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## Orkney Integration Joint Board

Wednesday, 29 June 2022, 09:30.

Microsoft Teams.

### Minute

#### Present

##### Voting Members:

##### Orkney Islands Council:

Councillors Rachael A King, Jean E Stevenson and Ivan A Taylor.

##### NHS Orkney:

Davie Campbell, Ceri Dare and Issy Grieve.

##### Non-Voting Members:

##### Professional Advisers:

- Stephen Brown, Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board.
- Dr Kirsty Cole, General Practitioner representative, appointed by NHS Orkney.
- Jim Lyon, Interim Chief Social Work Officer of the constituent Local Authority, Orkney Islands Council.
- Mary Moore, Nurse representative, employed by NHS Orkney.
- Pat Robinson, Section 95 Officer of the Integration Joint Board.
- Dr Louise Wilson, Secondary Medical Care Practitioner representative, employed by NHS Orkney.

##### Stakeholder Members:

- Gail Anderson, Third Sector Representative.
- Janice Annal, Service User Representative.
- Martha Gill, Staff-side Representative, NHS Orkney.
- Danny Oliver, Staff-side Representative, Orkney Islands Council.
- Frances Troup, Head of Community Learning, Leisure and Housing, Orkney Islands Council.

## **Clerk**

- Hazel Flett, Senior Committees Officer, Orkney Islands Council.

## **In Attendance**

### **Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership:**

- Lynda Bradford, Head of Health and Community Care (for Items 6 to 21).
- Maureen Swannie, Head of Strategic Planning and Performance (for Items 1 to 19).
- Shaun Hourston-Wells, Project Manager (for Items 1 to 19).

### **Orkney Islands Council:**

- Anna Whelan, Service Manager (Strategy and Partnership) (for Items 1 to 19).
- Karen Bevilaqua, Solicitor.

## **Observing**

### **Orkney Islands Council:**

- Kirsty Groundwater, Communications Team Leader (for Items 1 to 8 and 16 to 21).
- Rebecca McAuliffe, Press Officer (for Items 8 to 16).

## **Chair**

- Issy Grieve, NHS Orkney.

## **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded members that the meeting was being broadcast live over the Internet on Orkney Islands Council's website. The meeting was also being recorded, with the recording publicly available for listening to after the meeting for 12 months.

The Chair welcomed Orkney Islands Council's two new voting members, Councillors Jean E Stevenson and Ivan A Taylor, to their first meeting, as well as Ceri Dare, Non-Executive Board Member, NHS Orkney, who had observed the previous meeting.

Apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of the following:

- Joyce Harcus, Carer Representative.
- Maureen Firth, Head of Primary Care Services, Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership.
- Dr Mark Henry, Medical Director and Interim Director of Acute Services, NHS Orkney.
- Dr Dawn Moody, Associate Medical Director – Community, Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership.
- Wendy Lycett, Principal Pharmacist, NHS Orkney.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated in respect of items of business to be discussed at this meeting.

## 3. Disclosure of Exempt Information

The Board noted the proposal that the public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Item 20, as the business to be discussed involved the potential disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

## 4. Induction Pack

There had been previously circulated a report presenting an induction pack for members of the Integration Joint Board, for consideration and approval.

Pat Robinson advised that the aim of the induction pack was to give an overview of the Integration Joint Board and where to find detailed information, to help assist members to fulfil their role.

Councillor Rachael King welcomed production of the induction pack and highlighted what the role of Board members did not involve. Tempting as it was to get involved in operational matters, particularly in a small community, Board members were there to provide strategic oversight.

As a new member, Councillor Jean Stevenson thanked officers for providing the detailed information, and asked that explanations of all abbreviations be provided.

The Board noted:

**4.1.** That the aim of the Induction Pack was to give an overview of the Orkney Integration Joint Board (IJB) and where to find out more detailed information to enable all Members to fulfil their role and the different elements of the Orkney IJB.

The Board **resolved**:

**4.2.** To approve the Induction Pack, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated, for use by all Members of the Orkney IJB.

## 5. Minute of Previous Meeting

There had been previously circulated the draft Minute of the Meeting of the Integration Joint Board held on 20 April 2022.

The Minute was **approved** as a true record, on the motion of Davie Campbell, seconded by Councillor Rachael King.

## 6. Matters Arising

There had been previously circulated a log providing details on matters arising from previous meetings, for consideration and to enable the Board to seek assurance on progress, actions due and to consider corrective action, where required.

