

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
IFIC	International Foundation for Integrated Care
ASCPP	Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy and Practice
COSLA	Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
SDS	Self Directed Support
MTU	Mobile Testing Unit
CHOG	Care Home Oversight Group
CAHOG	Care at Home Oversight Group

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
	<u>North Ayrshire Developments</u>
2.1	<u>North Ayrshire Peers 4 HOPE</u>
	<p>Peers 4 HOPE's support workers have lived experience of mental health problems and are willing to share their personal experiences in a way empowers those they support.</p> <p>Run by mental health charity Penumbra, the service is open to adult residents in North Ayrshire who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are aged between 18 and 65 • Are currently or have previously engaged with mental health services

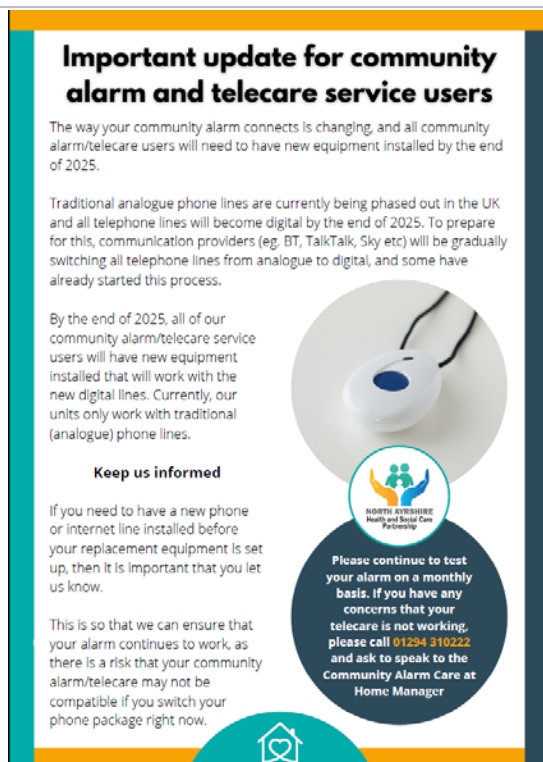
As well as one to one peer support, the service also offers optional well-being workshops that can help people with mental health problems to:

- Have increased feelings of hope
- Have decreased feelings of isolation
- Be more able to exercise choice and develop greater control in their recovery

The service accepts self-referrals as well as referrals from a range of sources, including the NHS, social work and the voluntary sector.

Further information is available at :- peers4hope@penumbra.org.uk

2.2 Community Alarm/Telecare Service



Traditional analogue telephone lines are currently being phased out in the UK, with all telephone lines becoming digital by the end of 2025. This change will affect community alarm and telecare services as the partnership's traditional equipment only works using analogue phone lines.

To prepare for this, communication providers such as BT, TalkTalk, Sky etc will gradually be switching all telephone lines from analogue to digital, with some having already started this process. The attached information sheet provides relevant information on how this change will affect the community alarm and telecare service.

The partnership has written to all affected service users including the attached leaflet advising who to contact in relation to their provider.

2.3 Changes to the Law on Fire Alarms

By February 2022, every home in Scotland needs to have interlinked smoke and heat alarms and a carbon monoxide alarm if the home has a boiler, fire, heater or flue.

Interlinked smoke and heat alarms are connected to each other within your home. When one goes off, they all go off, so you will hear the alarm from anywhere in your home. This helps people to react quicker and saves more lives.

All telecare/community alarm service users may have one or more smoke/heat alarms and a carbon monoxide alarm provided by the telecare/community alarm service. The telecare smoke, heat and carbon monoxide alarms connect to a call centre. When a telecare smoke, heat and carbon monoxide alarm goes off, the call centre is alerted.

We will be sending out further advice and guidance to all North Ayrshire service users to advise that if they are having new alarms fitted they should ensure that no smoke alarms linked to a Community Alarm should be removed.

