

Meeting:	NHS Highland Board
Meeting date:	26 January 2021
Title:	Director of Public Health Annual Report
Responsible Executive/Non-Executive:	Tim Allison, Director of Public Health & Policy
Report Author:	Tim Allison, Director of Public Health & Policy

1 Purpose

This is presented to the Board for:

- Awareness

This report relates to a:

- Legal requirement

This aligns to the following NHSScotland quality ambition(s):

- Safe
- Effective
- Person Centred

2 Report summary

2.1 Situation

The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for 2020 is presented.

2.2 Background

Directors of Public Health have for many years been required to produce an annual report on the state of health in the local population. Both health and public policy in 2020 has been dominated by the effects of COVID-19. The pandemic has had a great effect on the population of NHS Highland and is inevitably the focus of the 2020 report. It has also had a great effect on the activity of the public health team and dominated workload. Consequent time constraints have meant that the breadth and content of the 2020 report are more limited than for previous years.

2.3 Assessment

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on the residents of the NHS Highland area. The report presents information about the course of the pandemic so far. It highlights two important areas connected with the pandemic which are especially important for the health of local people, the need for social mitigation and the interaction with substance use.

2.3.1 Quality/ Patient Care

COVID has significant effects on the quality of services and patient care and this is referenced in the report.

2.3.2 Workforce

There are major workforce implications following from the pandemic. There are many workforce implications arising from the issues set out in the report.

2.3.3 Financial

The large financial implications of COVID which are implied within the report are being managed as part of the overall financial approach of the Board.

2.3.4 Risk Assessment/Management

The risk management implications of COVID which are implied within the report are being dealt with through the corporate risk management approach and the Board Assurance Framework.

2.3.5 Equality and Diversity, including health inequalities

The aim of the report is to highlight health inequalities with a view to their reduction.

2.3.6 Other impacts

There are no other specific impacts to note

2.3.7 Communication, involvement, engagement and consultation

This is an independent report from the Director of Public Health.

2.3.8 Route to the Meeting

This is an independent report from the Director of Public Health.

2.4 Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the 2020 Director of Public Health Annual Report.

3 List of appendices

The following appendices are included with this report:

- The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2020