Stephen Brown had nothing further to update on any outstanding actions and noted that nine actions were due to be closed off after this meeting. Regarding the Annual Performance Report, an updated suite of indicators was due to be released in July 2022 and the Scottish Government expected those to be built into annual performance reports. The local Annual Performance Report was due to be reported to the next meeting.

Councillor Rachael King referred to the briefing which had been issued in relation to perinatal and infant mental health services and queried whether this should be removed from the log given that, although the pathway was being developed, capacity had still to be addressed. Stephen Brown suggested that, as there were a number of areas with recruitment challenges and increased demand, those risks should be considered by the newly established Performance and Audit Committee to be built into performance reports.

Referring to the briefing issued in respect of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) recruitment update, Councillor Rachael King sought further information on the vacancy panel. Stephen Brown confirmed that the vacancy panel, which met weekly, had been set up by the Board of NHS Orkney to consider all vacancies, prior to recruitment, to ensure there was budget available and provide oversight. From practical purposes, establishment of the panel had not added to the recruitment process and indeed procedures had been streamlined during the two months since its establishment. Councillor King sought assurance that, should the Board agree the establishment of posts, this could potentially be changed by one of the partner bodies. Stephen Brown assured this was not the case, particularly if funding was identified and a clear direction was issued from the Integration Joint Board, and this vacancy panel was to ensure consistency of process with respect to NHS posts or posts funded by NHS.

With regard to the replacement system for PARIS, Councillor Rachael King sought assurance that the decision taken to continue with PARIS and deliver an update included future proofing for any developments which might arise from the National Care Service. Stephen Brown confirmed that further assurance was still to be sought, with the updated version to be looked at to see how it would support further integration, prior to commissioning the significant upgrade.

## **7. Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee**

### **7.1. Meeting held on 5 April 2022**

There had been previously circulated the unapproved Minute of the Meeting of the Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee held on 5 April 2022, to enable the Board to seek assurance.

Stephen Brown advised that it was important to note that the Minute remained unapproved, however it was important for the Board to receive minutes timeously in order to gain assurance. He then referenced the main items of discussion relevant to the Board, namely:

- Whistleblowing Performance against Key Indicators.
- Quality Forum Annual Report.
- Care Home and Care at Home Assurance Update.

- Mental Health Services Assurance Report.
- Neurodevelopmental Pathway Report.
- Social Work and Social Care People's Experience Report.
- Planning and Delivery Update.

## **7.2. Terms of Reference and Annual Report**

There had been previously circulated a report presenting revised Terms of Reference for consideration and approval, together with the Annual Report for scrutiny.

Stephen Brown advised that the Terms of Reference were reviewed annually, with proposals detailed in section 4.1 of the report which sought to maximise relevance of reporting and interaction with other governance committees. Section 4.2 set out additional elements which the Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee would look to consider more consistently, following a period of response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although hospital discharge was listed, this was not currently a significant issue in Orkney, but more so across Scotland.

The Board noted:

**7.2.1.** That the Orkney Integration Joint Board (IJB) was required to have a Clinical and Care Governance Committee (CCGC) which provided the Orkney IJB with assurance that robust clinical and care governance controls and management systems were in place and were effective for the functions that NHS Orkney and Orkney Islands Council had delegated to the Orkney IJB.

**7.2.2.** That, following a review of the Terms of Reference of the Joint CCGC (JCCGC), revised Terms of Reference had been prepared and approved in principle by the JCCGC, subject to approval by the Orkney IJB and the Board of NHS Orkney.

**7.2.3.** That section 3 of the Terms of Reference stated that “the Chair and two Vice Chairs of the Committee will be jointly appointed by the NHS Board and the Integration Joint Board”.

**7.2.4.** That, should the revised JCCGC Terms of Reference be approved by the Orkney IJB, it was proposed to consider the appointment of one of the two Vice Chairs of the JCCGC.

**7.2.5.** That section 11 of the Terms of Reference stated “that the Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee will produce an annual report for presentation to Orkney NHS Board and the Integration Joint Board”.

The Board **resolved**:

**7.2.6.** That the amended JCCGC Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated, be approved.

**7.2.7.** That Councillor Jean E Stevenson be appointed as one of the two Vice Chairs.

The Board **scrutinised**:

**7.2.8.** The JCCGC Annual Report, attached as Appendix 3 to the report circulated, and took assurance.

## **8. Audit Committee**

There had been previously circulated the approved Minute of the Meeting of the Audit Committee held on 16 March 2022, to enable the Board to seek assurance.