	Further information is available via this link .
2.4	<u>New Assisted Living Complex, Largs</u>
	<p>The first residents at North Ayrshire's latest supported living complex have moved into their new homes, with an additional new facility due for completion next month.</p> <p>Bute Walk in Largs is a 22-home development on the site of the old Largs Academy building, adjacent to the newly-opened sheltered housing complex. It is part of a recently completed total development of 123 new homes built by North Ayrshire Council.</p> <p>Consisting of sixteen 1-bedroom and six 2-bedroom properties, Bute Walk offers modern accommodation that is specifically designed for adults with physical or learning disabilities and/or mental health illnesses.</p> <p>Each home is equipped so that assistive technology can be installed to suit the needs of the individual, helping to support residents in a way that promotes independence as well as reducing risk.</p> <p>Residents will have access to a newly-built social hub that will be available for all sorts of community activities, as well as 24-hr responsive support provided by Enable.</p>
	<p>An additional supported living site at St Michael's Gardens in Kilwinning is also due to open next month. Comprising of ten homes, the complex will promote independent living for those with mental illnesses, with support provided by The Richmond Fellowship (Scotland).</p> <p>An additional 15-home development is also under way at Caley Court in Stevenston, with the build due for completion in late summer 2022.</p>
	<u>National Developments</u>
2.5	<u>Integrated Care Roundtables</u>
	<p>IFIC Scotland and partners from the International Centre for Integrated Care have announced a series of Roundtables in collaboration with Health and Social Care Scotland.</p> <p>These virtual events will explore integrated care policy and strategic topics of interest for Chief Officers, Strategic Planners, IJB Chairs and Vice Chairs, Heads of Health and Social Care, as well as for senior practitioners, managers and partners from health, social care, housing, third and independent sectors.</p> <p>Each 'Integrated Care Blether' will feature panellists from Scotland in conversation with colleagues engaged in policy, planning or delivery of integrated care in other countries. Further information is available here.</p>
2.6	<u>Alzheimer Scotland Carers' Academy</u>
	<p>The Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy and Practice (ASCPP) Carers' Academy programme has been specifically designed to support the needs of family members caring for a relative living with dementia.</p>

