

**MINUTES of MEETING of ARGYLL AND BUTE HSCP FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE  
held BY MICROSOFT TEAMS  
on FRIDAY, 27 AUGUST 2021**

**Present:** Councillor Kieron Green (Chair)

Graham Bell

Sarah Compton-Bishop

**Attending:** Fiona Davies, Interim Chief Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
George Morrison, Depute Chief Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
James Gow, Head of Finance and Transformation, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Julie Lusk, Head of Adult Services, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
David Forshaw, Principal Accountant, Argyll and Bute Council  
Louise Beattie, Service Improvement Officer, Argyll and Bute Council  
Gillian Maidment, Service Improvement Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Lynsey Innis, Senior Committee Assistant, Argyll and Bute Council

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of:-

Councillor Gary Mulvaney

Councillor Sandy Taylor

Elizabeth Higgins, Lead Nurse, Argyll and Bute HSCP

Kevin McIntosh, Staffside, Argyll and Bute Council

Caroline Cherry, Head of Older Adult Services, Argyll and Bute HSCP

Stephen Whiston, Head of Strategic Planning and Performance, Argyll and Bute HSCP

Jane Fowler, Head of Customer Support Services, Argyll and Bute Council

Brian Reid, Acting Head of Service, Children and Families and Justice Social Work, Argyll and Bute HSCP

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**3. MINUTES**

The Minute of the previous meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on 25 June 2021, was approved as a correct record.

**4. BUDGET MONITORING - 4 MONTHS TO 31 JULY 2021**

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided a summary of the financial position of the Health and Social Care Partnership as at 31 July 2021.

Information on both the year to date position and forecast outturn position was also provided.

Discussion took place around the need to have an outline of the plans in place to support financial recovery; the current occupancy rates for adult residential care homes and the financial and service delivery implications arising from a number of vacancies across services.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Welcomed the financial provision verbally reported, agreed that an initial financial recovery plan be presented to the IJB at its meeting in September 2021 and noted that any further issues be brought forward to the Finance and Policy Committee in due course.
2. Noted that the forecast outturn position is a forecast overspend of £1.4m.
3. Noted that actions are currently being progressed to manage spend and to recover the position by the year end.
4. Noted that there is a year to date overspend of £0.1m as at 31 July 2021.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 August 2021, submitted)

## **5. BUDGET OUTLOOK 2022-23 TO 2024-25**

Consideration was given to a report which summarised the budget outlook covering the period 2022-23 to 2024-25. The report noted that the outlook was based on three different scenarios, best case, worst case and mid-range, and included new funding estimates and a review of inflation and cost and demand pressures.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Considered the current budget outlook report for the period 2022-23 to 2024-25.
2. Noted the anticipated budget challenge faced by the HSCP.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 August 2021, submitted)

## **6. FINANCIAL RISKS**

The Committee gave consideration to a report which summarised the key financial risks facing the Health and Social Care Partnership. The report noted that a total of 24 risks had been identified, with the largest risks being in relation to the costs of commissioned services and the potential failure to deliver all savings in full.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Considered the updated financial risks identified for the Health and Social Care Partnership.
2. Noted that financial risks will continue to be reviewed and monitored on a two monthly basis and reported to the Board.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 August 2021, submitted)

## **7. TRANSFORMATION UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report which outlined the key areas of focus for transformation work planned for 2021/22, and summarised the progress with each project in the delivery of the transformation programme planned outcomes. The report also included comments on the actions presented to the Transformation Board at their meeting on 6 August 2021 on how they intend to bring any Amber status projects back to Green.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Considered the progress which was presented to the Transformation Board on 6 August 2021.
2. Provided comment on the projects and their RAG status.
3. Provided additional scrutiny and governance in connection with the progress being made towards the successful delivery of the HSCP transformational aspirations.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 August 2021, submitted)

## **8. PROGRESS UPDATE - LEARNING DISABILITY AND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME BOARD**

Consideration was given to a report which provided a summary of the Learning Disability and Mental Health services financial and savings position as at 31 July 2021, the current challenges to delivery of savings and an overview of the planned actions to progress the outstanding savings.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the progress in respect of the Learning Disability and Mental Health savings programme as at 31 July 2021.

2. Noted the ongoing challenges to achieving the savings proposals.
3. Noted the actions planned to recover the outstanding savings proposals.

(Reference: Report by Head of Adult Services (Mental Health, Addictions, Learning Disability/Autism, Transitions), dated 27 August 2021, submitted)

#### **9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Finance and Policy Committee noted that the date of the next meeting was scheduled to take place on Friday, 24 September 2021.