Davie Campbell advised that the Performance and Audit Committee was due to have met the previous week but, due to quoracy issues, the meeting had been postponed until the following week.

The main items of discussion at the meeting held on 16 March 2022 related to audit work, including the external audit annual plan, the internal audit strategy and plan and the outcome of two internal audits.

The Board **appointed** Councillor Ivan A Taylor as Chair of the Performance and Audit Committee for the period to May 2023.

## **9. Strategic Planning Group**

### **9.1. Meeting held on 28 February 2022**

There had been previously circulated the approved Minute of the Meeting of the Strategic Planning Group held on 28 February 2022, to enable the Board to seek assurance.

Councillor Rachael King advised that the two main items related to presentations on the Risk Assessment for the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund, both of which stimulated lengthy discussion. Refreshed Terms of Reference were also agreed, and an update on development of the next Strategic Plan was provided.

Councillor Ivan Taylor queried why no dates were included in the final column. Stephen Brown advised that actions with a specific officer and date were recorded and apologised for any omissions.

### **9.2. Meeting held on 25 April 2022**

There had been previously circulated the unapproved Minute of the Meeting of the Strategic Planning Group held on 25 April 2022, to enable the Board to seek assurance.

Councillor Rachael King advised that the main item of business was a presentation on the Island Wellbeing Project which led to a wide discussion. Improved outcomes for workforce planning was also discussed.

## **10. Joint Staff Forum**

There had been previously circulated the approved Minute of the Meeting of the Joint Staff Forum held on 3 March 2022, to enable the Board to seek assurance.

Stephen Brown advised that, through Council structures, there was a regular meeting between the Corporate Leadership Team and Trade Union representatives and, within NHS Orkney, the Area Partnership Forum met regularly. However, there was a legal requirement for the Integration Joint Board to have a joint staff forum. Locally, the Joint Staff Forum had not met during the pandemic, although recently the Terms of Reference were refreshed and a meeting held. The challenge was to maximise discussion but avoid duplication. Danny Oliver and Martha Gill, as staff-side representatives on the Board, were joint Chairs, together with Stephen Brown. Discussions at the recent meeting were productive, relating to a number of issues jointly affecting staff, as well as new ways of working during the pandemic, to be taken forward.

## **11. Draft Annual Accounts**

There had been previously circulated a report presenting the draft Annual Accounts for 2021/22, for consideration and approval.

Pat Robinson advised that the draft Annual Accounts would normally be presented to the Performance and Audit Committee for scrutiny, prior to submission to Audit Scotland by 30 June. However, as stated earlier, quoracy issues had affected the scheduled meeting of the Performance and Audit Committee which had subsequently been postponed to 8 July 2022. Accordingly, the draft accounts were here for the Board to scrutinise, prior to submission to Audit Scotland by 30 June.

Pat Robinson presented the draft Annual Accounts which, as in previous years, now “told the story” of the year. She highlighted the following points:

- Changes to membership of the Integration Joint Board.
- Links to the Strategic Plan.
- COVID-19 – the year continued to be challenging and complex from a financial perspective, with significant costs which rose steeply in the final quarter of the financial year due to the Orkney having the highest community transmission rates in Scotland.
- Funding of £6.1M carried forward into 2022/23, mostly as earmarked reserves and a majority relating to COVID-19.
- Operational review – as staffing challenges and capacity levels continued due to the pandemic, senior management focussed on ensuring safe operational delivery, although strategic planning did continue, with notable achievements listed.
- Created and Future Workstreams, including four areas to focus efforts in improving outcomes and being more efficient.
- Independent Review of Adult Social Care, with the Scottish Government now legislating for a National Care Service.
- Performance reporting – the Chief Officer had previously made reference to a new set of performance indicators, details of which would be incorporated in the final accounts in due course, as the information currently detailed was significantly out of date.
- Financial performance – information was replicated from the quarterly financial monitoring reports.

