

**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.

<b>Glossary of Terms</b>	
NHS AA	NHS Ayrshire and Arran
HSCP	Health and Social Care Partnership

<b>1.</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>
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.
<b>2.</b>	<b>CURRENT POSITION</b>
	<b><u>Ayrshire Wide Developments</u></b>
2.1	<b><u>Dementia Carers Academy</u></b>
	Our Pan Ayrshire Dementia Carers Academy in conjunction with UWS was shortlisted as finalists for the RCN UK Carer Awards. Whilst we were not overall winners it acknowledges our commitment to continuing to provide high quality care for carers and involving them in developing ongoing support services.
	<b><u>National Developments</u></b>
2.2	<b><u>International AHP Day – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020</u></b>
	<p>International AHP Day was held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020. This is held to celebrate, appreciate and recognise the AHP workforce. This year the key focus for the event was</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Celebrate</b>, who we are;</li> <li>• <b>Appreciate</b> the skills and impact on care and support in local communities; ,</li> <li>• <b>Inspire</b> future workforce, and;</li> <li>• <b>Connect</b> with others.</li> </ul>



	<p>As part of the event, the North Ayrshire HSCP Extended Senior Management team, held conversations with frontline AHPs via Teams to find out about what that AHP does, what they are proud of, how their work contributes to the lives of the people of North Ayrshire and what working through COVID was like for them. Due to the current COVID restrictions and taking social distancing into account, the event was prominent on social media.</p>
	<p><b><u>North Ayrshire Developments</u></b></p>
2.3	<p><b>COVID Update</b></p>
	<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 has been documented through its "mobilisation plan" which was submitted to the Scottish Government in July. The Scottish Government has provided feedback to the NHS Board on the plans and funding has been allocated based on submissions. The Scottish Government key priorities for the next phase are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Securing exit from the acute pandemic phase through an effective mass population vaccination programme;</li> <li>2. Suppressing the virus through sustainable precision public health measures such as Test and Protect, Surveillance and Response;</li> <li>3. Keeping people alive and well through provision of essential health and social care services including those that promote wellbeing; and</li> <li>4. Supporting people through incentives and clear communication to comply with public health guidance.</li> </ol> <p>A further update on the mobilisation plans will be provided to the IJB following formal approval by the NHS Board.</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.</p>
	<p>The Care Home Oversight Group continues to meet daily to provide oversight of the quality and safe provision of care in each care home in North Ayrshire. The group has supported all care homes in North Ayrshire to complete the daily Scottish Government Safety Huddle template which provides an overview of testing, staffing requirements and business continuity. Public Health report on the current outbreak status within care homes and ongoing and regular engagement is in place to provide care homes with any advice and support required. The oversight group reviews risk assessments for visiting and for the re-start of other social care services such as respite and day services. Informed by risk assessments, our respite services are currently operating on a reduced basis for all services and whilst day services for older people remain closed our Adult day services are operating at reduced capacity.</p>
	<p>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>Services within the partnership continue to operate well and with appropriate staffing levels. The PSMT will ensure contingency arrangements are in place and can be mobilised in the event of :-</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any further outbreaks or potential national or local lockdowns;</li> <li>Winter planning, including flu pandemic response;</li> <li>Re-introduction of community based services, in line with Scottish Government guidance.</li> </ul>
2.4	<p><b><u>Strategic Plan Update</u></b></p> <p>After the IJB's approval to create a bridging plan with a longer vision to 2030; the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) has now begun its work. The SPG reviewed the existing five strategic priorities and agreed to continue to use these until 31 March 2022, after which the priorities and their enablers will be reviewed. Other work has also been taking place in the SPG subgroup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mapping of outcomes, actions and performance to the 5 Strategic priorities including the new Scottish Government Recovery and Renewal outcomes for the pandemic,</li> <li>Mapping of service and partner achievements 2018-2021,</li> <li>Mapping being completed for workforce achievements 2018-2021,</li> <li>Pandemic reflections and learning being captured from HSCP Services, Third and Independent sectors and linked to wider CPP reflections,</li> <li>Local needs assessment profiles to be shared with LPFs over next 2-3 weeks for their thoughts on their local priorities,</li> <li>Engagement plan complete and being discussed at PSMT on 8<sup>th</sup> October and next SPG. Discussions regarding models of support from third, independent, LPFs, CPP LPs, caring for Ayrshire are also under discussion,</li> <li>Mental Health and Primary care lead partnership statements being prepared for end October 2020 and</li> <li>Transformation and financial priorities being discussed with partner bodies and due for approval end January 2021</li> </ul> <p>The timeline for creation of the plan is as follows:</p>  <pre> graph LR     A[August: Gather SPG reflections on Pandemic, Consider engagement methods] --&gt; B[Nov. 2020 – Mar. 2021: Engagement and consultation, Revision of Strategy, SPG approval, IJB approval]     B --&gt; C[Mar. 2022: Publish full long-term 2022 to 2030 plan]     A --&gt; D[Sep.–Oct.: Produce needs assessment and locality profiles, Review impact of mobilisation plans, Produce draft 'one year bridging plan']     D --&gt; E[Apr. 2021: Publish bridging plan]     E --&gt; B   </pre>
	<p>The Strategic Planning and Transformation Team lead has also presented the approach to the CPP Senior officer Group and the CPP Board and the HSCP Engagement Officer has presented to the six September CPP Locality Partnerships. There is partner support for our approach and a willingness to be involved in community engagement work.</p>
	<p><b><u>Children, Families &amp; Justice Update</u></b></p>
2.5	<p><b>Children's Hearing Recovery Plan</b></p> <p>COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the Children's Hearing system within Scotland, resulting in a backlog of cases which require to be addressed.</p>

