

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Integration Joint Board	
Held on	16 December November 2020	
Agenda Item:	4	
Title:	Chief Officer's update report	
Summary:		
<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> <p>a) COVID-19 Recovery and Mobilisation b) COVID-19 Testing c) COVID-19 Vaccination d) Care at Home and Reablement</p>		
Author:	Tim Eltringham, Chief Officer	
Recommendations:		
<p>It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:</p> <p>i. Considers the content of this report and offer any reflections</p>		
Route to meeting:		
Report for IJB only.		
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"/>

CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

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 Recovery and Mobilisation
- b) COVID-19 Testing
- c) COVID-19 Vaccination
- d) Care at Home and Reablement

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board

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

3. REPORT

3.1 Topics for noting are detailed below.

COVID-19 Recovery and Mobilisation

3.2 From Friday 11th December, South Ayrshire is in Tier 3 of the [Scottish Government's Protection Framework](#), having previously been in Tier 4. Despite reflecting a slight easing of the spread of infection rates, the partnership remains on an emergency footing, prioritising our COVID-19 response with the management team (DMT) meeting at least three times per week.

3.3 The difference between Tier 3 and 4 in relation to service delivery is minimal. A wide range of services continue to be delivered on an adapted basis, using digital technology to engage remotely with the people we support and with many office staff working from home (all desk-based council staff continue to work from home until further notice. Through our daily South Ayrshire Care Home Oversight Group, we provide support and oversight to care homes with a recent focus on supporting homes to achieve regular testing of their staff and to receive visitors, keeping in line with developing Scottish Government guidance. The Oversight Group agenda also covers day care and care at home services.

3.4 As requested by the IJB, a COVID-19 Response and Recovery Activity Tracker is provided at [Appendix 1](#). The document is regularly reviewed by DMT and complements reporting through NHS and Council management structures.

COVID-19 Testing

3.5 Since the previous meeting of the IJB, the Scottish Government have announced further expansion of COVID-19 testing.

- 3.6 Testing is being supported in relation to all acute emergency admissions (from late November) and planned/elective visits (from week starting 14th December). In addition all 'patient facing' staff in acute sites (including visiting HSCP workers) will be offered Lateral Flow testing from week starting 14th December.
- 3.7 The Testing Expansion Plan will significantly expand testing to designated visitors to care homes and professionals from health and other professions that regularly visit care homes. This additional testing will enhance the existing layers of protection in place for the social care sector, for the people it serves, and for communities.
- 3.8 A key priority is to make testing available to **designated visitors to care home residents**, which will be rolled out in a phased way. This approach will see the introduction of lateral flow testing for visitors on the day of the visit, at the care home site, so that if a test is positive, family members can take immediate action to isolate and avert the harm that could have arisen. Testing for designated visitors, using lateral flow devices, will be made available to all care homes from w/c 11 January. Similarly, roll out to **care at home** services will take place from 18 January.
- 3.9 The Scottish Government published Christmas Guidance to Care Homes which has been cascaded and discussed locally.
- 3.10 The introduction of **testing for all visiting professionals**, including public sector, independent contractors or statutory body staff who attend care homes or provide care at home at least twice per week and have to be within one metre of residents, clients or patients will begin in mid-December and work is underway to implement this in South Ayrshire and a comprehensive communications plan being developed with the additional aim of ensuring high staff compliance

COVID-19 vaccination

- 3.11 Members will be aware that the first vaccinations against COVID-19 have now been issued, including in South Ayrshire. Initial supplies of the Pfizer vaccine have been arriving at NHS Boards across Scotland for the past week and are being stored at the required Ultra Low Temperature.
- 3.12 In South Ayrshire relevant materials were provided to those administering the vaccination on Tuesday 8th December in the two licenced clinics at Crosshouse and Ayr Hospitals. The first front line care home staff vaccines were administered from 9th December. All frontline care home staff will be offered the vaccine before Christmas. Uptake has been positive and additional vaccines will be arriving from next week, and it is anticipated that there will be sufficient supply to administer to meet demand. Vaccine is available to staff who have been 'COVID-free' for at least 28 days and vaccines are voluntary.
- 3.13 The vaccination programme does not override embedded infection control practice and providers have been advised staff should be reminded to follow high standards of hygiene and infection control.

Care at Home and Reablement

- 3.14 As noted at the previous meeting of the IJB, South Ayrshire HSCP continues to focus considerable effort into reducing the number of delayed discharges. As part of this work, the Care at Home service has been allocated funding for a six month test of change post to reduce hospital delays. Part of the current challenge relates to the lack of capacity across internal and external Care at Home and the post holder is working closely with private providers to arrange care packages to support people home from hospital on the day they are medically fit in line with a discharge to assess model.
- 3.15 Discussions are being held with private providers to highlight the challenges they are facing in terms of capacity and consider how we can support them. Vacancies for internal Care at Home have been advertised and the Reablement service will also be advertising for more staff in December.

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