



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

**THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2024
VIA DIGITAL MEETINGS SYSTEM**

Voting Members Present:

Councillor S Akhtar (Chair)
Mr J Blazeby
Dr P Cantley
Councillor J Findlay
Ms E Gordon
Councillor L Jardine
Councillor C McFarlane

Non-voting Members Present:

Ms A Allan	Mr D Binnie
Mr D Bradley	Ms L Byrne
Ms S Gossner	Dr J Hardman
Mr D Hood	Mr D King
Ms F Wilson	

Present from NHS Lothian/East Lothian Council:

Ms L Berry	Mr O Campbell
Ms N Cole	Mr P Currie
Mr S Davie	Ms J Jarvis
Ms L Kerr	Mr N Munro
Mr G Whitehead	

Clerk:

Ms F Currie

Apologies:

Mr A Cogan
Dr K Kasengele
Ms M McNeill
Mr T Miller

Declarations of Interest:

None

The Clerk advised that the meeting was being recorded and would be made available as a webcast in order to allow the public access to the democratic process in East Lothian. East Lothian Council and NHS Lothian were the data controllers under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected as part of the recording would be retained in accordance with the Council and Health Board's policies on record retention. The webcast of this meeting would be publicly available for up to six months.

The Clerk recorded the attendance of Members by roll call.

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE EAST Lothian IJB ON 27 JUNE 2024 (FOR APPROVAL)

The minutes of the IJB meeting on 27 June 2024 were approved.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 27 JUNE 2024

The following matters arising from the minutes on 27 June were discussed:

Item 2 (page 2) – the Chair asked for an update on Care at Home services. Laura Kerr advised that the Care at Home Change Board had met that morning and work was progressing. The focus was not just about care at home but also reducing pressure on associated services and looking at the delivery of services in the community as a whole. She said a pilot project was being developed for the Tranent area and she hoped to have data from this by early in the new year. She added that this was an integral part of health and social care, and it was important to look at the bigger picture and not just care at home. Councillor Jardine agreed that there had been very robust discussion at the Change Board meeting and that it was important to keep the focus more on service re-design.

Item 4 (page 3) - the Chair asked for an update on the health & wellbeing groups. Ms Kerr noted that some of the groups were better established than others, and some could probably benefit from additional support. While this was not the direct responsibility of the HSCP or the IJB, it was important to have officers involved in these groups.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair provided a report to members on number of matters:

IJB Chairs & Vice Chairs network meetings – continuing to share good practice and influence at a strategic level; key issues currently being discussed were the re-design of social care and action on delayed discharges.

East Lothian Council had recently approved a Homelessness Action Plan, elements of which would have a significant impact on the work of the HSCP.

The Chair also reported on her attendance at meetings/events hosted by the Care & Repair Advisory Committee, Homestart East Lothian, and Headway.

She highlighted the recent announcement that the Eye Pavilion in Edinburgh would be closed for 6 months. Appointments were to be moved to alternative venues and it would be important to ensure that East Lothian residents were aware of the alternative arrangements.

Lastly, the Chair drew attention to the Planning for Older People's Services consultation events taking place in the coming weeks. She advised that Jennifer Jarvis had circulated a list of dates, and she encouraged as many members as possible to participate.

4. CHANGES TO THE NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP OF EAST LoTHIAN IJB

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer inviting the Integration Joint Board (IJB) to note and, where appropriate, agree to changes in its non-voting membership.

Fiona Wilson presented the report. She outlined the background to the appointments and re-appointments and sought members approval for the recommendations.

The Chair offered her thanks to Dr Conaglen for his valuable contributions. She welcomed the new appointees who, she said, would help to strengthen the overall membership of the IJB.

The Chair moved to a roll call vote and the recommendations were approved unanimously.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- (i) the re-appointment of Maureen Allan as the Third Sector representative.
- (ii) the re-appointment of Thomas Miller as the NHS Lothian staff representative.
- (iii) the appointment of Darren Bradley as the East Lothian Council staff representative.
- (iv) re-appointment of Dr Claire Mackintosh as a non-voting member in the role of 'non-GP medical practitioner'; and
- (v) note the appointment of Dr Kalonde Kasengele as a replacement for Dr Philip Conaglen as a non-voting member in the role of 'adviser on public health'.

5. UNSCHEDULED CARE LoTHIAN STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer providing an update to the East Lothian Integration Joint Board on the implementation of, and revisions to the Unscheduled Care pillar of the (USC) Lothian Strategic Development Framework (LSDF).

Ms Wilson advised members that this report had been brought to the IJB for discussion.

Oliver Campbell gave a detailed presentation on the Lothian Strategic development Framework (LSDF), an illustration of the financial pressures and spending, and the role of IJBs in the strategic planning and commissioning of these services.

The Chair noted that this was quite a substantial piece of work which the IJB would need to consider further.

In response to a question from Elizabeth Gordon, Mr Campbell confirmed that an East Lothian resident should have the same access to the Rapid Assessment Care Unit (RACU) – an alternative to A&E – as any other Lothian resident, should their GP consider it appropriate.

Dr John Hardman confirmed that the access routes were working and being used by GPs in East Lothian.

Ms Wilson replied to questions from Jonathan Blazeby about the IJB's role. She explained that similar to previous discussions around Set Aside and Delayed Discharges, the issue was about how best to influence and commission services within acute hospitals; about getting a level of assurance on what was currently happening and then considering how that would fit with the IJB's strategic plan. The conversation was about challenging the IJB to consider whether current services were working and whether there was a better way of managing or directing these services. This would also influence future commissioning of services. She said that unscheduled care could not be managed in isolation by NHS Lothian; it had to be managed in conjunction with IJBs.

