

East Lothian
Integration Joint Board



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

**THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2020
VIA DIGITAL MEETINGS SYSTEM**

Voting Members Present:

Councillor F O'Donnell (Chair)
Councillor S Akhtar (Items 4 – 7)
Dr P Donald
Councillor N Gilbert (Items 1, 6 & 2 – 5)
Ms F Ireland
Councillor S Kempson
Mr P Murray
Dr Richard Williams

Non-voting Members Present:

Mr D Binnie	Ms C Flanagan
Mr I Gorman	Ms A MacDonald
Ms M McNeill	Mr T Miller
Ms J Tait	Dr J Turvill
Mr P White	

Officers Present from NHS Lothian/East Lothian Council:

Ms L Berry	Ms C Goodwin
Mr P Currie	Ms L Kerr

Clerk:

Ms F Currie

Apologies:

None

Declarations of Interest:

Item 7 – David Binnie declared an interest as this item dealt with his re-appointment. He would leave the meeting at the end of the preceding item of business.

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST LoTHIAN IJB ON 29TH OCTOBER 2020 (FOR APPROVAL)

The minutes of the meeting on 29th October 2020 were approved.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 29TH OCTOBER

The following matters arising were considered:

Independent Review of Adult Social Care (Item 5) – Paul White asked if the IJB's formal response to the review could be circulated to members. Claire Goodwin advised that it had been circulated after it was submitted to the Scottish Government but that she would re-send it.

Social Care Sustainability Payment (Item 6) – the Chair informed members that a very positive Internal Audit report on this scheme had been presented to the Audit & Risk Committee earlier in the week and had been very well received. She thanked officers for their effective administration of the scheme.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair thanked members for their responses to both of the recent consultations: the Independent Review of Adult Social Care and the Inclusion of IJBs as Category 1 Responders.

She noted that this would be the IJB's last meeting of 2020 and she offered the thanks of the Board to all health and social care workers for their efforts to keep patients safe and well during the pandemic. She also offered her thanks to officers and partner agencies for their work on planning and implementing the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Members agreed to take Agenda Item 6 next.

6. FINANCIAL UPDATE 2020/21

The Chief Finance Officer had submitted a report providing an update to the IJB on its year to date financial position in 2020/21 (Month 6) and the updated projected year end outturn, undertaken by both the IJB partners.

Ms Flanagan presented the report summarising the position in the health and social care budgets and confirming that regular dialogue continued with the partners over the likely impact of mobilisation and remobilisation plans. She reported that as at the end of September 2020 the IJB was £2.2m overspent, with a projected year end position of £4.7m overspent. She advised that their most recent return to the Scottish Government projected the total COVID-19 costs for the year to be £8.8m. The figures presented in this report did not include the additional funding from Government but this would shortly start to be allocated to the partners to cover backdated costs. Further funding was expected before the end of the financial year and work was underway to understand the impact going forward into 2021/22.

Responding to questions from members, Ms Flanagan provided further detail on the projected shortfall in the current financial year noting that the position remained fluid. She reiterated that she and her colleagues were working to understand the implications for 2021/22 and for the longer-term 5 year financial plan. She also provided an

explanation of the increase in the prescribing budget, part of which related to supply and cost issues.

Jon Turvill provided examples of the types of medications which were currently in short supply, alternatives which were now being recommended and some of the cost and clinical implications. He confirmed that all relevant guidance was being followed in prescribing alternative medications. However, he acknowledged that reviewing patients' medications had been increasingly challenging, particularly antidepressants, as it was not always easy to find time in the day to make contact with patients seeking repeat prescriptions.

Iain Gorman confirmed that a review was underway on to understand the impacts of changes in prescribing and to prepare a 'before and after' comparison. He suggested that additional scrutiny could be put in place, particularly given the added pressures on the prescribing budget.

Alison MacDonald said she recognised that prescribing was an area where further work was required and that it was a volatile market which could have significant financial impacts.

Responding to further questions from members, Ms Flanagan provided details of the pressures affecting the Set Aside budget, and the likelihood of receiving full funding of COVID-19 costs for 2020/21. She explained that funding was coming through more smoothly now and further allocations were expected in January and March 2021 and would be based on financial returns submitted to the Scottish Government. While she expected funding to continue, she emphasised the need to consider any financial off-sets, e.g. savings in the travel budget.

Ms MacDonald added that they had put in place a very thorough and transparent governance process for recording itemised costs associated with COVID-19 and had ensured that processes, such as the social care sustainability payments scheme, were administered in line with relevant Government requirements.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Note the financial forecasts provided by the partners;
- ii. Note that additional COVID-19 funding was confirmed in November and, although not included in these reported Month 6 positions, will start to be allocated to the partners to cover backdated costs;
- iii. Note ongoing uncertainties of COVID-19 and the remobilisation of services for both partners and the financial impact; and
- iv. Note the Scottish Government budget timetable for 2021/22 and the consequences for both partners.

4. IMPROVING AND MAINTAINING DELAYED DISCHARGE PERFORMANCE THROUGH WINTER

The Chief Officer had submitted a report informing the IJB of requirements placed on East Lothian Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP) to further improve on Delayed Discharge performance and to maintain improved performance over the winter months.

Paul Currie presented the report advising that, to take pressure off acute services, there was an expectation from the Scottish Government that HSCPs would focus on improving delayed discharge performance (to levels seen in April 2020) and to maintain

this through the winter period. Although East Lothian HSCP has one of the best delayed discharge performance levels in the country, November saw numbers which were higher than those recorded in April. He also outlined some of the planning work underway and examples of services already in place to address delayed discharges.