	<p>The programme aims to enhance understanding of the effects of dementia, support the development of practical care skills and provide opportunities for peer-to-peer support and learning. Any family member who is caring for a relative living with a mild, moderate or advanced dementia condition is welcome to attend.</p> <p>The programme is delivered by an integrated team of nursing and academic staff. All have expert skills and knowledge in dementia care and a special interest in enhancing the care experience.</p> <p>To find out more, click here.</p> <p>A reminder that NHS Ayrshire & Arran also has dementia app to help support people following a diagnosis of dementia, as well as their family and friends.</p> <p>You can read more about the app and how to download it here</p>
2.7	<p><u>Coming Home Implementation Report</u></p>
	<p>The Scottish Government, jointly with COSLA, has published “Coming Home Implementation: A report from the working group on complex care and delayed discharge has been published at https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781804350850.</p> <p>The report sets out a framework that includes the introduction of a new national register to improve monitoring and performance, a new national support panel to provide national oversight of the register, and a peer support network to share best practice.</p> <p>Strong local and national partnerships and genuine collaboration will be essential to deliver the quality services needed to deliver on these recommendations. This must happen as a matter of priority and there must be real visibility and accountability for people with complex care needs going forward.</p> <p>The North Ayrshire HSCP have an established working group for Complex Care working on a strategy and plan for investment in local service provision, an update on Complex Care will be brought to a future IJB meeting.</p>
2.8	<p><u>COVID Economic Recovery Fund</u></p>
	<p>A new £80 million Covid Economic Recovery Fund targeting support for businesses and communities will help Scotland as it moves to a new phase in the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.</p> <p>Councils will have the flexibility to target support either using existing schemes like Scotland Loves Local, Business Improvement Districts or place based investment programmes, or individual local authority grant schemes. Councils will also be able to use the funding to support low income households.</p>
2.9	<p><u>Health, Social Care & Sport Committee Inquiry – Health Inequalities</u></p>
	<p>The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee is undertaking an inquiry into health inequalities in Scotland.</p> <p>The inquiry will explore:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress towards tackling health inequalities in Scotland since the Committee's predecessor, the Health and Sport Committee, published its report on health inequalities in January 2015. • Any cross-sectoral work undertaken over that time period to address social inequalities. • What impact any work undertaken has had on health inequalities. • Opportunities to reduce health inequalities and increase preventative work to tackle social inequalities before they impact on individuals' health. • What is needed at a policy level to improve the situation, making recommendations for the Scottish Government and other key decision makers involved in policy development. • The role of the third sector, local government and others in tackling health inequalities. <p>In addition the inquiry will explore what positive and negative impacts the COVID-19 pandemic has had on health inequalities and action to address them. It will seek to sustain and maintain any progress achieved during the pandemic in addressing health inequalities as well as exploring how tackling health inequalities can be prioritised during COVID-19 recovery.</p> <p>The consultation is now open on Citizen Space where you can provide your views until 23.59pm on Thursday 31 March 2022 via the attached submission form: https://yourviews.parliament.scot/health/health_inequalities</p>
2.10	<p><u>Update to SDS Guidance</u></p> <p>The Scottish Government, in conjunction with COSLA and Social Work Scotland, has published an update to Self-directed Support Guidance for the Pandemic.</p> <p>The new guidance took effect on Friday 11 February for all children and adult services and is more important than ever because of the significant demand and pressure being placed on the system and our teams/services to deliver social care support.</p> <p>The aim of this guidance is to ensure supported people have flexibility of choice over how they manage and direct their SDS budgets to meet their personal outcomes.</p> <p>The guidance also enables and encourages HSCPs to maximise flexibility of spend, ensuring staff and supported individuals can develop their support arrangements to meet their personal outcomes in a way that works for them.</p> <p>For a link to the Scottish Government update, as well as information on how this applies to NAHSCP, click here.</p>

2.11	<p><u>Mapping the journey for unpaid carers: Local assessment pathways and data collection</u></p> <p>The Carers Census collects a variety of information on unpaid carers and the support they are provided with, in order to help monitor the implementation of the Carers Act and see what difference it is making to the lives of carers across Scotland.</p> <p>In order to implement the Act, changes were made to local assessment and data collection/management, which has impacted on carer and workforce experience.</p> <p>The latest Carers Census report was published in December 2021 and highlighted that data for most local areas remains incomplete and there are still significant challenges in capturing and understanding local carer data.</p> <p>Healthcare Improvement Scotland is working in partnership with user researchers from NHS National Services Scotland on a project to better understand these challenges and opportunities for the future.</p> <p>In collaboration with the Carers Trust, an online session was held for social work and carers centre staff who have a role in carer assessment and/or support planning on Monday 14 March to :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the steps for carers to access support in the West of Scotland region • Identify what and when data is collected • Identify key challenges or in current systems <p>The sessions were interactive, with participants supported in small groups to discuss and map local carer assessment journeys.</p>
2.12	<p><u>National Care Service Consultation Analysis</u></p> <p>The Scottish Government have published the high level analysis of responses to the National Care Service consultation. There is no further information available on this at this time and will await further Scottish Government communication on the construct of National Care Services. The Analysis Report can be accessed here</p>
	<p>COVID Update</p>
	<p>This update continues to offer assurance to IJB on the partnership's continued response to the COVID 19 pandemic. The partnership, along with NHS and NAC still operate on an "emergency" footing.</p>
	<p><u>Updates since last IJB</u></p>
	<p><u>Guidance</u></p>
2.13	<p><u>Scotland's Strategic Framework Update</u></p> <p>The Scottish Government have published the updated Strategic Framework for Scotland for the next stage of the pandemic. A link to the full document is below:</p> <p>Coronavirus (COVID-19): Scotland's Strategic Framework update - February 2022 - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</p>

