

Subject: **Director's Report**

Purpose: To advise members of the North Ayrshire Integration Joint Board (IJB) of developments within the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (NAHSCP).

Recommendation: That members of IJB note progress made to date.

Glossary of Terms	
NHS AA	NHS Ayrshire and Arran
HSCP	Health and Social Care Partnership
FVCV	Flu Vaccination and COVID Vaccination Programme

1.	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1.1	This report informs members of the Integration Joint Board (IJB) of the work undertaken within the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (NAHSCP) nationally, locally and Ayrshire wide.
2.	CURRENT POSITION
	National Developments
2.1	<u>Flu Vaccination & COVID Vaccination Programme (FVCV)</u>
	Scotland is currently putting plans in place to deliver a programme of COVID-19 vaccination to 4.45million people, when a vaccine becomes available. The Scottish Government's Flu Vaccination and COVID Vaccination Programme (FVCV) (Appendix 1) is overseeing national planning, and working with all local health boards, to get ready to deliver what will be Scotland's most ambitious (and most anticipated) mass vaccination programme. They have issued the attached communication to update on the work that is underway.

	<u>North Ayrshire Developments</u>
2.2	<u>Spreading some Festive Cheer with the Ghillie Dhu Crew</u>
	Young people from the Ghillie Dhu Foster Group are preparing to spread some festive cheer by sending cards to socially isolated older people in our communities this Christmas.
	Children and their carers have been busy working on hand-made cards, which will be sent out to the elderly pen friends they have been paired with by local charity CLASP during the pandemic.
	Children and Families staff, carers and volunteers are also gearing up for this year's festive social media campaign, which will follow the adventures of the 'Ghillie Dhu Christmas Coos', aptly named 'San' and 'Tizer' by members of the group.
	Follow 'North Ayrshire Fostering and Adoption' on Twitter and Facebook to keep up to date with their antics throughout December.
	The Ghillie Dhu group, named after a Scottish fairy who looks after children, was set up three years ago and provides a safe space for children and young people in foster care to meet up on a weekly basis.
	Staff from the Family Placement Team have provided ongoing support to foster carers and children throughout the pandemic, organising various online activities for the young people, including songs, games, crafts, stories and dressing up.
2.3	<u>Connecting Scotland</u>
	<p>Our application for devices through the Connecting Scotland initiative has been successful!</p> <p>We will be granted all of the 67 devices that we requested, as well as dongle devices that will allow free internet access for two years.</p> <p>A delivery date hasn't been confirmed yet, but we are hoping to get them out before Santa comes.</p>
2.4	<u>Christmas Presents Appeal</u>
	The North Ayrshire Toy Appeal commenced a few weeks ago. The HSCP have joined forces with the Communities directorate to organise the safe collection and distribution of presents to support some of our families impacted by poverty and hardship. All NAC libraries are providing safe drop off points where gifts can then be quarantined and redistributed safely to families.
	Significant logistical steps and hard work from a number of teams across North Ayrshire Council was required to make this possible. This ranged from libraries and communities staff for the organising collecting and sorting of these gifts, admin within HSCP who coordinated lists of families requiring support, Social Services and health staff in identifying and distributing these gifts.
	Lastly and most importantly, recognition to our communities, from individuals to community groups, to local unions and local businesses, their generosity has been

