

**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
NCS	National Care Service
PPE	Public Protection Equipment

<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>National Developments</b>
2.1	<u>Scottish Government Consultations</u>
	<b><u>Consultation on Anne's Law: proposals for adults living in care homes to maintain family and friendship connections</u></b>
	<p>This consultation seeks views on the Scottish Government's proposals for delivering Anne's Law in primary legislation, to ensure that people who live in adult care homes have rights to see and spend time with the people who are important to them. This consultation will run for a five week period and will close on <b>Monday 2 November</b>. This is to align with work on developing the National Care Service Bill (NCS), a possible mechanism for Anne's Law.</p> <p>The consultation can be found here:  <a href="#">Anne's Law: proposals for adults living in care homes to maintain family and friendship connections - Scottish Government - Citizen Space (consult.gov.scot)</a></p> <p><b>Consultation events</b>            Three workshop events have been arranged. The first one took place on 7<sup>th</sup> October and a further two planned (see links below), to obtain views on the aims of and potential options for delivering Anne's Law as well as some of the issues that need to be considered to ensure that any proposals are effective.</p>

	<p>21<sup>st</sup> October 2021, 09:00-10:30am: <a href="#">Click here to register</a></p> <p>26<sup>th</sup> October 2021, 09:00-10:30am: <a href="#">Click here to register</a></p>
2.2	<p><u>National Roll out of £2million initiative to reduce Trauma</u></p>
	<p>A ground-breaking approach to interviews for vulnerable child victims and witnesses is to be rolled out across Scotland. Scottish Government will the £2 million initiative, which involves pre-recorded investigative interviews of children conducted jointly by police officers and social work staff.</p> <p>A key aim of the new Scottish Child Interview Model – developed by local authorities and Police Scotland in a series of pilot projects - is to protect children and reduce stress when recounting their experiences.</p> <p>These core principles are embedded in a new intensive training course at graduate diploma level for police and social work interviewers run at the Police Scotland College at Tulliallan, in Fife.</p> <p>Improving the quality of joint interviews, which are already used in Children's Hearings, will also ensure they can be more routinely used as a witness's evidence in chief in criminal trials, increasing the use of pre-recorded evidence.</p> <p>It is hoped that the new Scottish Child Interview Model will deliver an interview process that secures the child's best evidence at the earliest opportunity and minimises the risk of further traumatising.</p>
2.3	<p><u>Youth LIVES Mental Health Project</u></p>
	<p>Youth LIVES is an exciting new national project for 14–21-year-olds, bringing young people and experts to work together, to influence research on young people's mental health. Youth LIVES will be establishing a youth 'citizen science' mental health network and generating youth-led priorities for mental health research. Young People aged from 14 to 21 years old who have lived experience of mental health and might be interested in taking part in a national youth-led project to improve research on mental health are invited to apply by 1<sup>st</sup> October via the link below.</p> <p>Youth LIVES aims to work with young people from across the UK to understand their priorities for mental health research, form 'Youth Research Teams' and support teams of young people and academics to collaboratively design new research to address evidence gaps and communicate findings to youth audiences.</p> <p>More information about this project can be found <a href="#">here</a> and an application form can be downloaded from <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
2.4	<p><u>Connecting with You</u></p>
	<p>The British Red Cross recently launched a new service aimed at offering support to anyone experiencing issues associated with loneliness. The service, called 'Connecting with You', may be especially suitable for people on the highest risk list (previously shielding list) who call the National Assistance Helpline or Local Authority helplines.</p>