- Financial outlook and sustainability – for financial year 2022/23, the savings target to be achieved for services commissioned to NHS Orkney was now £2.4 million. Within the Council's settlement, there was a recognition of the exceptionally difficult second year of the pandemic and the acute pressure services were under to maintain existing provision, therefore no efficiency savings were requested in the preparation of the 2022/23 budget.
- Management of risk – a revised risk register was approved, with the number of risks reduced from 20 to 8.
- Remuneration report – only two posts were included, both of which were seconded to the Board, namely the Chief Officer and the Chief Finance Officer.
- Annual Governance Statement – the CIPFA/SOLACE publication, Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework (2016 Edition) provided a structured approach in defining principles that underpinned governance arrangements. Although specifically relating to local government, the principles were equally applicable to integration authorities.
- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, together with comprehensive notes, including a breakdown of reserves as at 1 April 2021 and at 31 March 2022.

Members scrutinised the draft accounts and sought clarification on a number of matters, including the following:

- Open University and backfill requirements.
- Older population increasing faster than the national average.
- Information in the accounts relating to matters up to the date they were signed, hence why information relating to current financial year, ie 2022/23, was also included.
- Isles Primary Care – potential for individualised solutions.
- Choice of care – day care services, Self-Directed Support, support for carers.
- Risk appetite – opportunity for development session.

The Board noted:

**11.1.** That, as Integration Joint Boards (IJBs) were specified in legislation as “section 106” bodies in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, consequently they were expected to prepare their financial statements in compliance with the Code of Practice on Accounting for Local Authorities in the United Kingdom.

**11.2.** The Management Commentary, comprising pages 3 to 23 of the draft Annual Accounts, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated, which provided an overview of the most significant matters reported in the Annual Accounts for financial year ended 31 March 2022.

**11.3.** The draft Annual Governance Statement, comprising pages 29 to 35 of the draft Annual Accounts, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated.



On the motion of Councillor Rachael King, seconded by Davie Campbell, the Board **resolved**:

**11.4.** To approve the draft Annual Governance Statement and the draft Annual Accounts for financial year 2021/22, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated.

## **12. Strategic Plan**

There had been previously circulated a report presenting the draft Strategic Plan for the period 2022-25, for consideration and approval, together with an Equality Impact Assessment and an Island Communities Impact Assessment.

Maureen Swannie advised that the draft Plan was developed by a Strategic Writers' Group, following direction from the Strategic Planning Group, and included representation from the Third Sector.

There were four priorities, with a further two overarching priorities, Early Intervention and Prevention and Tackling Inequalities and Disadvantage, that impacted on each of the other four. The four priorities focused on mental health, carers, older people and Community Led Support. As explained in section 8 of the draft Plan, the priorities were identified through a number of consultations, the Island Wellbeing Survey and the health and social care Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

As part of developing the Plan, engagement was also held with the Strategic Planning Group, Third Sector organisations, the Orkney Partnership Board and all health and social care partnership staff, with comments and suggestions received reflected in the draft Plan.

The ambition when developing the Plan was that it could be easily read and understood by the whole community. Further specific detail, identified outcomes and the actions required to achieve the outcomes would be contained in an Action Plan that was currently under development, with the support of practitioners.

Monitoring of outcomes would be provided regularly to the Board as part of performance monitoring, with each strategic priority matched to the National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes. Performance methodology would be further developed in order to provide members with robust assurance.

Issy Grieve queried, once the Action Plan was agreed and outcomes monitored, how often this would be reported to the Board. Maureen Swannie confirmed that work had started on the Action Plan, with an ambitious target of 31 July for completion. A draft had been submitted to staff, as it was important that practitioners were involved. A development session was planned for late August to discuss the "what, why and when" of performance information.

Councillor Rachael King appreciated the work of officers in producing the Plan, including the significant work required for developing the Action Plan. The draft Strategic Plan was the public facing document and linked to other strategies and plans. She particularly wanted to highlight the information on page 18 and to acknowledge that there were potentially 4,000 unpaid carers in Orkney, who should recognise themselves as carers and that there was signposting to services and support for carers. During the first lockdown, over 800 people were classed as shielding – those people continued to be vulnerable and services should not lose

sight of that fact. There were some sobering statistics relating to mental health, which would require close monitoring going forward. Finally, as there was no injection of funding, collaborative working with the community would be required.

The Board **resolved** that the draft Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated, be approved.

### **13. Medium Term Financial Plan**

There had been previously circulated a report presenting the draft Medium Term Financial Plan for the period 2022-25, for consideration and approval.

Pat Robinson advised that, although information contained in the Medium Term Financial Plan was referenced in the draft Annual Accounts, it still required to be a standalone document.