	immense. The appeal has been a success, despite the current restrictions and will enable us to ensure that children and young people within our area can enjoy the Christmas they deserve by waking up with gifts under the tree.
	We know that there are strong pre-existing community supports that have continued year upon year to provide gifts for children in need. This year has been no exception and there has been significant generosity evidenced.
2.5	<u>Mental Welfare Commission Announced Visit</u>
	<p>The Mental Welfare Commission has published a local visit report following their visit to Ward 7a, Woodland View, Irvine. This is a ward for people with learning disability and complex needs at Woodland View Hospital in Irvine.</p> <p>The report highlights the positive findings from the visit with no recommendations required. The report can be access via this link.</p>
	The local visits were undertaken using a combination of telephone contact with staff and managers prior to, and after, the visits and interviews, in person with patients where possible, and with ward staff. The Commission is undertaking a phased return to its visit programme following the recommendations in the Scottish Government's routemap to recovery.
2.6	<u>Dirrans Centre : Investors in People Awards</u>
	<p>Congratulations go to our team at the Dirrans Centre in Kilwinning, who this week won the Platinum Employer of the Year title at the Investors in People Awards 2020.</p> <p>As The centre had been shortlisted alongside nine other Platinum-rated employers for the Employer of the Year title and was announced the winner at a virtual ceremony on Wednesday.</p> <p>The Platinum Award is the highest accolade available through the internationally recognised Investors in People scheme, so to reach this level is a fantastic achievement in itself and is testament to the hard work and commitment of the management and staff at the centre. The centre has held the Platinum Award since 2017.</p>
2.7	<u>COVID Update</u>
	<p>This update offers assurance to IJB on the HSCP's continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The partnership's response to the pandemic continues to be recorded through it's "mobilisation plan" which was submitted to the Scottish Government in July.</p> <p>The partnership, along with NHS and NAC continue to operate on an "emergency" footing with all public facing offices remaining closed. Where staff are required to attend offices, these have been fully risk assessed and appropriate measures put in place such as face coverings, social distancing etc. The Partnership Leadership Team meet weekly and the wider PSMT meeting on a fortnightly basis. The Council and NHS have also reintroduced their senior management and governance meetings on a virtual basis.</p>

	<p><u>Updates since last IJB</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Care Home Oversight Group continues to meet on a daily basis to provide oversight of the quality of care in each care home in North Ayrshire. Public Health report on the current outbreak status within care homes. All care homes subject to outbreaks are closed to visiting and admissions. 2. Delayed Discharge figures are increasing nationally, but North Ayrshire HSCP is focussed on sustaining and improving our performance. This is being considered alongside our capacity requirements for social care over the winter period. 3. Services within the partnership continue to operate well and with appropriate staffing levels. 4. PPE Hub continues to operate well, supporting providers and carers. There are sufficient stock levels for 2-3 months' supply and increased stock has been secured from the National Hub to ensure sufficient stock levels over the winter period.
2.8	<p><u>Testing Expansion Plan</u></p> <p>Following the Cabinet Secretary's announcement of the Testing Expansion Plan for Covid-19 Testing in Parliament on 25 November, NHS Ayrshire & Arran is planning for the implementation of all changes advised.</p> <p>The Scottish Government Expansion Plan details significant changes to the availability and frequency of testing for staff, patients, education establishments and designated visitors to care homes. The timescales for implementation of all elements of the Testing Expansion Plan are challenging, nevertheless our robust local project planning will ensure all areas are prioritised and implemented accordingly.</p> <p>The Scottish Government Testing Expansion Plan is extensive and the timescales for implementation are challenging. Nevertheless, clear governance and whole systems working relationships are already in place to ensure NHS Ayrshire and Arran, each of our Integrated Health and Social Care Partnerships, Local Authorities and Resilience Partners are able to react quickly and implement additional testing policy in an effective, efficient and timely manner. Initial progress summary below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hospital Admissions – emergency Commencing Monday 30th November. 2. Hospital Admissions – planned Commencing W/C 14th December. 3. Healthcare Workers Commencing early December 2020. Social Care - Care Home Visitors Initial roll out to maximum of 12 early adopt care homes across 4 local authority areas commencing 7th December 2020. North Ayrshire is one of the early adopter sites. Subject to successful delivery there will be a further roll out to additional 7 local authority areas by 21 December and a full roll out week commencing 11 January 2021. 4. Social Care - Visiting Professionals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All NHS Professionals: twice weekly, self-testing commencing W/C 14th December. • All non-NHS Professionals: self-testing commencing W/C 11th January. 5. Social Care – Care at Home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheltered Housing and Residential settings: self-testing commencing W/C 11th January.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care at Home Services: self-testing commencing W/C 18th January, Lateral Flow Test kits <p>6. Higher & Further Education Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-testing commencing w/c 30th November prior to Students returning home for Christmas. Further phase of testing commencing January 2021 new term. <p>7. Community Asymptomatic Testing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commencing W/C 30th November across four sites commencing in East and South Ayrshire: Stewarton, Dalmellington, Girvan and Dalmillington. Plans for expansion in place with sites being identified in North Ayrshire with plans to expand from January 2021 <p>8. School (staff)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From January 2021
2.9	<u>Care Home Visitor Testing – Early Adopter Sites</u>
	As mentioned above, North Ayrshire will be involved as an early adopter site for the testing of visitors for care homes. Scottish Government asked if North Ayrshire, as a Tier 3 area, could identify a small number of care homes (3) to be involved in implementing testing for family visitors. Nationally, the Scottish Government were looking for 8-10 care homes, across 2-3 HSCPs (level 0-3) areas, who will pave the way for a full roll out in the new year. Level 4 areas are not being included as early adopter sites at this stage.
	It is proposed that lateral flow testing is used with confirmatory PCR tests for all positive cases identified. Working across 8-10 early adopter / pathfinder care homes, the aim would be to test 300-500 designated visitors per week. The sites are likely to begin w/c 7 December over two weeks.
2.10	<u>Social Care COVID19 Bonus Payment</u>
	The Scottish Government announced on 30 th November 2020 the provision of a one off pro-rata £500 bonus payment in recognition of the response to the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic by NHS and health and social care staff.
	The payment arrangements for this bonus are being finalised across all HSCPs/NHS and will be made as soon as possible.
2.11	<u>Sustainability Payments – Care Homes</u>
	<p>The Scottish Government and COSLA have agreed the arrangements for financial support to Social Care Providers to support the sector with additional costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic from December 2020 to March 2021. Support principles and arrangements have been in place throughout the pandemic, it was agreed that a review of the arrangements was required to provide more targeted support to the sector, this work was undertaken with stakeholders to consider the evidence for a new arrangement from December.</p> <p>The group of stakeholders focussed on three main areas: overall aim of funding support for the sector during the pandemic; clarity around additional costs that may be met; and streamlining the mechanism of payments and ensuring consistency in approach across the country. Arrangements for support have been agreed alongside guidance which sets out the criteria that need to be met for financial support, the approach for payment for care that cannot be delivered, the categories</p>

