

**REVIEW OF THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION SCHEME**

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**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Following a joint review of the Health and Social Care Integration Scheme (the Scheme) for the Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board (the IJB), this report sets out the proposed revisions to the Scheme and, if agreeable, details the next steps, including the requirement for the Council and the Health Board to undertake a joint consultation with prescribed stakeholders.
- 1.2 A copy of the revised Scheme, which highlights the proposed changes, is attached at appendix 1.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to:-

- 2.1 Agree the revisions detailed within the updated Integration Scheme attached at appendix 1;
- 2.2 Agree, subject to approval of 2.1, that Officers now proceed with arrangements for the joint consultation exercise as set out at section 3.2 of this report.
- 2.3 Agree that, in the event that the consultation feedback suggests no further changes to the Scheme and voices no opposition to the proposed changes, that the Chief Executive Officer is authorised to approved the draft revised Integration Scheme on behalf of the Council prior to submitting it to the Scottish Government for approval.

**3. DETAIL**

**3.1 REVIEW OF THE INTEGRATION SCHEME IN ARGYLL AND BUTE**

- 3.1.1 Section 44 of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 requires that the Local Authority and the Health Board must carry out a review of the scheme before the expiry of the relevant period for the purpose of identifying whether any changes to the scheme are necessary or desirable.

- 3.1.2 The Order to establish the IJB was laid in the Scottish Parliament on Friday 29 May 2015 and came in to force on Saturday 27 June 2015. From that date the IJB for the Argyll and Bute area was legally established on the basis of the Integration Scheme between Argyll and Bute Council and NHS Highland dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.
- 3.1.3 A legal requirement to complete a review of an Integration Scheme is set out in Section 44 of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the Act). The Scheme must be reviewed each subsequent period of 5 years beginning with the day on which the Scheme was approved, in this case, 27 June 2015. On this basis the review of the Scheme in Argyll and Bute is required by law to be completed by 27 June 2020. The statutory responsibility to review the Scheme sits with the Board of NHS Highland and Argyll and Bute Council.
- 3.1.4 The Council, at a special meeting held on 22 February 2018, agreed to pursue specific changes to the Scheme. As this piece of work progressed it became clear timescales were such that these specific issues would be best picked up as part of the statutory 5 year review, the requirement for which is explained in paragraph 3.1.3 above. On this basis the Council agreed that the Council should engage with the IJB and NHS Highland to pursue a formal review of the Integration Scheme.
- 3.1.5 The Integration Joint Board met on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and considered the Council's proposal for a review of the Scheme. The IJB decision noted the following:
- a) Notification of the request has been submitted to the secretary to the Board of NHS Highland and has subsequently been acknowledged;
  - b) The Scottish Government's Department of Health and Social Care has offered to provide facilitation and support for the review of the Scheme;
  - c) If revision to the Scheme does proceed, formal consultation with prescribed stakeholders will be required prior to submission of the revised Scheme for approval by Scottish Ministers.
- 3.1.6 Following initial engagement between Council Officers and representatives from NHS Highland to try to determine the scope of the review, a Working Group was established to identify potential areas for revision and to define the terms of a revised Scheme.
- 3.1.7 The Working Group comprised a range of Senior Officers from across the Council, HSCP and NHS Highland, which met on numerous occasions between August and October 2019 to discuss and agree relevant amendments. The Working Group have now concluded their review of the Scheme and seek approval on the proposed changes. The revised Scheme will also be submitted to the NHS Highland Board scheduled for 26 November 2019 for their consideration.
- 3.1.8 If both parent bodies are agreeable to the proposed revisions to the Scheme, as detailed in appendix 1, there are a number of subsequent steps which require to be taken and these are detailed below.

## 3.2 NEXT STEPS

3.2.1 In accordance with Section 46(4) of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, the Council and the Health Board must jointly consult with groups and individuals, to include the prescribed stakeholders and any others deemed appropriate.

3.2.2 Taking account of the initial consultation process adopted in December 2014, and any relevant statutory provisions, the following approach is proposed:-

3.2.3 Consultation on the draft revised Integration Scheme will commence on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and end on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Specific timescales or methodology for consultation are not prescribed in the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, however the suggested 6 week consultation period is in line with general guidance on consultations.

3.2.4 The draft revised Integration Scheme will be available on Argyll and Bute Council's website and NHS Highland's website. Hard copies of the document will also be available in Customer Service Points.

3.2.5 A press release, both online and in local newspapers, will be organised to ensure that our communities are aware of the consultation timescale and have access to the draft revised Integration Scheme.

3.2.6 In addition to the above arrangements to facilitate responses from the general public and local communities, the following groups will be contacted directly in order to ascertain any views they may have on the draft revised Integration Scheme:

- Health professionals; GPs, management teams, clinical groups including Nursing Staff and Allied Health Professionals
- Social work and social care professionals
- Users of health services
- Carers of users of health care
- Commercial providers of health care
- Non-commercial providers of health care
- Argyll and Bute Council employees
- Staff side / Trades Unions
- Users of social care
- Carers of users of social care
- Commercial providers of social care
- Non-commercial providers of social care
- Non-commercial providers of social housing
- The Highland Council
- Argyll and Bute Public Partnership Forums
- Community / voluntary / Third Sector organisations
- Community Councils
- Argyll and Bute Council - local Councillors

- Scottish Ambulance Service
- NHS 24
- Scottish Health Council
- Local MPs / MSPs
- Dentists
- Pharmacists
- NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire & Rescue
- Argyll and Bute Advice Network (ABAN)
- Lomond & Argyll Advocacy Service
- Citizens Advice Bureau / Patient Advice & Support Service (PASS)
- Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

3.2.7 Following the consultation period, Argyll and Bute Council and NHS Highland will take into account any views expressed during the consultation prior to finalising the draft revised Integration Scheme. A report on the agreed revisions to the Integration Scheme following consultation will be submitted to meetings of Argyll and Bute Council and the NHS Highland Board at the earliest opportunity thereafter.

3.2.8 In the event that the consultation feedback suggests no further changes to the Scheme and voices no opposition to the proposed changes, that the Chief Executive Officer is authorised to approved the draft revised Integration Scheme on behalf of the Council prior to submitting it to the Scottish Government for approval.

3.2.9 Thereafter, both parent bodies must jointly submit the revised Scheme to the Scottish Ministers for approval. The Scottish Government have advised that they will require a copy of the draft revised Scheme 4 to 6 weeks prior to the date the new Scheme requires to be in place (27 June 2020). On this basis, it is proposed that the revised Scheme be submitted to the Scottish Ministers by end April 2020, which provides them with an 8 week period to review the Scheme and suggest any potential amendments.

3.2.10 The Council and NHS Highland must publish the revised Integration Scheme as soon as practicable after it takes effect.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

4.1 Following a joint review of the current Scheme, led by a working group consisting of senior officers from across the Council, HSCP and NHS Highland, this report invites members to approve the proposed changes to the Scheme, highlighted in appendix 1. If agreeable, members are also asked to endorse the subsequent actions/timeline detailed at section 3.2 above, which will ensure that the revised Scheme is endorsed by Scottish Ministers by 27 June 2020.

#### **5. IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Policy - In line with Scottish Government Legislation to improve health and social care outcomes for customers
- 5.2 Financial – none arising from this report
- 5.3 Legal - Meets the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014
- 5.4 HR – none arising from this report
- 5.5 Equalities/Fairer Scotland Duty – none arising from this report
- 5.6 Risk – non compliance with statutory measures under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014
- 5.7 Customer Services – improved outcomes for customers at core of legislation

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**For further information:**

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Appendix 1 – Revised Scheme of Integration