

REVIEW OF THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION SCHEME
CONSULTATION OUTCOME REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The full Council and NHS Highland Board, at their meetings held on 28th and 26th November 2019 respectively, approved revisions made to the Health and Social Care Integration Scheme following a review process and agreed that Officers should proceed with arrangements for a 6 week joint consultation exercise, running from 9th December 2019 to 17 January 2020. During this period a total of 45 responses were received and details of these are attached at appendices 1 and 2.
- 1.2 A review of all the consultation responses has been undertaken by the Working Group that was set up to up to initiate the 5 year review process, at their meeting held on 28 January 2020. Having taken account of all feedback received, a number of further revisions are proposed to the Scheme. The detail of these can be found in the last column of the table within Appendix 1, which outlines the Working Group's response to the consultation feedback. The Scheme has been updated to reflect the proposed changes arising from the consultation process (highlighted in yellow) and a copy is attached at Appendix 3 for consideration and approval.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:-

- 2.1 Note the detail of the 45 responses received during the 6 week consultation period, set out in Appendices 1 and 2;
- 2.2 Agree the revised Integration Scheme (Appendix 3), which has been further updated to take account of feedback received as part of the consultation process;
- 2.3 Note that additional revisions to the integration Scheme may be required in respect of the power to delegate functions in terms of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, once in receipt of advice from the Scottish Government; and

- 2.4 Note that a similar report was tabled at the NHS Highland Board on 31 March 2020, where the revised Integration Scheme was approved; and
- 2.5 Agree that the Chief Executives of the two parent bodies jointly submit the revised Scheme to the Scottish Government for their consideration, at the appropriate time.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 The 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 the case of Argyll and Bute, 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.
- 3.2 Following a joint review process, the Council and NHS Highland approved the revised Integration Scheme at their respective meetings held at end November 2019 and agreed that, in accordance with Section 46(4) of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, the Council and the Health Board should undertake a joint consultation on the revised Scheme.
- 3.3 Arrangements for the joint consultation, which ran from 9th December 2019 until 17th January 2020, were put in place, including:-
- Email/postal correspondence issued to all prescribed stakeholders and any others deemed appropriate (870+ targeted)
 - Use of Council 'Keep in the Loop' service to promote the consultation to customers who have advised they would like to be engaged in consultation activity (3890+ targeted)
 - Details of the consultation uploaded to Council and NHS Highland Websites
 - Posts on social media
 - Press release issued
 - Hard copies placed in Council Customer Service Points and issued upon request
- 3.4 A total of 45 responses were received, details of which are attached in appendices 1 and 2. Of these 19 can be evaluated as positive, with respondents expressing agreement with the revisions/content of the Integration Scheme or that they are happy with integrated services in general. Conversely, 18 responses are negative in nature, however the vast majority of these do not comment directly on the content of Integration Scheme. Most of the respondents leaving negative comments have used the consultation process as an opportunity to criticise local services/raise other matters. The remainder of the comments can be classed as neutral, with respondents either providing

narrative on suggested changes or leaving feedback such as “no comment” or “don’t have any yet”.

- 3.5 Respondents leaving feedback via the website (84%) were asked to provide their contact details in order that we could contact them at a later date, if required, in respect of the consultation. They were also asked to advise of their locality. A summary of the responses broken down by area is provided below, taking account of the details provided via the website and as part of email responses (16%) to the dedicated inbox set up for the consultation:-

MAKI	14
OLI	10
B&C	10
H&L	8
A&B wide	1
Unknown	2
Total	45

- 3.6 Following closure of the consultation period on 17 January 2020 the Working Group, which was established to initiate the 5 year review process, was re-convened on 28 January 2020 to undertake a review of all the consultation responses. The Working Group comprises a range of Senior Officers from both parent bodies, as well as the HSCP. Having considered all feedback received as part of the consultation, the Working Group are recommending a number of revisions to the content of the Scheme, in addition to those previously agreed by the Council and NHS Highland Board in November 2019. These are summarised below, and are also highlighted in yellow within the revised Scheme attached at Appendix 3:-

- Inclusion of a contents table
- Paragraph 8.7.7 (page 31) - Change “health owned property” to “NHS Highland owned property” to provide clarification
- Change “Argyll and Bute Integration Joint Board” to “IJB” throughout the document (with exception of first occurrence) and include within the Definitions and Interpretation section of the scheme (p6)
- Change “and” to “&” throughout document in respect of Children and Families
- Re-ordering of sentences and minor grammatical corrections at paragraphs 4.4.5, 5.3, 8.2.19, 8.2.21, 8.4.2, 8.7.2, and 13.6.
- Paragraph 9.1 - removal of Argyll and Bute Public Partnerships (currently suspended) and the addition of Locality Planning Groups, and Health and Wellbeing Networks

- 3.7 In addition to the above recommended revisions, it has become apparent that there are possible issues in terms of the power of the local authority to delegate functions in terms of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act (2014), affecting the functions that can be delegated to Integrated Joint Boards (IJBs). The Scottish Government are currently in the process of looking at this with a view to identifying a parliamentary Bill suitable to provide a legal solution to the

matter, and to advise on what should be included in Integration Schemes. Once the relevant detail has been received there will be a requirement to update the Integration Scheme accordingly.

- 3.8 Members are asked to consider the outcome of the consultation exercise, and approve the Integration Scheme detailed at Appendix 3. A report was also submitted to the NHS Highland Board held on 31 March 2020 where the revised Integration Scheme was approved. If agreeable, both parent bodies will then arrange for the revised Scheme to be jointly submitted to Scottish Ministers for approval.
- 3.9 It was originally intended that the Scheme would be submitted by end April 2020 to ensure that it was approved and in place by due date of 27 June 2020. However, given the current Covid-19 situation, the Scottish Government have advised that they do not wish to receive any revised Integration Schemes at this point in time and would prefer to wait until issues surrounding Covid-19 have subsided. On this basis, the Scheme, if approved, will be submitted once the Scottish Government are in a position to receive them.
- 3.10 Thereafter, the Council and NHS Highland will arrange for the final Integration Scheme to be published as soon as practicable after it takes effect.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The 6 week consultation on the revised Integration Scheme has now closed and a total of 45 responses were received. A review of all the feedback was undertaken by the Working Group at their meeting held on 28 January 2020. Members are asked to consider the proposed revisions to the Scheme as a result of the feedback received as part of the consultation exercise and approve the Integration Scheme set out at Appendix 3.

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

6. APPENDICES

- 6.1 Appendix 1 – Consultation responses and proposed action
- 6.2 Appendix 2 – Consultation Response Argyll TSI

6.3 Appendix 3 – Revised Integration Scheme as at February 2020

Policy Lead – Councillor Kieron Green - Health and Social Care

Douglas Hendry

Executive Director with responsibility for Legal and Regulatory Support

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For further information, please contact:

Laura Blackwood

Directorate Support Officer

Customer Services

01546 604325