Mr Currie and Ms MacDonald responded to questions from members providing further information on the process for discharging those requiring care packages; unofficial targets to keep delayed discharges in single figures and the clinical and operational requirements to keep figures below 10. Ms MacDonald also outlined some of the investment in services such as Hospital to Home, Discharge to Assess and Care at Home which had helped to keep numbers low. She acknowledged the need to continue challenging themselves and to consider how services could work differently, and that continuing investment would be required to keep numbers at low levels.

Replying to further questions, Mr Gorman agreed that the impact of enhanced services needed to be properly evaluated and that the partners should be asked to reflect on how they made use of resources in the community. Ms MacDonald said she was mindful that there could be movement of work from secondary to primary care as part of the scheduling of unscheduled care and that this would also have funding implications.

Patricia Donald suggested the possibility of a development session to discuss these matters in more detail and this was welcomed by members.

In relation to maintaining performance on delayed discharges, Ms MacDonald said that they would continue to invest in resources with a proven track record and they would only discharge a patient where they knew it was safe to do so. Their ultimate aim was to move towards talking about integrated care rather than the focus being solely on delayed discharges.

Referring to patients with mental health concerns, she acknowledged that the type of bespoke packages required sometimes took longer to put in place. Options were under discussion to improve the position for dementia and learning disability patients, and all proposals would be brought to the IJB for consideration.

Decision

The IJB agreed to support co-ordinated work across the HSCP teams to deliver and to maintain an, as yet to be agreed, level of Delayed Discharge performance through winter.

5. ADULT SOCIAL CARE WINTER PREPAREDNESS PLAN 2020-21

The Chief Officer had submitted a report advising the IJB of the publication of the Adult Social Care Winter Preparedness Plan and presenting the implications of the Plan for the delivery of services through the winter period by East Lothian HSCP and partners.

Mr Currie presented the report noting its links to the preceding agenda item. He outlined the background to the Plan, its purpose and scope and highlighted the four main areas of focus. He also drew members' attention to the actions detailed in the report's appendix

Ms MacDonald provided an update on funding for the Plan, digital access and the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine. She reminded members that much of this work had been outlined at the recent development session. She confirmed that the HSCP had received the funding requested from the Scottish Government and that it had targeted

investment in areas where there was evidence of results. She advised that 2 additional wards had been opened within the Community Hospital, separate to this funding, and would take patients from across Lothian, if required. She also reported that the Well Wynd Hub had recently won a national award and it was hoped to expand the service through identifying a second property in Dunbar.

In relation to the vaccination programme, Ms MacDonald informed members that Queen Margaret University would be used as a mass vaccination site and that the vaccination of frontline health and social care staff was beginning. Mr Gorman reported that the Safety Advisory Group was looking at the implications of the roll out for other organisations and co-ordinating with partner agencies over vaccination sites. Ms MacDonald concluded that the next phases of the roll out would, in part, be dependent on logistics and that the amount of doses being received had not been as high as expected. However, she hoped these issues would be smoothed out and that the advent of a second vaccine would help to speed up the process.

Members congratulated the staff of the Well Wynd Hub on their national award.

Ms MacDonald responded to questions. She said that testing of staff in care homes had been underway on a weekly basis for the past 3 months. While it was not mandatory, the majority of staff did take the opportunity and they would shortly be starting the roll out of visitor testing.

Mr Gorman added that care homes had been very responsive and were participating in testing to ensure that they operated as safely as possible.

Laura Kerr provided an update on a new day services pilot project in Dunbar which had received a very positive response and she informed members that a detailed report would be presented to the next meeting of the IJB. It was hoped that the pilot would influence the development of other services across the county.

The Chair reflected that the roll out of the vaccine would hopefully change the position for day centre services and she looked forward to receiving an update in the New Year.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Accept the Adult Social Care Winter Preparedness Plan and the requirements and actions within to ensure delivery of high quality and sustainable Adult Social Care services over the winter months;
- ii. Note the actions underway and planned in East Lothian which support the requirements of the ASP Winter Plan; and
- iii. Note the HSCP will scrutinise the ASP Winter Plan and agree other actions to deliver its requirements.

Sederunt: David Binnie left the meeting. Councillor Neil Gilbert lost connection.

7. RE-APPOINTMENT OF A NON-VOTING MEMBER OF THE IJB

The Chief Officer had submitted a report asking the IJB to agree to the re-appointment of David Binnie as a non-voting member representing carers.

The Clerk summarised the background and recommendation of the report. The Chair advised members that Mr Binnie had raised a concern over a perceived inequality in

the term of office for carer representatives being 2 years rather than 3 years, as was the case for most other members. A report would be brought forward to the next meeting of the IJB on the wider issue of terms of office but, in the meantime, the Chair proposed an amendment to the recommendation of the report: that Mr Binnie's re-appointment be for a period of 3 years. This motion was seconded by Councillor Akhtar.

The vote on the recommendation, as amended, was taken by roll call:

Councillor Shamin Akhtar	Agreed
Dr Patricia Donald	Agreed
Ms Fiona Ireland	Agreed
Councillor Susan Kempson	Agreed
Mr P Murray	Agreed
Councillor Fiona O'Donnell	Agreed
Dr Richard Williams	Agreed

Decision

The IJB agreed to the re-appointment of David Binnie as a non-voting member to represent careers, for a further period of 3 years.

Signed

.....

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