

East Lothian  
Integration Joint Board



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

**THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021  
VIA DIGITAL MEETINGS SYSTEM**

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**Voting Members Present:**

Mr P Murray (Chair)  
Councillor S Akhtar  
Dr P Donald  
Councillor N Gilbert  
Ms F Ireland  
Councillor S Kempson  
Councillor F O'Donnell  
Dr R Williams

**Non-voting Members Present:**

Ms M Allan	Ms L Cowan
Mr I Gorman	Mr D King
Mr T Miller	Ms A MacDonald
Ms M McNeill	Dr C Mackintosh
Dr J Turvill	

**Officers Present from NHS Lothian/East Lothian Council:**

Mr P Currie	Ms C Goodwin
Ms J Holland	Mr M Kennedy
Ms L Kerr	Ms G Neil

**Clerk:**

Ms F Currie

**Apologies:**

Mr D Binnie  
Ms J Tait

**Declarations of Interest:**

None

The Chair invited his colleague, Councillor Shamin Akhtar, to pay tribute to Councillor Willie Innes, Leader of East Lothian Council, who passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Councillor Akhtar said that Councillor Innes had believed strongly in public service and had made significant contributions to the community of Prestonpans and throughout East Lothian during his more than 30 years as a councillor. His many achievements and interventions had impacted positively across a range of sectors including health and social care. He had been a huge advocate of the new community hospital and of day centres. He was always keen to acknowledge and value the efforts of staff and he had offered his personal thanks to NHS staff following his own treatment during illness. Councillor Akhtar said he would be remembered by colleagues and constituents as a great person and advocate for all.

The Chair then invited members to observe a short silence in memory of Councillor Innes.

### **1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST LoTHIAN IJB ON 16<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 (FOR APPROVAL)**

The minutes of the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were approved.

### **2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

The following matters were raised:

Councillor Gilbert asked if there was any update on the situation at the Edington Hospital, North Berwick. Alison Macdonald advised that there was no update at present, however the current review period was due to conclude on 10<sup>th</sup> December at which point a further report would be presented to NHS Lothian. The IJB would be updated thereafter.

### **3. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair informed members that he had recently attended a very useful meeting on health inequalities and that this important issue would form the basis of a development session for IJB members on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Dr Jon Turvill welcomed the proposed development session and the opportunity for the IJB to discuss what it could do to address this issue. Maureen Allan also welcomed the opportunity to participate in the development session and to discuss the third sector role and community aspects of health inequalities.

Ms Macdonald updated members following some concerning press articles regarding pressures on the system in East Lothian, with particular reference to acute services and care home beds. She advised members that East Lothian was in a fortunate position in relation to delayed discharges and that while consideration was being given to relocating patients from acute beds to care homes, while they awaited appropriate packages of care, no patient was being forced to move. She added that all four Health & Social Care Partnerships within Lothian were continuing to work together to try to ease pressures across the system.

#### **4. INITIAL AGREEMENTS FOR THE NEXT STEPS OF THE REH CAMPUS RE-DEVELOPMENT**

The Chief Officer had submitted a report seeking support from the IJB to take forward the Initial Agreements (IA) for the next stages of the REH campus re-development, which had been developed in partnership with the East Lothian Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP).

Gillian Neil presented the report outlining the background and development of the project and the rationale for determining bed numbers. She indicated that once agreed by the 4 Lothian IJBs the Initial Agreements would progress through the NHS Lothian governance process for submission to the Scottish Government. Following approval by Ministers, an outline business case would be produced.

The Chair welcomed the very thorough business case and commended the collaborative approach adopted for this project. He noted that reducing in-patient beds would rely on resilient community services and East Lothian was in a good position in that respect. He also noted that there would need to be a release of funding to community services to support the transfer of care. While he supported the principles he emphasised the need for appropriate resources to be made available.

Thomas Miller also welcomed the level of partnership working on this project. He added that staff had been very heavily involved in discussions and it was very exciting to see this project progress.

Ms Neil responded to a number of questions from members around flexibility of bed numbers, capital resourcing, moving patients into existing community services and the redevelopment of assets such as the Hermanflat Hospital site in Haddington.

The vote was taken by roll call and all of the recommendations were approved unanimously.

#### **Decision**

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Note the strategic case outlined in the Initial Agreement (IA), and how this linked to the East Lothian vision for future care in this area;
- ii. Note the reduction in Learning Disability (LD) beds from 3 to 2;
- iii. Approve the IAs (prior to submission to the Scottish Government); and
- iv. Acknowledge the continued involvement of ELHSCP officers in the development of the business case.

#### **5. IJB ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020-21**

The Chief Officer had submitted a SBAR report seeking approval of the Annual Performance Report for 2020-21.

Claire Goodwin presented the report outlining the content to the report and reminding members of the reasons for the delay in its preparation. She highlighted the key themes in the report and advised that, subject to approval by the IJB, a summary version would be prepared.

