



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST LOTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2016  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HOUSE, HADDINGTON

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### **Voting Members Present:**

Councillor S Akhtar  
Mr M Ash  
Councillor S Currie  
Councillor J Goodfellow  
Councillor D Grant  
Mr A Joyce  
Ms A Meiklejohn

### **Non-voting Members Present:**

Ms M Allan  
Ms F Duncan (Items 3 – 4)  
Dr R Fairclough  
Dr A Flapan  
Mr D King  
Ms A MacDonald  
Mr K Maloney  
Mrs M McKay  
Mr T Miller (Item 4)  
Mr E Stark  
Mr A Wilson

### **Officers Present:**

Mr C Briggs  
Ms C Lumsden  
Ms J McCabe  
Ms J Ogden-Smith

### **Clerk:**

Ms F Currie

### **Apologies:**

Mr D Small  
Dr J Turvill

### **Declarations of Interest:**

None

## **1. MINUTES OF THE EAST LoTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD MEETING OF 26 NOVEMBER 2015 (FOR APPROVAL)**

The minutes of the East Lothian Integration Joint Board meeting of 26 November 2015 were approved.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 26 NOVEMBER 2015**

The following matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 26 November 2015 were discussed:

**Delayed Discharges** – the Chair advised members that the ‘options paper’ requested by Councillor Currie would now be presented to the IJB at its meeting on 25 February 2016.

## **3. CHAIR’S REPORT**

The Chair reported that there had been a number of meetings since November to consider the IJB’s financial settlement for 2016/17. He advised members that he would not go into details as the substance of these discussions would be covered in the next agenda item.

The Chair also provided an update on the appointment process for the Head of Adult Wellbeing. He indicated that despite two attempts to fill the post the process had been unsuccessful. A consultation was currently underway with stakeholders regarding options for filling the post and he would provide a further update to members once this was concluded.

Councillor Currie sought an assurance that the post would be filled timeously and with a long-term appointee. He asked if further information could be provided on the options being considered and the timetable for appointment.

The Chair acknowledged that the failure to appoint on two occasions was disappointing but stated that David Small had prepared three possible options for a way forward. David King suggested that this paper be circulated to members of the IJB.

Alison Meiklejohn agreed that while it was disappointing, the recruitment process had been very thorough.

Following a proposal by the Chair, members agreed that the paper containing the options for filling the Head of Adult Wellbeing post should be circulated to all IJB members.

Margaret McKay raised two queries relating to the financial settlement but was advised that these would be better addressed under the new agenda item.

## **4. UPDATE ON FINANCIAL ASSURANCE PROCESS**

A report was submitted by the Chief Finance Officer of the IJB to update the IJB on the current progress towards completion of the financial assurance process for the IJB’s opening 2016/17 budget.

Mr King presented the report, indicating that neither NHS Lothian nor East Lothian Council were as yet in a position to make a formal offer which could be considered by the IJB. Although NHS Lothian had put forward a proposed model for each of the Lothian IJBs, he advised that this was an indicative offer and would likely remain so until after the end of the financial year. He added that the Council's formal offer would follow its budget meeting on 9 February 2016.

Mr King reminded members that the financial position for each partner body was driven by the Scottish Government budget for 2016/17 and he referred to a recent letter from John Swinney MSP outlining the settlement offer. He summarised the key factors and the implications for the IJB.

Mr King stated that further discussions would need to take place before the financial assurance process could be completed. However, the timescale was very tight and as there may not be time to call additional meetings of the IJB, he sought members' approval to delegate authority to the IJB's Chief Officer, Chief Finance Officer, Chair and Vice Chair to sign off on the agreement on the use of the Integration Fund with East Lothian Council and to report back to the next meeting of the IJB.

Mr King responded to questions from members on topics including the allocation of NRAC and its implications for drug budgets and acute services, the introduction of the Living Wage and its impact on charging thresholds for social care services and the procedures for signing off the IJB's 2016/17 budget.

Councillor Currie asked how long the figures put forward by NHS Lothian were likely to remain indicative. He reminded members that before the end of March the Audit & Risk Committee was required to make a recommendation to the IJB on the 2016/17 budget. The lack of a firm offer from NHS Lothian would make this more difficult.

Mrs McKay sought clarification on who would make the decision on charging for domiciliary care. With regard to the Living Wage, she said that public money should not be used to subsidise what was an employers' responsibility. She considered this to be a point of principle and a poor use of public funds.

The Chair acknowledged Councillor Currie's points and said that these would be addressed as part of forthcoming discussions. In response to Mrs McKay's remarks, he said that the Scottish Government's offer made clear that private third sector organisations would be expected to meet their share of the costs of paying the Living Wage. Mrs McKay responded that those who did not pay it should be subject to close scrutiny.

Maureen Allan commented that most employers did pay at or near the Living Wage but that this had to be balanced within the overall cost of their contracts.

Richard Fairclough asked about contingency plans should the monies allocated not be sufficient for the IJB to meet its obligations. Mr King pointed to the need for risk sharing and identification of key financial pressures which would allow the IJB to plan ahead and allocate appropriately. Joanne McCabe advised that there were provisions within the Integration Scheme for approaching the Council or NHS Lothian for additional funds.

The Chair drew the discussion to a close and sought members' approval of the recommendations in the report, as amended by Mr King.

## **Decision**

The IJB agreed:

- i. to note the content of this paper; and
- ii. to delegate authority to its Chief Officer, Chief Finance Officer, Chair and Vice Chair to sign off on the agreement on the use of the Integration Fund with East Lothian Council and to report back to the next meeting of the IJB.

**5. CHANGES TO THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE EAST LOTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD**

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer of the IJB to seek approval of proposed changes to the IJB Standing Orders to include the terms of reference for the newly created Audit & Risk Committee.

The Chair presented the report noting that the proposed changes were required to reflect the setting up of the new committee.

Councillor Currie, as Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee, commented that the terms of reference set out clearly the role of the Committee and its relationship with the IJB, although these may be subject to change over time. He also hoped that there would be opportunities to share information with other Audit & Risk Committees within Lothian.

**Decision**

The IJB agreed to approve changes to the Standing Orders as outlined in the report.

Signed .....

Councillor Donald Grant  
Chair of the East Lothian Integration Joint Board