	<p>Whilst changes have been announced in relation to vaccinations, testing and mask wearing for the general public we are awaiting further guidance on implications for Health and Social Care services. Health Care Workers can now revert back to twice weekly testing rather than the daily testing which was stepped up to respond to the new variant but other than that there has been no new guidance issued for our services.</p>
2.14	<p><u>Vaccinations</u></p>
	<p>Covid 19 Data Dashboard Based on SG Dashboard 94.3% of 12 years plus population in North Ayrshire have received first dose vaccination with 89% receiving 2nd dose; 73.5% have also received booster or dose 3.</p> <p>Overall, 94.6% of Ayrshire & Arran 12 years plus population received first dose vaccination – 89.6% second dose and 74.8% booster or dose 3.</p> <p>Population in Scotland – 92.3% have received 1st dose; 86.6% 2nd dose and 71.5% booster or dose 3. Third primary dose is administered to immunosuppressed cohorts only.</p> <p>Please note measures are based on people aged 12 years and over. Figures as at 25th February 2022 from Scottish Government Public Health dashboard.</p>
	<p>Covid 19 Programme Delivery</p> <p>Ayrshire & Arran Health Board continue to deliver the Covid 19 Vaccination programme as prioritised by JCVI guidance.</p> <p>Clinic activity during the months of February to April is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining adult boosters (including 16-17 years), second dose 12- 15 years. • Inclusion focus to maximise uptake in under served groups • Continuing 5-11 years “at risk” and household contacts of immunosuppressed • 12-15 years “at risk” and household contacts of immunosuppressed booster 12 weeks after 2nd primary dose • Ongoing Evergreen offer • 5-11 year old universal offer • Spring booster to be offered at least 24 weeks after the last vaccine dose to : Residents in care homes for older adults Adults aged 75 years and over • Individuals aged 12 years and over who are immunosuppressed

2.15	<p><u>Community Testing</u></p> <p>Within North Ayrshire there continues to be a range of both Symptomatic Testing (for people with COVID-19 symptoms) and Asymptomatic Testing (for people with no COVID-19 symptoms).</p> <p><u>Symptomatic Testing (for people with COVID-19 symptoms)</u></p> <p><u>Mobile Testing Unit (MTU)</u> MTU's rotate between 7 different venues throughout North Ayrshire. The MTU allows anyone with COVID-19 symptoms to get a swab test as part of the Government's drive to improve the accessibility of coronavirus testing for communities. MTU's operate 7 days a week.</p> <p><u>Walk-Through Test Centre</u> Harbour Road Car Park in Irvine continues as a temporary local facility for people who have COVID-19 symptoms to get a swab test as part of the Government's UK-wide drive to improve the accessibility of coronavirus testing for communities.</p> <p><u>Asymptomatic Testing (for people with no COVID-19 symptoms)</u></p> <p>In North Ayrshire the Asymptomatic Testing Centre is operating from Bridgegate, Irvine. The Centre is open 7 days a week from 1000 to 1800 hours and operates on a walk-in basis with no booking required.</p> <p>In addition to the Asymptomatic Testing Centre people can also collect testing kits from local community pharmacists, libraries, pop-up point at Rivergate Shopping Mall or by ordering through NHS Inform website.</p>
2.16	<p><u>Staff Testing</u></p> <p>Lateral Flow Device Testing continues for all frontline health and social care staff who are in regular contact with users of our services.</p>
2.17	<p><u>Care Home Oversight Group Update</u></p> <p>The Care Home Oversight Group (CHOG) in North Ayrshire now meets weekly to discuss any concerns highlighted in relation to care homes in North Ayrshire. The group continue to monitor and support care homes and monitor the sustainability and resilience in the social care sector.</p> <p>The group continue to receive updates from Public Health in relation to any outbreaks within care homes and from the Care Inspectorate in relation to any service issues/concerns. Each week the group considers data in relation to :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RAG status relating to COVID outbreaks; PPE; Infection Prevention and Control (IPC); Staffing; • Staff Testing; • Beds Available; • Visiting Status; • Current Concerns

