

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION UPDATE

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides the Community Services Committee with an update of the progress achieved by the Council and NHS Highland in taking forward the arrangements for the integration of health and social care services as required by Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. The report provides summary detail of the work undertaken by the Joint Project Team as directed by the Argyll and Bute Shadow Integration Joint Board (IJB).

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Community Services Committee note the contents of this report

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3.0 INTRODUCTION

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4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

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5.0 DETAIL

5.1 The Joint Project Team developed a detailed project plan that is being implemented through a series of 13 thematic workstreams. The following key areas of progress have been reported to the Shadow Integration Joint Board:

- a) **Preparation of the Integration Scheme** – All health and social care partnerships are required to develop and submit an Integration Scheme to the Scottish Government for approval. The Scheme is largely a technical document that sets out the arrangements for integration and is completed using a standard template designed to promote consistency across all partnerships. Following a period of consultation during December 2014, the draft integration scheme was updated with comments received from stakeholders and from the Scottish Government and was submitted for formal approval on 28th January 2015. It is understood the Argyll and Bute scheme is one the earliest submitted and the Partnership anticipate receiving formal approval by 1st April 2015.
- b) **Communication Update** – Project newsletters were issued in December and January and were distributed widely to staff, community organisations, council and NHS service points and electronically through both organisations' websites and the health and social care integration website hosted by Argyll Voluntary Action which went live week in November 2014

(www.healthytogetherargyllandbute.org). A further newsletter issue was released in February 2015.

A detailed communications plan has been agreed by the Shadow Integration Joint Board – the following sections give some examples of this work

- c) **Staff Communication** – The project team established an Integration Blog which is live on the Council/CHP websites for staff. A total of 1640 views of the Blog had been recorded by the end of January 2015.

Additionally the Communication and Public Involvement work stream and the Operations work stream have been working in partnership with the Trade Unions and the second round of staff information sessions will be concluded by mid February 2015. The filming of local examples of integrated working by Argyll and Bute staff has also been completed. This work will be used at staff sessions to help them explore what better integrated working will mean in their everyday working life. The approach of using local examples should stimulate the debate on exactly what integration will mean for staff undertaking their daily roles and ultimately what it will mean for service users/ patients.

- d) **Communication/ Engagement/ Involvement with Communities -** Conversation café events are being organised in localities throughout 2015, these are being organised in partnership with the Scottish Health Council. The first round of these events took place during December and January 2015. In addition there will be a series of events which will be led by local managers to discuss with members of the public the plans for taking forward integration across Argyll and Bute.
- e) **Shadow Integration Joint Board Development** – The development of the members of the Shadow Integration Joint Board was identified as critical to the success of the governance and scrutiny arrangements for the health and social care partnership. The development of a partnership between two organisations needs to address the needs of differing cultures and perspectives. A development session for Shadow Board members and senior staff took place on 19th December 2014 which will be followed up with further work to address identified development needs for members individually and collectively.
- f) **Trade Union/Staff Side Joint Forum** – The engagement of trade union and staff side representatives is also critical to the success of the integration process. A trade union/ staff side Forum has been established and is meeting on a regular basis with trade union/ staff side representatives attending the Programme Board and the Shadow Integration Joint Board.

5.2 It is understood that resources cannot legally be delegated to the Integration Joint Board until a 3 year strategic plan is agreed. The 3 year plan effectively sets out the priorities for health and social care in Argyll and Bute, what those outcomes will be, how they will be delivered and how resources will be used. The strategic plan will also be supported by the development of locality plans

that reflect local needs and aspirations. It is our understanding that no formal scrutiny of the strategic plans has been put in place by the Scottish Government at this time. The Scottish Government are currently consulting on guidance related to the preparation of the 3 Year Strategic Plan which we anticipate will help guide the design of process for its development and related consultation.

- 5.3 As part of the integration process, Community Health Partnerships are removed from April 2015 therefore there is a need to look at transitional arrangements for the NHS governance and scrutiny in the period prior to the agreement of the 3 year strategic plan. NHS Highland have agreed proposals for a Health Governance Committee in Argyll and Bute which will fulfil that function.
- 5.4 During the interim period, the terms of reference for the Community Services Committee remain unchanged and it will continue to exercise its governance and scrutiny of social work services.

5.5 Key Actions

The following key activities are planned over the early part of 2015:

1. Develop an outline plan for the completion of the 3 year Strategic plan. Timescales for completion to be agreed.
2. Roll out the next set of staff sessions in partnership with the Trade Unions which proceed during 2015.
3. Finalise the development plan for members of the Shadow Board by March 2015.
4. Take forward the work relating to the senior management framework around the Chief Officer to ensure this is in place timeously and without delay.

6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Overall the project timeline and key deliverables remain on track with key work progressing to the satisfaction of the Joint Project Manager.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

7.1	Policy	The integration of health and social care is being taken forward in compliance with the Public Bodies (Joint Working) Scotland Act 2014
7.2	Financial	None
7.3	Legal	None
7.4	HR	Social work staff will remain employees of Argyll and Bute Council
7.5	Equalities	None

- 7.6 Risk There is a detailed risk register prepared for health and social care integration and is monitored by the Shadow Integration Joint Board
- 7.7 Customer Service The partnership has committed to engaging and consulting with all stakeholders throughout the integration process

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