of additional costs which may be met, the approach to evidencing additional costs and key principles for requesting and making payments.

Guidance has been developed that sets out:

- The overall approach to financial support for social care providers relating to the COVID-19 pandemic from December 2020 to March 2021
- The criteria that need to be met for financial support for care and support that cannot be delivered as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- The approach to payment for financial support for care and support that cannot be delivered as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Categories of additional costs that may be met, where not met by other funding sources or payments for care and support that cannot be delivered as a direct result of COVID-19
- Details of the approach to providing supporting evidence for costs
- Key principles for providers and commissioners relating to requesting and making payments

The North Ayrshire HSCP have shared this guidance with providers together with further information on the implications for services in North Ayrshire, we will continue to support our commissioned Social Care providers over the period to ensure they receive the appropriate level of financial support in line with the agreed sustainability principles.

3. PROPOSALS

3.1 Anticipated Outcomes

Not applicable.

3.2 Measuring Impact

Not applicable

4. IMPLICATIONS

Financial:	None
Human Resources:	None
Legal:	None
Equality:	None
Children and Young People	None
Environmental & Sustainability:	None
Key Priorities:	N/A
Risk Implications:	N/A
Community Benefits:	N/A

Direction Required to Council, Health Board or Both	Direction to :-	
	1. No Direction Required	√
	2. North Ayrshire Council	
	3. NHS Ayrshire & Arran	
	4. North Ayrshire Council and NHS Ayrshire & Arran	

4. CONSULTATION

4.1	No specific consultation was required for this report. User and public involvement is key for the partnership and all significant proposals will be subject to an appropriate level of consultation.
5.	CONCLUSION
5.1	Members of IJB are asked to note the ongoing developments within the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

For more information please contact Chief Officer on 01294 317723 or cohscp@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

ACTIVATE

Scotland's Readiness Headlines – preparing to deliver a national COVID-19 vaccine

26 November 2020

Following the recent Cabinet Secretary Statement regarding Scotland's preparations for the national roll-out of a COVID-19 vaccination programme, the Scottish Government wishes to follow on from that communication, to provide a wider operational update to health and social care leaders, on Scotland's current readiness status.