Local Authorities are partners in the Children's Hearing system, whereby they resource Area Support Teams, which support Panel Members, they provide Social Work and Social Care support for those most vulnerable. Social Workers provide written assessments and participate in Children's Hearings. Other Local Authority staff, such as Teachers can also be involved in this. Local Authorities also fund services which are identified as an appropriate intervention by Children's Hearings, such as Foster and Kinship care and the more serious secure care settings.

Since the beginning of COVID-19, COSLA have met on a weekly basis with Children's Hearing Scotland, Scottish Children's Reporters Administration (SCRA), Social Work Scotland, Scottish Government and the Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection. This allowed for the sharing of updates regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the system and how the system ultimately continues to respond in an adapted manner.

The group helped to produce documentation to support the new Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020. This legislation introduced changes in duties and practice within the Children's Hearing System. These changes cover the following:

- Requirements as to members of Children's Hearings
- Flexibility around attendance at Hearing
- Child assessment and Child Protection Orders
- Maximum period for which a compulsory supervision order (CSO) has effect
- Maximum period for which interim CSO or interim variation of CSO has effect
- Period within which children's hearing must be heard in certain cases

Changes to timescales provided relief to the system during the height of the pandemic. This assisted Social Work services to identify innovative approaches to supporting those most in need, as there were fewer statutory requirements impacting on the available time that Social Workers had to exercise their duties.

The changes in duties and practice in the Children's Hearing System also raised important considerations about protecting and promoting the rights of children and their families whereby emergency powers were only used when necessary and for the shortest time necessary.


Due to the reduced numbers of hearings, there is now an extensive backlog of cases which require to be dealt with as timely as possible. The backlog mainly relates to cases close to expiry where emergency measures were used to extend legal orders for up to 6 months. However, now that schools have returned, it is noted that there is also an increase in new referrals being made. Understandably, increasing the numbers of hearings will undoubtedly increase demands on all those who support the system.

A draft recovery plan is now being consulted on to address the backlog. Pre-COVID-19, the average weekly number of hearings was around 600, now there are approximately 300 hearings taking place each week. SCRA estimate that to address the backlog, capacity needs to be at around 750 hearing per week.

The draft recovery plan outlines approaches which can perhaps be used to reach this number. We await the outcome of the consultation paper and update thereafter.

