

Integration Joint Board

Agenda item:

Date of Meeting: 27 January 2021

Title of Report: Chief Officer Report

Presented by: Joanna Macdonald, Chief Officer

The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

- Note the following report from the Chief Officer

Extension of Guardian Service

Earlier this year an independent and confidential Guardian Service was launched for NHS Highland staff, including those working in Argyll and Bute. This Guardian Service has now been extended from 1 January 2021 to cover Argyll and Bute Council staff working for the HSCP.

The service is independent and confidential and is for staff to discuss matters relating to patient and service user care and safety, whistleblowing, bullying and harassment, and workplace grievances.

The guardians are external to the HSCP and will provide information and emotional support in a strictly confidential, non-judgemental manner. More information on the services they provide is available on their website at www.theguardianservice.co.uk

Additional Funding for Cancer Screening

The HSCP's Public Health Department successfully applied for a grant of £10,000 in November to support the remobilisation of cancer screening programmes that were paused during the earlier stages of the pandemic.

This funding is part of a Scottish Government National Screening Programme initiative to ensure staff are equipped to promote screening to people they come into contact with in the course of delivering health and social care services.

The funding will be used to further develop the experiences of a fixed term post from Health Scotland and will be delivered innovatively with a third sector provider as part of the Living Well strategy.

Maternity Survey

The maternity services across the HSCP are currently carrying out a survey into maternity care provision in Argyll and Bute and have been encouraging people across the HSCP to participate. The results from previous surveys have already been extremely useful in helping to shape the care that women and families receive and can access.

It is important to know about people's experience of care but at the same time it is also important to look ahead and understand what women and families want from their maternity services in future. Therefore the survey is not just for women who have had children, but also for the future parents and families.

The findings from the survey will help the HSCP make sure that we are continuing to listen to the community when planning our services and understanding what is really important to families. The survey closes on the 31st January and further information is available on the HSCP's Facebook page: @abhscp

Argyll and Bute Suicide Prevention Group

A short life working group has been established to develop and ensure the implementation of a range of actions to support the suicide prevention national priorities in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Membership of the Group consists of representatives from health and social care (including mental health) and representatives from our partners, stakeholders and the Third Sector.

The Group, which is chaired by the Chief Officer, will also undertake engagement to identify partners and priorities, undertake a mapping of current local activity against national priorities and develop a short-term action plan with dates and leads.

Electric Fleet by 2025

The Scottish Government's 2019 Programme for Government stated that "we will work with public bodies to phase out petrol and diesel cars from our public sector fleet and phase out the need for any new petrol and diesel light commercial vehicles by 2025."

The HSCP has received grant funding to work towards meeting this target with plans in place to install electric charging points at all hospital sites

"Electric First" will now become the priority when planning for all replacement vehicles and the HSCP now has 19 electric cars in the fleet and will be receiving a delivery of 6 electric shortly.

Stop Smoking Advisors

The HSCP's stop smoking advisors have been continuing to deliver the *Quit Your Way Stop Smoking Services* across Argyll and Bute to help people have a healthy start to 2021.

One of the important roles that the team carries out is to encourage people to not start smoking in the first place as well as helping those who do to 'quit your way' as part of the team's effort to work towards the Scottish Government's aim of a tobacco free generation by 2034.

Becoming Smoke Free has immediate health benefits such as a lower heart rate and improved carbon monoxide levels. Within weeks improvements can be experienced in coughing, breathing and lung function. Being smoke free will also improve the health of family and friends exposed to second-hand smoke.

Cool2Talk Service for Young People

Online service Cool2Talk (www.cool2talk.org) is continuing to support young people in Argyll and Bute. The service provides free, confidential and anonymous answers to health questions that young people post on the website.

In addition to answering questions the website also provides online counselling sessions for young people and has also been of great benefit to young people during the COVID-19 pandemic by answering questions on how to reduce stress and anxiety.