	<p>'Connecting With You' is available to all people aged 18 or over in Scotland and be accessed online at <a href="http://www.mygov.scot/loneliness">www.mygov.scot/loneliness</a> or by phone on 07709502127 (Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm).</p> <p>Support offered is dependant individual needs and local availability but could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly phone calls</li> <li>• online support</li> <li>• in-person meetings</li> <li>• support getting into new or old hobbies and interests</li> <li>• help meeting new people, or getting back in touch with people</li> </ul> <p>An SMS message (below) will be issued to all those on the highest risk list who have signed up to the messaging service, and are over 18.</p>
2.5	<p><u>Winter Planning for Health and Social Care</u></p> <p>On 5th October the Cabinet Secretary announced an investment of over £300m in hospital and community care to tackle what may be the toughest winter the NHS and Social Care have ever faced. The new multi-year funding will support a range of measures to maximise hospital and primary care capacity, reduce delayed discharges, improve pay for social care staff and ensure individuals in the community who need support receive effective and responsive care.</p> <p>The winter package of additional support includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruiting 1,000 additional NHS staff to support multi-disciplinary working</li> <li>• £40 million for 'step-down' care to enable hospital patients to temporarily enter care homes, or receive additional care at home support, with no financial liability to the individual or their family towards the cost of the care home</li> <li>• An additional £62 million to maximise the capacity of care at home services</li> <li>• Up to £48 million will be made available to increase the hourly rate of social care staff to match new NHS band 2 staff</li> <li>• £20 million to enhance Multi-Disciplinary Teams, enable more social work assessments to be carried out and support joint working between health and social care</li> <li>• £28 million of additional funding to support primary care</li> <li>• £4.5 million available to Health Boards to attract at least 200 registered nurses from outwith Scotland by March 2022</li> <li>• £4 million to help staff with their practical and emotional needs, including pastoral care and other measures to aid rest and recuperation</li> </ul> <p>The plan and funding is focussed on a whole system approach to bolstering the care workforce by increasing numbers of staff, providing them with additional support and increasing the pay for social care staff. The NHS Boards and HSCPs have been issued with a follow up communication outlining the funding in more detail, and work has started in North Ayrshire HSCP to consider the best use of the resource to provide the greatest benefit over the winter period, taking the longer-term impact of investment in services into consideration. This work will be undertaken in partnership with East and South HSCP and Acute colleagues to ensure a whole system plan can be developed. There is further information expected on specific funding allocations to individual areas before local plans can be finalised. A further update will be brought to the IJB when further detail of funding and plans is available.</p>

	<b><u>Ayrshire Wide Developments</u></b>
2.6	<b><u>Community Wealth Building, Anchor Charter</u></b>
	 <p>Following agreement at the last IJB, Bob Martin, signed the Community Wealth Building Charter on behalf of North Ayrshire IJB as part of Challenge Poverty Week. East and South Ayrshire IJBs are expected to sign up to the Charter in the coming weeks. The HSCP will establish a CWB steering group to co-ordinate the work across the partnership.</p>
	<b><u>North Ayrshire Developments</u></b>
2.7	<b><u>Short Break Carers Recruitment</u></b>
	<p>North Ayrshire are looking to recruit and assess short break carers for children aged from birth to 16 years old who reside in the community with birth parents, as well as for children and young people who are placed with kinship carers.</p> <p>This is an essential service to support children who are at risk of being looked after out with their family, as well as families who are affected by child protection issues such as parental substance/alcohol use and/or neglect.</p> <p>To find out more about what being a short break carer entails, and details on how to apply, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
2.8	<b><u>iMatter Survey</u></b>
	<p>As with all HSCPs and NHS Bodies across Scotland, NAHSCP takes part in the iMatter staff engagement process where individuals complete a questionnaire that measures staff engagement then teams agree an action plan to improve staff engagement.</p> <p>The combined iMatter scores for all our teams gives a composite picture of staff engagement across North Ayrshire HSCP. This year, despite a relaxation of a response threshold for larger teams, 60% of people in the 212 Partnership teams responded overall. More positively, the composite Partnership engagement score (Employee Engagement Index, EEI) was 78 (from 100) - which is considered high in "normal" circumstances. Additionally, a question which asks staff to rate, out of ten, their overall experience of working for the Partnership, scored 7.3 - the highest score North Ayrshire HSCP have ever recorded for this. The next step is for individual teams to agree their engagement action plan.</p>
2.9	<b><u>Community Link Workers – National recognition</u></b>
	<p>Congratulations to our Community Link Worker team for reaching the finals of the National Association of Link Workers Awards 2021 in the</p>

