

**MINUTES of MEETING of ARGYLL AND BUTE HSCP FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
held BY MICROSOFT TEAMS
on FRIDAY, 27 JANUARY 2023**

Present: Sarah Compton Bishop (Vice Chair in role of Chair)

Councillor Amanda Hampsey
Kenny Mathieson

Councillor Gary Mulvaney
Gerard O'Brien (as a substitute for
Graham Bell)

Attending: Fiona Davies, Chief Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP
James Gow, Head of Finance and Transformation, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Caroline Cherry, Head of Adult Services – Health and Community Care, Argyll
and Bute HSCP
Stephen Whiston, Head of Planning, Performance and Technology, Argyll and
Bute HSCP
Evan Beswick, Head of Primary Care, NHS Highland
David Gibson, Chief Social Worker/Head of Children and Families and Justice,
Argyll and Bute HSCP
Alison McGrory, Associate Director of Public Health, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Kevin McIntosh, Staffside, Argyll and Bute Council
Charlotte Craig, Business Improvement Manager, Argyll and Bute HSCP
James Littlejohn, Service Manager, Adult Services – Mental Health and
Learning Disabilities, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Gillian Maidment, Service Improvement Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Gillian Mccready, Service Improvement Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP
Fiona Thomson, Lead Pharmacist, NHS Highland
Lorna Jordan, Senior Accountant, Argyll and Bute Council
Lynsey Innis, Senior Committee Assistant, Argyll and Bute Council

Having indicated that ongoing IT difficulties were preventing her from carrying out her role as Chair of the Finance and Policy Committee, Councillor Amanda Hampsey moved and the Committee agreed that Vice Chair, Sarah Compton-Bishop assume the role of Chair. Ms Compton-Bishop assumed the role of Chair for the duration of the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Graham Bell and Fiona Broderick.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. MINUTES

The Minute of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on 25 November 2022 was approved as a correct record.

4. BUDGET MONITORING - 9 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing a summary of the financial position of the Health and Social Care Partnership as at 31 December 2022. The report also provided a forecast for the year and an update on the delivery of savings programme and the use of reserves.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted that there is a relatively small forecast revenue overspend of £598k as at 31 December 2022 and that it is anticipated that the HSCP will operate within available resources.
2. Noted confirmation that savings of £3.6m have been delivered, 60% of target.
3. Noted that earmarked reserves of £6.2m have been committed to date.
4. Noted that the Scottish Government have confirmed the clawback of £3.6m in covid reserves and have reduced Primary Care Improvement allocations by £2.8m as a consequence of reserves held.

(Ref: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 January 2023, submitted)

5. BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023-2026

Consideration was given to a report which provided the updated budget outlook for the 2023/24 financial year and medium term financial plan. The report included additional detail in respect of initial savings proposals aimed at balancing the position with a view to enabling the IJB to consider and approve a balanced budget at its meeting in March 2023.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Considered the Financial Plan and budget outlook for 2023-24 to 2025-26 and noted the high level of risk and uncertainty.
2. Noted the forecast budget gap totalling £9.4m.
3. Noted that indicative savings targets have been allocated to services.
4. Noted the progress to date in identifying proposals to address the budget gap.

5. Noted that the Head of Finance and Transformation would provide an updated timeline in terms of future savings to the next meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee.
6. Noted the ongoing work in relation to the Communication Engagement Strategy and that the Business Improvement Manager would provide a progress update to the next meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee.

(Ref: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 January 2023, submitted)

6. FINANCIAL RISKS 2022-23

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update on the perceived financial risks facing the HSCP, which could have an impact upon financial performance during the remainder of 2022/23.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Considered the 2022/23 financial risks identified for the HSCP as at 31 December 2022 and noted the mitigations.
2. Noted that several previously highlighted risks are now resolved, including the clawback of reserves.
3. Noted that this is the last financial risks report for 2022/23 as the year is close to ending and that risks will be included in forecasts where appropriate.

(Ref: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 27 January 2023, submitted)

7. PROGRESS UPDATE- URGENT AND UNSCHEDULED CARE

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided a summary of the progress to date in developing and delivering services in a sustainable and integrated way, using the additional resource allocation to Argyll and Bute HSCP.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the progress to date and support the work required to sustain and develop processes and health and social care services across Argyll and Bute to ensure delivery of the right care in the right place at the right time.
2. Noted the actions planned to support service delivery and progress of the Unscheduled Care Programme within Argyll and Bute.

(Ref: Report by Head of Adult Services – Health and Community Care, dated 27 January 2023, submitted)

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

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided a summary of the Learning Disabilities and Mental Health services financial and savings position as at 31 December 2022, the current challenges to delivery of savings and an overview of the planned actions to progress the outstanding savings. The report also provided an overview of the Learning Disability Transformation Programme and the planned actions to support the implementation of the Coming Home report and Community Living Change Fund monies as well as details of changes to the format of future progress reports under Acute and Complex Care.

Decision

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the progress in respect of the Learning Disability and Mental Health savings programme as at 31 December 2022.
2. Noted the progress and update in regards to the Learning Disability Transformation Programme.
3. Noted the update required to future Finance and Policy reports under the new structure.

(Ref: Report by Service Manager, Adult Services – Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, dated 27 January 2023, submitted)

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Finance and Policy Committee noted that their next meeting was scheduled to take place on Friday, 24 February 2023.