The Chair commended the report as a significant piece of work. He said that when compared with the IJB's first annual report, it showed the significant progress that had

been made which was wholly down to the hard work and dedication of those working across health and social care.

Councillor Fiona O'Donnell praised the report but asked if case studies could be included, as in previous reports.

Councillor Akhtar agreed, suggesting that the report should also be more explicit about how well integration has worked over the past year, particularly in light of the pandemic and the pressures on services.

The Chair agreed with these comments and added that the Edinburgh IJB had included case studies in its report and these had provided a powerful testimony of how integration had impacted on individuals.

Dr Richard Williams said it was a fantastic report which outlined a lot of really good work. Making particular reference to the section on supporting carers, he noted that some of the statistics dated from 2019/20 and he asked if updated figures could be included.

Dr Claire Mackintosh commented that, as a new member of the IJB, she had found the report very helpful.

Ms Goodwin responded to the comments made by members regarding case studies and statistics and Ms Macdonald provided further information on carer engagement and acknowledged the usefulness of reporting to raise awareness of the work happening across services.

The vote was taken by roll call and the recommendations were approved unanimously.

## **Decision**

The IJB agreed:

- i. To accept the Annual Performance report for 2020-21;
- ii. To recognise the achievements of the East Lothian HSCVP and individual services during a uniquely challenging year;
- iii. To commend the contribution made by staff, volunteers, communities and partner organisations; and
- iv. That a summary Annual Performance Report should be produced.

## **6. NATIONAL CARE SERVICE CONSULTATION**

The Chief Officer had submitted a SBAR report updating the IJB on the national consultation underway concerning the establishment of a National Care Service and inviting members to agree the IJB's response to the consultation.

Paul Currie presented the report outlining the background to the consultation exercise, and thanked members for attending a development session on 8<sup>th</sup> October to formulate the terms of the IJB's response. He referred to concerns raised across other groups about the increased scope of the consultation and advised that the IJB's response contained a range of views on some issues and consensus of opinion on others. He asked members to approve the terms of the response and its submission to the Scottish Government.

The members discussed the terms of the response and expressed their appreciation to Mr Currie for representing so clearly the range of views on different issues. They also

acknowledged the difficulty of formulating a consensus view and avoiding conflicts of interest when often they were considering issues from more than one perspective, e.g. as a GP and as a member of the IJB, and it was sometimes not possible to reconcile these views. It was agreed that the IJB's response should make clear where a member dissented from the collective view of the IJB, and the reasons for any differences in perspective. Members were also reminded that individual responses, and other group responses, could be submitted separately to the IJB response.

There was also concern expressed about the timing of the consultation and it was noted that there had been little willingness on the part of the Scottish Government to grant an extension.

The vote was taken by roll call and all of the recommendations were approved unanimously.

### **Decision**

The IJB agreed:

- i. To note that the consultation response contained a range of views, reflecting the different perspectives of the IJB membership; and
- ii. To the consultation response being passed to the NCS Consultation Team at the Scottish Government on behalf of the IJB.

## **7. FINANCIAL POSITION AUGUST 2021, FINANCIAL OUT-TURN 2021/22 AND FINANCIAL PLANNING 2022/23 TO 2025/26**

The Interim Chief Finance Officer had submitted a report updating the IJB on the current financial position, the projected out-turn for 2021/22 and deployment of earmarked reserves. The report also invited members to consider the current issues and future financial challenges and to discuss progress towards production of a five year, balanced financial plan.

David King presented the report outlining the month 5 position, the use of earmarked reserves and the expectation that the IJB would attain a breakeven position at the year end. He also highlighted some of the pressures on budgets, the need to focus on business as usual rather than being distracted by future changes, such as the introduction of a National Care Service. He also updated members on progress towards the production of a balanced five year financial plan.

Mr King responded to questions from members providing further detail on additional funding from the Scottish Government in the current financial year, demographic pressures and how these impacted on funding for Councils, and the continuing pressures on budgets for Hosted Services and Set Aside.

Ms Macdonald replied to further questions on the current overspends forecast by both the Council and NHS Lothian and the recent improvement in this position. She also acknowledged continuing challenges regarding commissioning budgets for older adult services and the need for mitigation measures.

Iain Gorman advised that a significant portion of the overspend related to COVID-19 and non-recurring pressures which would be directly off-set by additional funding from the Scottish Government. However, there were other elements and he provided further detail on two significant budget pressures – residential services for older adults; and the transition of young people into adult services where complex packages of care were involved.

The Chair thanked officers for their work in preparing this and other reports on the agenda. He noted that health and social care services were still in a difficult place he offered his thanks to staff for their continued efforts.

### **Decision**

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Note the financial position at August 2021;
- ii. Note the projected out-turn position for 2021/22;
- iii. Note the deployment of the earmarked reserves in 2021/22; and
- iv. Support the further development of the IJB's five year financial plan.

Signed

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Mr Peter Murray  
Chair of the East Lothian Integration Joint Board