

**Revised Integration Scheme**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Scottish Government requires every Integration Authority to revise their Integration Scheme to include the functions enshrined in the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016, which will take effect from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.

Regulations have been set out in The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2017 and in The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment (No 2) Regulations 2017.

The Act contributes to the Scottish Government's vision of a healthier and fairer Scotland, and sits alongside related policy on the integration of Health and Social Care, new social security powers; and the Fair Work agenda

The Act is designed to support carers' health and wellbeing and help make caring more sustainable. Measures include:

- a duty for local authorities to provide support to carers, based on the carer's identified needs which meet the local eligibility criteria.
- a specific adult carer support plan and young carer statement to identify carers' needs and personal outcomes.
- a requirement for local authorities to have an information and advice service for carers which provides information and advice on, amongst other things, emergency and future care planning, advocacy, income maximisation and carers' rights.

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Health/Support-Social-Care/Unpaid-Carers/Implementation/Carers-scotland-act-2016> is part of the Scottish Government's vision of a healthier and fairer Scotland, and sits alongside related policy on the integration of Health and Social Care, new social security powers; and the Fair Work agenda
- 1.2 The Act is designed to support carers' health and wellbeing and help make caring more sustainable.
- 1.3 Every Integration Authority is required to revise their Integration Scheme to comply with regulations set out in The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2017 and in The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment (No 2) Regulations 2017.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Argyll & Bute Council is asked to note the revisions to the Integration Scheme and to agree the submission of the revised scheme to the Scottish Government by 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018.

**3. DETAIL****3.1 The Carers' (Scotland) Act 2016**

The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 will take effect from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. The Act is part of the government's vision for a fairer Scotland. It aims to support unpaid and family carers to continue in their caring role for as long as they wish, whilst having enough support to pursue their own life and to maintain their own health and wellbeing.

This is achieved through assessment of need and production of a Young Carers Statement or an Adult Carers Support Plan, to ensure that support needs are met.

### **3.2 The Regulations**

The Scottish Government set out regulations for Integration Authorities which are described in The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2017, which sets out what the Integration Authority must do and The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment (No 2) Regulations 2017, which sets out what the Integration Authority may do.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2017/9780111035436>

### **3.3 Revision of the Integration Scheme**

The Scottish Government requires all Integration Authorities to revise their Integration Scheme to include the requirements imposed by The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. Revised Integration Schemes must be agreed by the parent bodies and submitted to the Scottish Government by 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018.

The Chief Officer will take the revised Argyll and Bute Integration Scheme to NHS Highland Board and to Argyll and Bute Council for agreement prior to submission.

A statement on our websites, with a link to the revised Integration Scheme, for a minimum of 28 days will inform our partners and stakeholders of the revision. Public Consultation is not necessary in this instance as the revision is prescribed in legislation.

## **4. CONCLUSION**

4.1 Argyll and Bute's Integration Scheme has been revised as required by the Scottish Government, in accordance with the regulations to meet the requirements of The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.

The revised Integration Scheme will be agreed with NHS Highland Board and Argyll and Bute Council before being submitted to Scottish Government by March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018. It will then be laid before parliament awaiting ministerial approval.

## 5. IMPLICATIONS

### 5.1 Policy:

5.2 **Financial:** Providing additional carer support will impose a financial impact.

5.3 **Legal:** The Scottish Government requires all Integration Authorities to be supported by their Local Authorities and Health Boards to comply with the regulations set out in The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2017, which sets out what the Integration Authority must do and The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions etc.) (Scotland) Amendment (No 2) Regulations 2017.

5.4 **HR:** The Carers (Scotland) 2016 Act brings a number of new and different obligations for staff. Resources will need to be identified to ensure the Act is implemented. Appropriate information and training will need to be given to all staff along with revised tools and processes.

5.5 **Equalities:** The Carers Strategy requires a full EQIA assessment. This does not apply to the revised Integration Scheme.

5.5 **Risk:** There is a risk that the IJB and the services that it directs and has operational oversight of fail to meet performance standards or outcomes as set by regulatory bodies.

5.6 **Customer service:** None

### 5.7 Appendices List

Appendix A: Argyll & Bute Integration Scheme (revised)

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