It was recognised that demand was rising significantly because of changing demographics, whilst in real terms, available public spending was reducing. Over the next few years, the Board would be required to balance its commissioning decisions to support change alongside its decommissioning decisions, which would enable NHS Orkney and Orkney Islands Council to deliver year-on-year efficiencies in order to sustain priority services.

As a very small area, with a hospital that could not be further reduced in number of beds available, as agreed in the new hospital and healthcare facility business case, and a demographic profile and geography that presented some of the biggest challenges in Scotland in terms of the increasing number of older age and older people, there was very limited scope to make significant resource shifts from other forms of care. Most of the shift in resource was completed prior to implementation of integrated working, namely a ward closure and creation of the Intermediate Care Team.

The significant demographic pressures which public bodies faced over the next few years were particularly acute in Orkney. Increased community, Third Sector and voluntary participation was essential to manage the increase in demand that would materialise. This would require re-prioritisation of resources to provide more integrated and outcome-focused services.

Since the last Medium Term Financial Plan was approved, there had been a worldwide pandemic and, as a direct consequence, had resulted in the most challenging and complex financial period in the history of the public sector. Block funding had been cut by 7% in real terms, as COVID-19 funding had been withdrawn, despite the ongoing effects of the pandemic.

Pat Robinson then highlighted the main sections in the updated Medium Term Financial Plan, including the following:

- The impact and challenges of COVID-19.
- The proposed National Care Service.
- The local position (with a lot of the detail also included in the draft Annual Accounts).
- UK and Scottish legislative and policy changes.

- Health and social care current expenditure.
- Understanding the financial challenge, including the following:
  - Ongoing political and economic uncertainty around substantial energy price increases, the war in Ukraine, ongoing financial implications that COVID-19 would have on the population and one year finance settlements.
  - Inflation, with the Consumer Price Index at 7% in May 2022, the highest level since 1992.
  - Scenario planning, including best and worst cases.
- Closing the financial gap – to get a better understanding of how to address demand versus ensuring delivery of safe, sustainable services, decisions required were broken down as follows:
  - Business as usual.
  - Service improvement.
  - Transformational change.
  - Difficult choices.
- Strategic Plan priorities.

Issy Grieve referred to the scenario planning section and that innovation was essential, reminding officers that staff should be encouraged to put forward ideas to deliver services more effectively and efficiently.

Davie Campbell welcomed the Medium Term Financial Plan as a starting point, given that it had been highlighted by external audit. He thought the parameters were wide and questioned whether there would be more information next year. He also queried whether a delivery paper would be submitted to the Performance and Audit Committee.

While Councillor Rachael King appreciated and recognised Davie Campbell's points, it was very difficult to plan when there remained so many uncertainties. Referring to the population projections produced by the National Records of Scotland, which related to the period 2018 to 2028, now being four years in, those projections could well change.

Issy Grieve thanked Pat Robinson for producing both the Medium Term Financial Plan and the draft Annual Accounts, which was a huge achievement given current circumstances.

The Board noted:

**13.1.** That the Medium Term Financial Plan served as a planning document for the use of resources over the period 2022 to 2025.

**13.2.** The cumulative funding gaps identified in the Medium Term Financial Plan over a three-year period ranging between £0.6 million and £7.9 million based on different scenarios.

The Board **resolved**:

**13.3.** That the Medium Term Financial Plan 2022 to 2025, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated, be approved.

## **14. Services for Children and Young People in need of Care and Protection**

There had been previously circulated a report presenting the second progress review of the joint inspection of services for children and young people in need of care and protection, published by the Care Inspectorate on 31 May 2022, for scrutiny.

Jim Lyon reminded the Board of the original report, published in February 2020, which highlighted a number of adverse findings. The first progress review, published in August 2021, found that, despite a slow start, the Council, NHS Orkney and partners had taken the initial findings very seriously and were making considerable progress whilst recognising further work was still required. The Care Inspectorate advised that a further progress review would take place, which had taken place just seven months later.

However, Jim Lyon was pleased to report that the findings of the second progress review were very reassuring in relation to the self-evaluation approach. There was also compelling evidence that the safety of children and young people was increasing. The Care Inspectorate did not intend to undertake a third progress review, but had requested another position statement by Spring 2023. Accordingly, the next full inspection would occur in two to three years' time.

The Position Statement provided to the Care Inspectorate in relation to the second progress review contained eight identified areas, some with a national context, others which could be controlled or influenced locally. Indications were that the service was heading in the right direction.