This communication will be the first of a number of regular updates, and it is intended to provide real-time information on the progress of Scotland's planning for delivery of the first COVID-19 vaccines, to the people of Scotland.

It is strongly encouraged that information shared with you, in this document, is filtered into existing board communications as appropriate, for onward sharing with your professional Health and Social Care colleagues.

“This is a national vaccination programme which sets out clearly the parameters within which NHS Boards will lead local delivery. Nationally, the Scottish Government will set out the policy direction, a delivery framework accompanied by a service delivery guide, a national workforce model, national training, procurement and logistics, national information and advice, tools to record data about vaccinations when they take place, and from phase 2, a national booking service

“NHS Boards will then lead local delivery identifying acceptable and accessible locations both for mass vaccination and for local access, taking account of their population and geography, recruitment and deployment of staff and the management of local vaccination clinics.”

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, Jeane Freeman
19 November 2020

HEADLINES:

- Following recent encouraging news on the potential first COVID-19 vaccines in phase 3, it is anticipated that the UK's **Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI)** will soon meet to further discuss and advise on a formal approach to prioritisation of groups and communities, to receive the first COVID-19 vaccinations, as they become available.

The current interim JCVI advice on prioritisation was published on 25 September, and this has formed the basis for a number of vaccination planning assumptions by The Scottish Government and Health Boards, as well as four nations partners. Details on this interim advice can be found [here](#).

- The JCVI is an independent expert advisory committee which advises the UK Government and its departments, on making recommendations concerning vaccination schedules and vaccine safety.
- The formalisation of the JCVI advice, once available, will help further Scotland's overall planning efforts for what will be our largest ever mass vaccination programme.
- A programme of this size will take time to roll out, but even now, NHS Scotland is well advanced in preparations
- As an initial communication, this overview will provide a summary of our current preparations. Further details will be shared following JCVI advice.

Current national planning status as follows:-

Weekly Planning Forums:

- The Flu Vaccination and COCIV Vaccination (FVCV) Programme has an established Planning Forum in place, lead by NSS Service Delivery leads, bringing together COVID Vaccination planners from across NHS Boards and other colleagues including Health and Social Care Partnerships.
- The forum has been meeting weekly, and has a dedicated Teams channels for ongoing discussion, information sharing, and questions.
- Key planning information decisions and assumptions for the programme, are shared via this group.
- All board planning will be supported by a national service delivery guide, which will set out detailed guidance to help and support overall board planning.
- Naturally, each board will have to plan based on some specific local needs. However the manual is designed to take account of this whilst offering a level of guidance to support consistency in planning decisions, based on needs.

Workforce:

- The planning assumption is that Scotland will need over 2000 vaccinators and support staff by the end of January.
- To deliver the resourcing needs, boards are putting all options on the table, and efforts are underway across the country to recruit and deploy the staff necessary to support the level of workforce required
- The Scottish Government is also already looking at military support in some capacity. From late November, 11 Military planners are being deployed to help support and bolster workforce planning and delivery needs.
- To further support boards in their efforts, the Scottish Government's Workforce Directorate is in the process of finalising a workforce modelling tool to guide local planning.
- The Scottish Government has also very recently concluded an agreement with the BMA on terms and conditions for GPs' involvement in the programme and are now working through agreements with other independent NHS contractors.
- Health and Care Support Workers have also been approved for use as vaccinators, and a job description is rapidly being progressed. It is worth noting that HCSWs will not be able to take consent or check someone is suitable to be vaccinated, but they will be able to deliver vaccinations and support other needs.
- Naturally, the preparation of staff with appropriate knowledge and skills is a critical dependency for the vaccination programme and colleagues within NHS Education for Scotland and Public Health Scotland are working to provide a suite of workforce education resources specific to Covid-19 vaccines as soon as possible.
- Boards are being asked to collectively plan to deliver enough trained vaccinator capacity to deliver 160,000 vaccine doses per week in the initial weeks of the programme, with further ramp-up planned throughout the remainder of December and early 2021.

