



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST LoTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 2020
VIA DIGITAL MEETINGS SYSTEM

Voting Members Present:

Councillor F O'Donnell (Chair)
Councillor S Akhtar
Dr P Donald (Items 4 – 6)
Councillor N Gilbert
Ms F Ireland
Mr P Murray

Non-voting Members Present:

Mr D Binnie
Ms L Cowan
Ms C Flanagan
Mr I Gorman
Ms A MacDonald
Mr T Miller

Officers Present from NHS Lothian/East Lothian Council:

Ms L Berry
Mr P Currie
Ms L Kerr
Ms J Ogden-Smith

Clerk:

Ms F Currie

Apologies:

Dr Richard Williams

Declarations of Interest:

None

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST LoTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD OF 25 JUNE 2020 (FOR APPROVAL)

The minutes of the East Lothian Integration Joint Board (IJB) meeting on 25 June 2020 were approved.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 25 JUNE

There were no matters arising.

3. CHANGES TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE IJB AND ITS AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

The Chief Officer had submitted a report informing the IJB of changes to its voting membership. The IJB was also asked to appoint a replacement for a retiring voting member on the Audit & Risk Committee and to appoint a new Chair of the Committee.

The Clerk outlined the background and recommendations contained in the report. She invited nominations from members to appoint a replacement for Alex Joyce on the Audit & Risk Committee and to appoint a new Chair of the Committee. Fiona O'Donnell nominated Dr Patricia Donald to replace Mr Joyce on the Committee and to take up the role of Chair. This nomination was seconded by Peter Murray. There were no other nominations.

Decision

The IJB:

- i. Agreed to note the appointment of Dr Richard Williams as a NHS Lothian voting member of the IJB, as a replacement for Alex Joyce, and for the maximum term of office;
- ii. Considered nominations and agreed to appoint Dr Patricia Donald to replace Mr Joyce on the Audit & Risk Committee; and
- iii. Considered nominations and agreed to appoint Dr Donald as Chair of the Committee.

4. HEALTHCARE GOVERNANCE

The Chief Officer had submitted a SBAR report advising the IJB of the requirement for Health & Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs) to produce an annual report on healthcare governance arrangements for the NHS Lothian Healthcare Governance Committee (HGC).

Lorraine Cowan gave a detailed presentation of the report advising members that the HGC's role was to give assurance to NHS Lothian that all services, including those of the HSCPs, have robust governance arrangements in place to assess risks and adverse outcomes for services and their patients and clients, and to take preventative and reactive steps to improve outcomes. The East Lothian HSCP report would be considered at the Committee's meeting on 8th September. Ms Cowan highlighted examples of governance arrangements across different services and the processes for monitoring actions on complaints and adverse events through regular inspections and service audits.

In response to questions from the Chair, Ms Cowan outlined plans for delivery of the flu vaccine across the county. She also advised that nursing recruitment had been very successful and that while there was likely to be increased pressure to recruit to the District Nursing service in coming years to replace staff who were retiring, additional funding had been allocated for this.

Alison MacDonald confirmed that there were no concerns about recruitment at present and she highlighted further recent success in filling vacant posts within Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy.

Iain Gorman provided further detail on the planned programme of flu vaccinations and steps being taken to encourage uptake in high risk groups. He also addressed the question of continuing anxieties about GP services, the likelihood that telephone or virtual consultations would continue to replace many face-to-face consultations, and the arrangements being put in place to remobilise other GP services.

Mr Murray noted in paragraph 3.44 of the report instances of aggression or violence against staff and asked that it be put on record that the IJB supported a zero tolerance policy on such matters. He also welcomed a number of improvements and good practice highlighted in the report and suggested that a summary be prepared for members. The Chair supported this suggestion.

Ms MacDonald responded to further questions on the need for additional Directions to resource some of the work highlighted in the report and the multi-agency approach to dealing with the increase in drug-related deaths. She also confirmed that there were no GP practices within East Lothian where lists were closed or getting close to being full. However, she acknowledged the need for re-provision or expansion of facilities in some areas.