Janice Annal referred to the conclusion in section 5 of the progress review report and ongoing problems with the case management system, PARIS, and queried what was being done to resolve those problems. Jim Lyon reminded members that Stephen Brown had covered this in the Matters Arising Log earlier in the meeting, whereby the programme board had recommended an upgrade to PARIS. He confirmed that benchmarking with other systems had been undertaken. In truth, a new system was unaffordable at the current time and would take time to implement, potentially a minimum of two years. The amount of staff resource required, both in training and transferring records, was not available in the short to medium term.

Martha Gill continued on the same subject and sought assurance that the balance was right in that time would be invested to make PARIS fit for purpose and that all services, including Health, were included in discussions regarding new functionality and the upgrade. Jim Lyon confirmed that NHS Orkney IT staff had been involved in conversations and, going forward, other staff would also be included.

Councillor Rachael King referred to the various updates and reminded members of the original inspection and how shocked they were at the seriousness of the outcome. Going forward, the Care Inspectorate were now taking a step back. However, locally, particularly in light of the shock at the original inspection outcomes, partners had no line of sight that this was the state of the service. She queried how

partners would have absolute line of sight going forward and never experience that same devastating shock.

Jim Lyon advised there were two distinct aspects. The first was the self-evaluation process, including continuous improvement, and, although challenging, would involve some of the processes undertaken by external scrutiny, such as file reading. The second aspect was effective communication to partners. This would also involve regular scrutiny when presenting reports, including challenge, and acknowledging when things go right.

Danny Oliver advised that frontline staff were not shocked at the inspection outcome and suggested that their concerns and experiences should have been taken more seriously and acted upon. Although the outcome of the progress review was excellent, there was concern, including from staff, that sustaining improvement could be compromised by recruitment and retention of staff, particularly social workers.

Stephen Brown wished to formally record his thanks to everyone concerned on where the service was now compared to the shock in 2020, including the incredible journey through the pandemic, when frontline workers continued to provide services. Workforce issues continued, particularly in the children and families service, but this was across Scotland, and not just locally. Some permanent appointments had recently been made, with one person starting in post last week and three more over the summer, bolstered with agency staff. There was also opportunities for those in Orkney to become support workers and to complete degrees in Social Work.

Issy Grieve also requested that her thanks be passed to the staff and she looked forward to receiving monitoring reports going forward.

The Board noted:

**14.1.** That, between 26 August and 4 October 2019, the Orkney Community Planning Partnership was inspected in respect of its services for children and young people in need of care and protection.

**14.2.** That, on 25 February 2020, the Care Inspectorate published its report of the joint inspection of services for children and young people in need of care and protection in Orkney.

**14.3.** That, in response to the inspection report published in February 2020, an improvement plan was developed, which was regularly reviewed by the Chief Officers Group and reported to the Integration Joint Board, the Council's Policy and Resources Committee and NHS Orkney's Clinical Care and Governance Committee.

**14.4.** That, between April and June 2021, a team of inspectors from the Care Inspectorate, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary for Scotland and Education Scotland carried out a review of progress made in planning and implementing actions to address the priority areas for improvement identified in the Joint Inspection undertaken in 2019.

**14.5.** That, in August 2021, the Care Inspectorate published the Progress Review following a joint inspection of services for children and young people in need of care and protection in Orkney.

**14.6.** That, in early March 2022, the Care Inspectorate began to undertake file reading, interviews and focus groups as part of the second Progress Review, with Inspectors in Orkney during the week of 21 March 2022 to meet with children, young people, and families to hear first-hand accounts of their experiences of children's services.

**14.7.** The key findings arising from the Second Progress Review, summarised in section 5 of the report circulated.

The Board **scrutinised**:

**14.8.** The key findings arising from the Second Progress Review, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated, following the joint inspection of services for children and young people in need of care and protection, and obtained assurance that planning and implementing actions to address the priority areas for improvement continued to develop and improve.

## **15. Child Poverty Strategy**

There had been previously circulated a report presenting the draft Child Poverty Strategy for the period 2022-26, for consideration and approval, together with an Equality Impact Assessment and an Island Communities Impact Assessment.

Anna Whelan advised that the draft Child Poverty Strategy would be familiar to members in that it had been trailed at various partnership meetings. Although the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 placed statutory duties on partnerships to report on child poverty matters, a coherent strategy to explain the rationale was missing. From the consultation undertaken, followed by a series of workshops, five themes were agreed, namely Pockets, Prospects, Places, Prevention and Priorities.