HEADLINES (continued):

Supply and logistics:

- There are a number of logistical challenges associated with the properties of some of the initial vaccines including storage (at ultra-cold temperatures for the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine) and 'packing down' to appropriate volumes and stability in transportation.
- Issues like this with the first anticipated vaccine (Pfizer BioNTech), could impact the ability to vaccinate in smaller locations (e.g. Care Home or GP Practices).
- This remains to be confirmed, but the programme aim is to ensure a person-centred approach.
- Working with health boards, planning will continue to work through all the options available, no matter how difficult, in order to ensure that safe, effective, and efficient patient care is front of mind when looking at all possibilities.

An end-to-end digital approach:

- A significant level of work is happening to put in place a digital solution which allows end-to-end system efficiency - from scheduling to data outputs - and one which is accessible and user-intuitive for vaccination staff.
- Part of this will be a new National Vaccination Management Tool (an online App) that has been developed to capture details around vaccination uptake and administration.
- Because it is anticipated that more than one vaccine will be approved for use in the UK, it is essential that detailed and consistent information is collected including who has had the vaccine, how many doses, from which batch, and in what setting in order to inform assessments of effectiveness in addition to performance management data.
- This App is being trialled with good results in some vaccination centres. It will report data in 'real time' giving an uptake rate to enable visibility and uptake confidence amongst all of Scotland's health boards.
- **The Scottish Government will be mandating use of this app, in order to get clear consistent data.** The only exception being in GP surgeries where the data will be gathered by GPIT (unless the GP Practice feel able to use the app which we strongly encourage).
- In addition, a national approach to scheduling via a national scheduling tool will be in place by wave 2.
- In the meantime for wave 1, the requirement will be that Local Health Boards schedule their own appointments (wave one) Please note that SIRS will not be used during the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

National call centre operations

- The FVCV Programme is working on a national Freephone number to provide advice for public enquiries. This is to prevent undue pressure on other local numbers e.g. GP Practices.
- It is hoped that this will be available at the time of the first vaccination to members of the public.
- The helpline proposals are also exploring how a national helpline can offer support around scheduling and booking enquiries, but only as delivery moves into Wave 2.
- Any scheduling required for Wave 1, will be managed locally by health boards.

National Public Health information campaign

- A Scotland-wide Marketing campaign will start in early 2021 as more vaccines become available and the programme of vaccination becomes well underway.
- In the interim, public health information toolkits will be made available online to download from NHS Inform.

An update on the status of all vaccines on trial is available in the public domain for anyone interested in finding out more. Click [here](#) for more information.

Derek Grieve

Interim Deputy Director,
Vaccines Division
COVID Public Health Directorate



"Scottish Ministers will make the final decision as to our readiness to go live with the vaccination programme advised by the FVCV Programme Board."

"Our Programme board is made up of representatives from across Health and Social Care, importantly including lead clinicians in Scottish Government, and Directors of Public Health."

"Over the coming weeks and months, we will be sending information to everyone across Scotland explaining what the vaccine is, how we are prioritising who gets it, what to expect when vaccinated and so on. Those in the first wave of the programme will be contacted during December and January either by mail or, for health and social care workers, by their employer. They will be told where they will receive their vaccine, how to make an appointment and what they need to know."

"In truth, the programme is a major public service exercise. We need the expertise and resources that our local authorities, community planning partnerships and the third sector can bring, and we need locations—both fixed and mobile—so that we can make the mass vaccination programme as accessible as possible wherever someone lives in Scotland and whatever their circumstances."

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, Jeane Freeman
19 November 2020

Brought to you by The
Scottish Government's Flu
Vaccination and COVID
Vaccination (FVCV)
Programme

