

**MINUTES of MEETING of ARGYLL AND BUTE HSCP FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
held VIA SKYPE on WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY 2020**

Present: Councillor Kieron Green, Argyll and Bute Council (Chair)

Sarah Compton Bishop, NHS Highland Non-Executive Board Member (Vice Chair)
Elizabeth Higgins, Lead Nurse
Councillor Gary Mulvaney, Argyll and Bute Council
Prof. Boyd Robertson, Chair of NHS Highland
Councillor Sandy Taylor, Argyll and Bute Council

Attending: Joanna MacDonald, Chief Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Judy Orr, Head of Finance and Transformation, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Fiona Broderick, Staffside Lead, Argyll and Bute HSCP (Health)
Caroline Cherry, Head of Adult Services, HSCP
Charlotte Craig, Business Improvement Manager, Argyll and Bute HSCP
David Forshaw, Principal Accountant, Argyll and Bute Council
Jane Fowler, Head of Customer Support Services, Argyll and Bute Council
Julie Lusk, Head of Adult Services, HSCP
Hazel MacInnes, Committee Services Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
Kevin McIntosh, Staffside Lead for Argyll and Bute HSCP (Council)
George Morrison, Head of Finance, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Dr Nicola Schinaia, Associate Director of Public Health
Jim Rundell, Audit Scotland
Alex Taylor, Chief Social Worker/Head of Children and Families, Argyll and Bute
Stephen Whiston, Head of Strategic Planning and Performance, HSCP

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the process that would be followed during the Skype meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 27 March 2020 were approved as a correct record.

4. ACTION LOG 2020-2021

The Committee gave consideration to the Action Log covering the period April 2020 to March 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the Action Log and agreed that this be carried forward to the next meeting of the Committee due to the ongoing situation with Covid-19.

(Reference: Finance and Policy Committee Action Log April 2020 to March 2021, submitted)

Stephen Whiston, Head of Planning and Performance left the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

5. COVID-19 RESPONSE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an overview of the HSCP's Covid-19 mobilisation readiness and its future planning for living and operating with Covid-19. The report provided a snapshot of the financial estimates of the costs of dealing with the Covid-19 response advising that the cost estimates were updated on a weekly basis and subject to considerable uncertainties.

The Head of Finance and Transformation provided a verbal update advising that the Scottish Government had distributed £50m nationally for social care of which £903,000 would be allocated to Argyll and Bute HSCP. She advised that the funding would be issued through NHS Highland.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the details provided in relation to the Covid-19 response and associated mobilisation plan costing.
2. Acknowledged the uncertainties in the cost elements submitted.
3. Noted that the Scottish Government has, in principle, approved all mobilisation plans, but that approval for individual cost lines has not yet been received.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated May 2020, submitted)

6. BUDGET OUTLOOK 2021-22 TO 2023-24

The Committee gave consideration to a report that summarised the budget outlook covering the period 2020-21 to 2022-23 taking into account the budget decisions taken at the Integration Joint Board on 25 March 2020. The report advised that the budget outlook presented to the Integration Joint Board on that date had been rolled forward for a further year and the NHS Highland funding assumptions had been

updated in line with the financial directions issued which reflected month 12 funding allocations.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee noted the current estimated budget outlook report for the period 2021-22 to 2023-24.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated May 2020, submitted)

7. BUDGET MONITORING AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing a summary of the financial position of the Health and Social Care Partnership as at 31 March 2020.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the outturn position for 2019-21 was an overspend of £2.446m as at 31 March 2020 which included a provision of £1.324m for the ongoing dispute with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. Excluding that provision the outturn would have been an overspend of £1.122m.
2. Noted the repayment arrangements for the overspend described at paragraph 3.6 of the submitted report.
3. Agreed to recommend to the Integration Joint Board approval of the new earmarked reserves set out at paragraph 3.5.2 of the submitted report.
4. Instructed the Chief Officer to bring back further information on the negotiations with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde for Board approval, noting the delegated powers agreed by the Integration Joint Board on 25 March 2020.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated May 2020, submitted)

8. NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE UPDATE

The Head of Finance provided the Committee with a verbal update on the dispute with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. He advised that there was an accrued disputed amount of £2.4m over 2 years, with 2018/19 being covered by non-repayable brokerage and 2019/20 being covered by repayable brokerage. He advised that he had written to the Director of Finance of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde noting the disappointment that they had not accepted the position of the HSCP and had not yet received a response to this. In March a letter had been written to the Chair of NHS Highland Board and Chair of the Integration Joint Board proposing that a meeting take place with the Chief Executive, Paul Hawkins, but due to the ongoing situation with Covid-19, this meeting had not yet taken place.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee noted the verbal update by the Head of Finance.

(Reference: Verbal update by Head of Finance on 13 May 2020)

9. HR RESOURCING

The Committee gave consideration to a report proposing an increase in temporary and permanent HR Resources to ensure that the team can fully support managers, employees and staff side colleagues and reduce risk to the Health and Social Care Partnership.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the current HR Team structure and capacity.
2. Noted the increase in current and future HR demands from service charge, policy change and Culture Fit for the Future outcomes.
3. Noted the impact on the HSCP of under supported managers, employees and TU/SS.
4. Noted the proposal for increased resource (temporary and permanent).

(Reference: Report by Head of Customer Support Services dated May 2020, submitted)

10. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

There was no business raised under this item.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting. It was noted that the next meeting had been scheduled for 29 May 2020 and it was agreed that discussion would take place on the possibility of rearranging this date due to the close proximity of the current meeting and the meeting scheduled for 29 May 2020.