As Chair of the Clinical and Care Governance Committee, Fiona Ireland commended the report and indicated that issues that appeared to be 'unmitigated' risks had been raised with Ms MacDonald and addressed in good time. Ms Ireland also advised that corporate service issues had been raised with NHS Lothian. She added that as a result of work undertaken previously, East Lothian HSCP had been well placed to support care homes through the pandemic and that this should be celebrated.

Dr Patricia Donald raised further questions about encouraging take up of the flu vaccine in the under 65s who were at greatest risk, and concerns that the shift in workload from secondary to primary care would fall mainly on GP practices.

Ms MacDonald and Mr Gorman outlined some additional steps being taken to encourage vaccine take up and emphasised the importance of a strong communications strategy. They also agreed with the need to be mindful of the impact that moving work from secondary to primary care would have on GPs and wider practice staff. They highlighted CTACs as one possible way of managing the increased pressure on services.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Accept that the delivery of healthcare governance arrangements across East Lothian HSCP services continues to provide moderate assurance to committee members;
- ii. Note the trends in performance across various measures to 31st July 2020 compared to the data previously reported to the Committee in September 2019;

- iii. Note that the East Lothian Clinical Care Governance Committee is well established as a sub-committee of the East Lothian IJB and reports to the IJB on a regular basis; and
- iv. Accept that the East Lothian healthcare governance structures allow for early identification of risks and for the mobilisation of actions to ameliorate and where possible remove risks.

5. IJB ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2019/20

The Chief Officer had submitted a SBAR report reminding the IJB of the update provided to its June meeting and the agreed position nationally that all annual performance reports should be published by 30th September.

Paul Currie outlined the background and advised members that the annual performance report had been designed for production in print form only as it did not comply with new legislative requirements for accessibility. A new simplified version would be prepared which would be suitable for all devices or 'on-screen' readers.

Members proposed some minor changes and additions to the report. Ms MacDonald confirmed that there was still time for further suggestions to be submitted. While the aim was to publish by 31st August, it was more important to ensure that the report properly reflected the work of the HSCP and the input from IJB members.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Accept the delayed 2019-20 Annual Performance Report and the account it gave of delivery and performance across the HSCP's services over the year; and
- ii. Note that as the 2019-20 Annual performance report covered the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 it provided a limited account of COVID-19 related actions which began in March and developed over the following months. These actions were described in other reports, and would feature in the 2020-21 Annual Performance Report.

6. FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Chief Finance Officer provided a verbal update on the financial position for 2020-21.

Claire Flanagan informed members that the situation remained challenging and that work was continuing with the IJB's partners to understand the full impact and costs associated with COVID-19, including those attached to the mobilisation and remobilisation plans. The full Quarter 1 review had yet to be concluded but it was clear that the IJB was currently in an overspent position as a result of additional costs. Ms Flanagan indicated that a comprehensive Quarter 1 report would be presented to the IJB at its next meeting. In the meantime, she reassured members that she continued to link into all reporting processes to support the flow of additional funds to deal with COVID-19.

Ms Flanagan responded to questions from members. She confirmed that, if not for COVID-19 costs, the IJB would currently be closer to a break-even position. She added that COVID-19 has also resulted in delays in taking forward localised savings plans. In relation to social care and supporting external providers, she confirmed that

£1.4m of additional funding had been received to date and that support for external providers under the sustainability principles may be extended.

Ms MacDonald said that number of delayed discharge beds required in East Lothian had been low. While beds had been commissioned at Leuchie House and Haddington Care Home these were mostly for individuals in the community whose packages of care had become fragile. She also explained that the sustainability payments for care homes were to support numbers pre-COVID, rather than new beds, and that these payments were beginning to reduce and would stop completely by the end of November.

In response to a final question from the Chair, Ms Flanagan advised that while it was difficult to give an exact figure, the amount spent on COVID-19 in the first three months of 2020-21 exceeded the additional funds provided to date.

Decision

The IJB agreed to note the update on the financial position for 2020-21.

Signed

Councillor Fiona O'Donnell
Chair of the East Lothian Integration Joint Board