The Board noted:

**15.1.** That the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 placed a duty on local authorities and health boards in Scotland to report annually on activity they were taking, and would take, to reduce child poverty.

**15.2.** That a multi-agency Child Poverty Task Force was convened to address the new duty and subsequently incorporated into the Orkney Partnership Board as a short life working group.

**15.3.** That the Child Poverty Task Force had now compiled three annual Local Child Poverty Action Reports for Orkney, which had been submitted to the Scottish Government, with a fourth, covering 2020/21, in preparation.

**15.4.** That a strategic framework was needed for the future planning, monitoring, reporting and scrutiny of partnership activity to combat child poverty in Orkney.

**15.5.** That the Child Poverty Task Force had drafted a Child Poverty Strategy for 2022 to 2026, to provide a framework for the coherent planning, monitoring, reporting and scrutiny of partnership activity to combat child poverty from 2022/23 onwards.

**15.6.** That the draft Child Poverty Strategy was currently being considered by partner agencies prior to its submission to the Orkney Partnership Board on 29 June 2022 for adoption by the Partnership.

The Board **resolved:**

**15.7.** That the Child Poverty Strategy 2022 to 2026, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated, be approved insofar as it applied to the Integration Joint Board.

## **16. Community Led Support**

There had been previously circulated a report presenting an implementation plan for Community Led Support, for information, together with an Equality Impact Assessment and an Island Communities Impact Assessment.

Maureen Swannie advised that Community Led Support was one of six priorities in the approved Strategic Plan and, although good progress had been made in 2019/20, the pandemic paused further work. Lifting of lockdown restrictions had afforded the opportunity to refresh the approach to Community Led Support, with an implementation plan designed to provide detail on how Community Led Support would be approached over the coming year, as well as complementing the Strategic Plan. An action plan would also be drawn up. The National Development Team for Inclusion (NTDi) was hosting a Scottish gathering in October 2022 and this event would be used to inform actions.

Dr Louise Wilson thought that, although labelled an implementation plan, it was not clear what would be done and when and how inequalities would be reduced. Maureen Swannie confirmed this would be addressed in the action plan and any suggestions on what should be included would be welcomed. Experience from other areas would also be shared at NTDi's event in October.

Following other queries regarding lack of detail, reduction in referrals, increasing demand for services and lack of resources, Maureen Swannie confirmed that the implementation plan was a starting point for discussion – individuals and the new Wellbeing Co-ordinators would be involved in those discussions, who would also be invited to the NTDi event.

The Board noted the Community Led Support Implementation Plan 2022/23, attached as Appendix 1 to the report circulated.

## **17. New Care Facility in Kirkwall**

There had been previously circulated a report presenting an update on progress with the new care facility in Kirkwall, for information.

Lynda Bradford advised that the project went to tender just before Christmas 2021 and concluded in January 2022. Further capital budget was required, as a result of worldwide price increases and availability of materials, which was subsequently approved by the Council. Minor changes required to the design specification to bring the project within the overall financial envelope would not affect operational delivery.

The Board noted progress made since the last full report to the Integration Joint Board in April 2021 and subsequent Briefing Notes issued in October 2021 and February 2022, as follows:

- As a result of tender submissions being in excess of the allocated capital budget, additional funding had been agreed.
- The main contractor had been appointed.
- The build specification had been adjusted to address the revised capital allocation, in consultation with the service.
- Planning permission had been granted.
- The contractor was now on site, and completion expected in July 2024.

## **18. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

It was **agreed** that the next meeting be held on Wednesday, 21 September 2022, at 09:30.

## **19. Disclosure of Exempt Information**

On the motion of Issy Grieve, seconded by Councillor Rachael King, the Board **agreed** that the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as the business to be considered involved the disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

## **20. Care at Home**

Under section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public had been excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 11 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

There had been previously circulated a report setting out proposals for the Care at Home service utilising additional funding streams made available by the Scottish Government during 2021/22, for consideration and approval.

Lynda Bradford reminded members of the discussion at the previous meeting, whereby a sum was made available from the Scottish Government, on a recurring basis, to expand Care at Home capacity. Members were also aware of the ongoing challenges with recruitment.

The Board **resolved** that recurring funding received from the Scottish Government be utilised to expand capacity within the Care at Home service.

**The above constitutes the summary of the Minute in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 section 50C(2) as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.**



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## **21. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 11:57.