2.6

## **Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children**

	North Ayrshire Council is looking at ways to support and assist the humanitarian crisis in Kent at this time. The media has reported hundreds of young people and families arriving in the UK seeking asylum and refuge each month.
	A taskforce has been established, several meetings have taken place to date and we are working closely with COSLA. Careful consideration has been given to how we can support this crisis by exploring the numbers of young people involved, age range, capacity, facilities and budget. In addition, an options appraisal in terms of accommodation has been worked through and we have a preferred model for welcoming and housing the young people.
	We await the outcome of the national consultation from the Home Office and an update will follow thereafter.
2.7	<b>Care Experienced Week 23-31 October</b>
	 <p>Plans are currently being developed to promote the National Care Experienced Week across the partnership. There will be numerous activities and opportunities to raise awareness via social media/stalls/leaflets. Andrew Keir is co-ordinating and preparing a timetable of events for this week. Details of activities taking place across Scotland can be accessed via <a href="https://www.whocaresscotland.org/get-involved/care-experienced-week-2020/">https://www.whocaresscotland.org/get-involved/care-experienced-week-2020/</a></p>
2.8	<b>Standards Commission Newsletter</b>
	The latest newsletter from the Standards Commission has been issued. This issue covers Councillors' Code of Conduct, Online hearings and the Standards Commission Annual Report. A copy of the newsletter is available via <a href="https://www.standardscommissionscotland.org.uk/uploads/files/1601457459200930SeptemberStandardsUpdate.pdf">https://www.standardscommissionscotland.org.uk/uploads/files/1601457459200930SeptemberStandardsUpdate.pdf</a>

2.9	<b>NAHSCP Partnership Awards</b>
	The NAHSCP Partnership Awards event celebrates the contribution to the wellbeing of the people of North Ayrshire by the public, volunteers and the staff (Independent Sector, Third Sector, NAC and NHS).
	The partnership would normally seek award nominations in October with the awards event, Breakfast for Champions, in February of the following year. The PSMT have considered the Partnership Awards event in light of COVID pressures.
	The PSMT have confirmed that partnership should continue to celebrate the positive contributions of everyone. However, given COVID pressures and other variables, the PSMT decided to postpone the process to next year. This gives the possibility of a socially distanced outdoor event in June – or a virtual event if restrictions are in place next year.
2.10	<b>Distress Brief Intervention</b>
	Ayrshire and Arran have recently become associates of the National Distress Brief intervention Programme. This will allow us to gain the benefit of experience from other Board Areas to allow implementation of a local DBI service. In addition to providing a service to Ayrshire residents through the NHS 24 Mental Health Hub, Penumbra will also be providing support through the new pathways. The priority for Ayrshire will be to Implement pathways through Primary Care and Emergency Departments in the first instance and in the future to look at routes through Police and Ambulance Services.
2.11	<b>Perinatal Mental Health</b>
	Confirmation was received from the Government of funding for a Specialist Perinatal and Neonatal Mental Health Service. Plans are underway to agree job descriptions and recruit to new posts as well as to develop pathways. This will allow quicker access for those suffering from Mental Health difficulties in the perinatal period. The team will also be able to facilitate training for those staff members most likely to be working with individuals looking for support.
2.12	<b>Staff Wellbeing</b>
	Staff wellbeing provision continues through a multi-professional team delivering from Community and Acute Hubs, as well as through the Staff Care and Listening Service. The demand for staff support has not diminished during the pandemic but is changing in nature from an individual staff focus in the earlier phase of the pandemic to the more recent surge in requests for reflective practice sessions to multi-disciplinary wards and teams. The current staffing provision have committed input until end March 2021. A Staff Wellbeing Operational Management Group, led by the Director of HR, has been established with the aim of developing a strategic plan and model for future staff wellbeing provision. This strategic plan will be reviewed by the Board in January 2021.

<b>3.</b>	<b>PROPOSALS</b>
3.1	<b><u>Anticipated Outcomes</u></b>
	Not applicable.
3.2	<b><u>Measuring Impact</u></b>
	Not applicable
<b>4.</b>	<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>

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

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

<b>4.</b>	<b>CONSULTATION</b>
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.
<b>5.</b>	<b>CONCLUSION</b>
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 Karen Andrews, Team Manager [Governance] on 01294 317725 or [cohscp@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:cohscp@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)