



4 March 2025

East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership, with the support of East Lothian's communities has been Planning Older People's Services (POPS).



This March community update includes:

- **POPS final report recommendations**
- **What happens next?**

POPS final report recommendations

We are pleased to confirm that the East Lothian IJB approved the *Planning Older People's Services* final report and recommendations at their meeting on Thursday 20 February 2025.

This report has been uploaded online, and is available to download via this link:

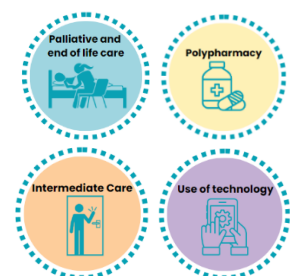
[POPS Final Report and Recommendations \(PDF\)](#)

The final report provides an overarching summary of the engagement activity undertaken at each stage of the project, starting with the outcomes of the *Community Hospitals and Care Home's Change Board* in early 2023, to the feedback gathered from the 12-week public engagement and consultation period between September to December 2024.

The report made six specific recommendations for the Integration Joint Board to consider. All of which were agreed by the IJB.

Report Recommendations





1) The East Lothian IJB should adopt the four suggested priorities (palliative and end of life care; polypharmacy; intermediate care; and technology) and embed them within the refreshed strategic plan and updated Programme Board structure. The findings and specific suggestions contained within the report should be progressed further by relevant Senior Managers and Officers as part of the revised Programme Board structure.



2) The East Lothian IJB should retain and develop the Independent Community Panel as a key engagement and participation function. The Panel should form part of a strategic planning and decision-making feedback loop that ensures key stakeholders, particularly those with lived experience, are informed and consulted on key discussions and developments on an ongoing basis.



East Lothian
Independent
Community
Panel

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| <p>3) ELHSCP Officers should update and refresh our existing engagement and communications strategies to reflect the role of the Independent Community Panel and take consideration of other key project findings such as: raising awareness of services; accessibility of information; use of technical language; and accessible information standards.</p> |  <p>Review of communications and engagement strategy</p> |
| <p>4) When considering further financial recovery actions for 2024/25 and working towards a balanced budget position for 2025/26 and beyond as part of the East Lothian IJB 5-year financial plan, officers should remain mindful of the findings of this report, with particular reference to building community capacity and exploring innovative and sustainable intermediate care services.</p> |  <p>Consider community innovations to deliver sustainable services during budget planning</p> |
| <p>5) ELHSCP Officers to continue to collaborate with NHS Lothian Public Health, East Lothian Council Area Partnership Health and Wellbeing sub-groups, 3rd sector partners / interfaces and community groups to explore and develop early intervention and prevention approaches that support IJB strategic priorities and deliver intermediate care and support.</p> |  <p>Develop early Intervention and prevention approaches</p> |
| <p>6) ELHSCP Officers to continue to work with NHS Lothian Public Health and East Lothian Council data analysts to improve our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and use of data and analytics when it comes to informing strategic decision making and service development.</p> |  <p>Use analytics and data to inform decisions</p> |

What happens next?

The IJB have committed to progress the recommendations of the POPS project and partners across the Health and Social Care Partnership will now concentrate on ensuring that each recommendation is progressed.

While these six recommendations were approved by the IJB, considerable work continues to be undertaken to develop a number of the other ideas and suggestions that were put forward at earlier stages of the engagement process. An updated Options Report has been published providing an update on these initiatives, and is available to view online here: [Provisioning Strategy Project: Options Update November 2024.](#)

Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity, once again to offer our sincere thanks to everyone who has been involved in the Planning Older People's Service Project, especially our Independent Community Panel members. It would not have been possible to come to these conclusions and recommendations without your valuable input.

We additionally look forward to working with the Independent Community Panel on an ongoing basis, building on the foundations that were achieved during the POPS project. If you are interested in joining the community panel, or have any other questions about our engagement projects, please feel free to contact us via engagement-hscp@eastlothian.gov.uk.

Should you wish to review any of the progress reports published as part of the Planning Older People's Services project you can view these online at www.eastlothian.gov.uk/elhscp/pops.

Kind regards

Fiona Wilson

Chief Officer and Joint Director

East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership



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