continue to be held of the Community Services Oversight Group and there is ongoing engagement with providers (care home and care at home) to offer appropriate support. The rollout of the vaccination for COVID-19 and flu for frontline staff over winter was successful with uptake being high.

3.3 Working arrangements for the majority of staff are unchanged since we last reported to the IJB, however over recent weeks social work staff who were working remotely over December and January have returned to office buildings. Over the winter period, the Scottish Government and COSLA encouraged councils to redeploy staff to support social care where appropriate. This was taken forward in South Ayrshire to the extent that any staff/service areas were able to.

3.4 The NHS Ayrshire and Arran Remobilisation Plan 4 has now been submitted to the Scottish Government (9<sup>th</sup> February) and will be formally taken to the IJB once approved.

### **Broader system pressures**

- 3.5 As IJB members are aware, there continues to be particular pressure on the health and care system resulting directly and indirectly from the pandemic. A short verbal update will be provided on the current system pressures at the meeting, covering, in particular our continued efforts to keep delayed transfers of care to a minimum and respond to significant pressures in staffing.
- 3.6 The Scottish Government continue to seek additional assurances from IJBs in relation to performance within their areas and in January a new weekly return was requested by all HSCPs including data on vacancies, delayed discharges, work with the third sector and other activity.

### **Adult Social Work Learning Review (ASWLR) update**

- 3.7 The ASWLR continues to meet monthly involving a range of stakeholders from those with lived and living experience, staff, managers and academics. The review has now moved into the service design stage and will be bringing forward proposals in relation to
- Creation of 3 multi-disciplinary hubs to act as the new front door to services
  - Strengthening of Social Work services to offer support to vulnerable groups and in particular those affected by drug and alcohol misuse
  - The creation of an ethics of care framework that will articulate practice and standards in South Ayrshire and have 3 key models to deliver on this approach that will inform practice development activity
- 3.8 The review remains on track to report its findings in March 2022.

### **National Care Service Update**

- 3.9 In January, the Scottish Government published the responses to the recent National Care Service consultation and a summary of initial findings: [National Care Service consultation responses published - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-care-service-consultation-responses/pdfs/full-report.pdf)
- 3.10 The published document states responses show 'huge enthusiasm' for changing the way we deliver support and services for people who use community health and social care in Scotland. Almost 1,300 responses were received from a wide range of individuals and organisations, after Ministers sought views on plans for the biggest reform of public services since the creation of the National Health Service.
- 3.11 A significant proportion of the responses came from individuals with lived experience, or bodies that represent them. The social care workforce are also well represented in the responses, along with providers, all of whom see much room for improvement.

- 3.12 The responses also highlight the risks that will emerge from such significant change, but the main theme is that change is needed, and it is needed now, as well as in the longer term.
- 3.13 A copy of the analysis report is available at the following link: [National Care Service Consultation: Analysis of responses - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/documents/2020/06/20200616_national_care_service_consultation_analysis_of_responses.pdf).

### **Audit Scotland Social Care briefing**

- 3.14 On 27<sup>th</sup> January, Audit Scotland published a comprehensive briefing on the social care sector in Scotland: <https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/publications/social-care-briefing>.
- 3.15 The report says fundamental issues and threats to the future sustainability of Scotland's social care system need to be addressed. It recognised that the pandemic has exacerbated long-standing challenges, highlighting the precarious situation of many vulnerable people who rely on social care or support.
- 3.16 Audit Scotland found that despite over £5 billion a year is spent on delivering social care services, some services are at near crisis point. There needs to be a shift in how this money is used, with a far greater emphasis needed on preventative care that meets the needs of individual people. Service users do not always have a choice or say about what support works best for them. Nor are carers getting all the support and advice they need, despite existing legislation.
- 3.17 It reports that 200,000-strong workforce is under immense pressure and feels undervalued. There is a high vacancy rate and a continuing problem of recruiting and retaining this workforce into roles which often have low pay and poor conditions of employment. At the same time demand for social care services continues to increase.
- 3.18 This report will be considered at the Strategic Planning Advisory Group.

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

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