2.18	<u>Care at Home Oversight Group Update</u>
	<p>The HSCP was asked in September 2021 by the Scottish Government to replicate Care Home oversight arrangements for Care at Home services. The North Ayrshire Care at Home Oversight Group has a remit to monitor, at minimum on a weekly basis, the care and support for adults in our community. The group also consider care at home and community health pressures in the local area and work as a multi-disciplinary team to find solutions to address these issues, focussing on managing risk.</p>
	<p>At present, the North meeting is held weekly, and is Chaired by the Chief Officer. Each week, the group considers data and information in relation to :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce issues – sickness, annual leave, vacancies, hours worked/available; • Waiting lists for assessment; care packages; • Capacity issues for inhouse and commissioned providers; • Community Nursing provision, capacity and pressures; • Progress with winter plan recruitment.
2.19	<u>Future Ways of Working</u>
	<p>Scottish Government are encouraging employers to consider the implementation of a hybrid approach of return to work – with staff spending some time in the office and some time at home. This new way of working in many ways provides an opportunity to build positively the flexibility we have had over the last two years through necessity in a way that benefits the staff and organisation moving forward. North Ayrshire Council have agreed a way forward which will result in an effective balance of home/flexible/hybrid working models for staff and there will be a phased approach to the re-opening of offices with this approach beginning April 2022.</p> <p>NA HSCP Senior Management Team have considered the flexible return and have acknowledged that for all staff this will be a new working model, and requested that a working group with cross service representation be established to take forward and co-ordinate all necessary planning arrangements. Members of the working group have responsibility to represent their service and for communication into and outwith the group. The management team have also agreed that Managers in conjunction with their team members would discuss and agree an appropriate way forward in terms of determining each individuals time spent office based/home based dependant on the needs of their particular service and of the staff members.</p> <p>North Ayrshire Council has identified, through consultation, four different workstyles and each post in the council has been attributed to one of these. These workstyles have been shared with staff previously and include In Building, Mobile, Agile and Home. The majority of the HSCP (NAC) workforce has been identified as Agile – <i>i.e.. 100% of time spent working agile (flexibly) and interacting with others. Able to work at home, office or multiple locations.</i></p>
	<p>Therefore it is not expected that all staff will be back working within offices, and to allow North Ayrshire Council to reduce office accommodation, we are working on a “generic” desk model. This means that staff will give up their personal desk within their office base but be able to book a desk whenever they wish to be within the office. The system will also allow for staff to book additional desks to allow colleagues to network, sit together, particularly in terms of peer support etc., where and when required.</p>

	<p>It is acknowledged that this is a new way of working for all staff but believe this will continue to allow staff some flexibility for caring arrangements, e.g. children being able to come home after school, being picked up from school, assist in the health and wellbeing of our staff and as you know we are continuing to run a number of wellbeing events and encouraging staff to participate in same. Managers have been asked to consider the needs of all their staff and communication has been issued Partnership wide regarding all of the above.</p> <p>Initially this will focus on the buildings of Cunninghame House, Bridgegate House and Saltcoats Town Hall – then look at smaller offices and consider how these best work at a later date. As the HSCP have both Local Authority and NHS staff working from these buildings a standardised approach is being taken to applying the new ways of working across our office-based workforce.</p>
3.	PROPOSALS
3.1	<u>Anticipated Outcomes</u>
	Not applicable.
3.2	<u>Measuring Impact</u>
	Not applicable

4.	IMPLICATIONS
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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	

5.	CONSULTATION
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5.1	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.
6.	CONCLUSION
6.1	Members of IJB are asked to note the ongoing developments within the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

For more information please contact Caroline Cameron, Director/Chief Officer on 01294 317723 or carolinecameron@north-ayrshire.gov.uk