Mr Blazeby and the Chair both felt that further clarity was required to allow the IJB to provide effective feedback to Mr Campbell and his colleagues.

Ms Wilson offered to bring further information to the IJB members and suggested a development session as a useful next step in maintaining engagement with this issue.

Councillor Jardine reflected on some of the conversation that had taken place at the recent Change Board meeting on shifting of priorities from acute services to community-based services and achieving better outcomes for people and the public purse. She was keen to learn more about how funds could be redirected into more local services and community-led care. Mr Campbell agreed that this was an important element.

Dr Hardman said that this was the first he had been aware of any consideration of shifting resources into community. Mr Campbell advised that there was a commitment to look at this with a broader, whole system approach, which could include non-recurring funding from the Scottish Government. He agreed that, while the East Lothian perspective was very important, members were being asked to look at wider strategic responsibilities within Lothian and to get the IJB's general agreement to this approach and for the change boards to take this further.

In reply to a final question from the Chair, Mr Campbell confirmed there they would be looking at how women's health was expressed within unscheduled care services.

The Chair thanked Mr Campbell for his presentation. She said that the IJB wanted to see a shift in the balance of care, and it would be important to consider in more detail how best it could influence that shift. She fully supported the suggestion of a development session for IJB members on this issue.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Note the progress made in the implementation of the USC pillar of the LSDF
- ii. Note the continuing challenging financial landscape and support the revisions made to the programme to maximise effective delivery of key objectives within the USC LSDF pillar.

- iii. Consider the IJBs role as commissioners of USC delivery and where and how this role and function can be best utilised to deliver improved outcomes for patients.

6. QUARTER 1 FINANCE UPDATE 2024/25

A report was submitted by the Interim Chief Finance Officer discussing the Quarter one finance update for 2024/25; the update from the month 4 (July) position for 2024/25; reflecting on the finance workshop held on 5th September 2024 and the requirement to deliver further efficiencies to break-even in 2024/25.

David King presented the report. He summarised the outcome of the development session earlier in the month and that a further discussion would take place following this meeting. He outlined the month 5 position and some of the ongoing financial pressures and future risks. He advised that the 5-year financial plan would be reviewed following today's discussions and presented to the IJB at its meeting on 19 December 2024. He added that today's development session would focus on the possible impact of the forthcoming UK and Scottish budget settlements.

Mr King responded to questions from members on the expectation of an additional funding announcement later in the week, and the key challenges in the social care budget, such as pending pay awards.

The Chair said that it was important to highlight that both the Council and NHS Lothian were facing significant financial pressures and challenges and were doing all they could to manage these. However, it was also important to continue reinforcing the point that East Lothian was one of the fastest growing areas in Scotland and trying to meet that increased demand for statutory services was just one of many pressures.

Responding to a further question, Ms Wilson provided an update on recovery actions, noting that while some progress had been made there was still more to do. She acknowledged that some actions had lead-in times and gathering savings in year would be a challenge. There was also a need for balance when managing statutory responsibilities to avoid doing harm to the people who relied on these services.

Mr Blazeby commented that he was conscious of timing and that it was almost at the half year point. As such, there needed to be a sense of urgency from the IJB's partners and a sense of honesty on the direction of travel, particularly for statutory services.

The Chair acknowledged these points and said that the IJB's partners were acutely aware of the challenges.

The Chair moved to a roll call vote and the recommendations were approved unanimously.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Note the Quarter one financial forecast for 2024/25.
- ii. Note the month 4 update.
- iii. Attend a further workshop after the business meeting on 26/9/24 to discuss further recovery actions to allow the IJB to break-even in 2024/25.

7. NATIONAL CARE SERVICE (SCOTLAND) BILL (STAGE 2) EAST LoTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD RESPONSE

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer informing the IJB of the Board's response to the Scottish Parliament's Health, Social Care and Sport Committee call for comments on the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill (Stage 2) and the amendments within proposed by the Scottish Government.

Paul Currie presented the report. He outlined the background to the legislative process for the Bill and the call for comments issued by the Committee. He advised that following the development session IJB members had been asked to provide comments. Four responses had been received and these, and other comments, had formed part of the IJB's response to the Committee.

The Chair thanked members for their contributions and welcomed the response put together by Mr Currie. She said that the strength of the IJB was in it being a local board ensuring it achieved the best outcomes for people in East Lothian. She hoped that the comments provided to the Committee would be carefully considered and that the funding set aside for the NCS could be reinvested to address the challenges currently being faced by social care services.

Councillor Jardine said she had also contributed to the Council's response which had made similar points. She also pointed to the current system of annual budget settlements which resulted in challenges for reshaping services, and to recent suggestions from the UK Government of a possible move to 3-year settlements.

Mr Currie advised that he would communicate any response from the Committee and/or Scottish Government to IJB members but that there was no timeframe for this at present.

Mr Blazeby asked if there was any information available on the responses of other IJBs across the country, and whether there were more positive views of the NCS elsewhere.

Councillor Jardine said she was aware of a range of opinions with many people being clear that they want to uphold the original principles of the review and set this in motion. There was due to be a discussion on this issue at CoSLA the following day.

Lindsay Byrne said that she was a member of the national group for Chief Social Work Officers. While the overall feeling within the group was one of support for improvement of outcomes for people, the group was not supportive of the proposed method of delivery and believed that social work should be separate from the National Care Service.

The Chair asked Mr Currie to share with members the responses from other IJBs once these were in the public domain.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Note the changes proposed by the Scottish Government, which were the focus of the Stage 2 consultation on the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill.
- ii. Note the contents of the response sent to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee on behalf of East Lothian (appendix 1).

Signed

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Councillor Shamin Akhtar
Chair of the East Lothian Integration Joint Board