	<p>Social Prescribing Programme of the Year category.</p> <p>Despite not taking the win, the team were highly commended by the judges at the online event and were singled out to highlight their particularly notable contribution.</p> <p>Our Community Link Workers, available through every GP practice in North Ayrshire, can help to improve mental and physical well-being by providing support and information on a wide range of issues, including managing stress, local activities and support groups, employment, a healthy lifestyle, alcohol and drugs and living with health conditions.</p> <p>Well done to the continued positive contribution of the team and the well deserved national recognition of the fantastic team effort.</p>	
	<p><b><u>COVID Update</u></b></p>	
	<p>This update continues to offer assurance to IJB on the partnership's continued response to the COVID19 pandemic. The response to the pandemic continues to be recorded through the mobilisation plan.</p>	
	<p><b><u>Updates since last IJB</u></b></p>	
<p>2.10</p>	<p><b><u>Emergency Footing</u></b></p>	
	<p>The Scottish Government have announced that with the continued increased demands on services across health and social care, vital services provided by our NHS need to be protected as we move towards the winter period. This means continuing with a measured and consistent approach to remobilising and renewing across our system, learning from the pressures we were subjected to over the last year and maintaining the ability to quickly respond and intervene, where necessary.</p> <p>As we move into the winter period, we need to continue to balance the capacity of the NHS to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic against increasing demands of emergency, urgent and planned care and delayed discharges.</p> <p>The Scottish Government have therefore agreed that the NHS will remain on an emergency footing until at least 31 March 2022."</p>	
<p>2.11</p>	<p><b><u>PPE Update</u></b></p>	
	<p>Adult social care providers are able to use local PPE Hubs for PPE supply if their existing supply routes fail. This support is available to adult social care providers across the sector, including unpaid carers and personal assistants. Following a review of the PPE arrangements for the adult social care sector as a whole over the summer, including examining a range of alternative delivery models, it was been agreed that the current arrangements have worked well and should be extended until end March 2022 to provide reassurance over the autumn and winter period.</p>	
	<p>A Memorandum of Understanding developed and agreed by members of the Adult Social Care PPE Steering Group on the management of the Hubs has now been</p>	

	<p>updated to confirm the extension of the current arrangements until end March 2022. All social care providers, carer centres (and unpaid carers directly, depending on your local arrangements), and social care personal assistant employers/personal assistants have been made aware of the extension to provide reassurance to the sector in relation to PPE supply over the autumn and winter months.</p>
2.12	<p><u>Support for Social Care Providers</u></p> <p>From 1 November 2021 the non-delivery of care and under-occupancy elements of financial support will only be available to commissioned social care providers in exceptional circumstances where services are impacted for a sustained period due to COVID-19 outbreaks or following COVID-19 related Public Health guidance. This includes the cessation of the occupancy payments to care homes. The Scottish Government continue to work with provider organisations and stakeholders to further develop the detail of these exceptional circumstances to update the guidance for HSCPs and providers.</p> <p>The Scottish Government will continue to fund additional COVID-19 costs relating to remobilisation and adhering to public health measures, and the Social Care Staff Support Fund, until 31 March 2022.</p>
2.13	<p><u>Vaccinations</u></p> <p>Based on SG Dashboard <b>94.4%</b> (105,700 people) of adult population <b>in North Ayrshire</b> had received first dose with <b>88%</b> (98,508 people) receiving 2<sup>nd</sup> dose.</p> <p>Overall, <b>94.4%</b> (290,260 people) of <b>Ayrshire &amp; Arran</b> adult population received first dose vaccination – <b>88.3%</b> (271,573 people) second dose.</p> <p><b>Population in Scotland</b> – <b>91.6%</b> have received 1<sup>st</sup> dose with <b>85%</b> receiving 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. Please note measures now based on people aged 16 years and over. Figures as at 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021.</p> <p>Vaccination Clinics have completed second dose to 16 and 17 year olds and are well into the programme for delivery of vaccine to 12-15 year olds and third dose vaccine to people who are severely immunosuppressed. Invitations have also commenced for booster delivery to priority groups (as detailed below).</p> <p>Regular additional drop-in clinics are being held to encourage take up of the vaccine.</p> <p><b>Covid 19 Booster</b>  JCVI advises that for the 2021 COVID-19 booster vaccine programme individuals who received vaccination in Phase 1 of the COVID-19 vaccination programme (priority groups 1 to 9) should be offered a third dose COVID-19 booster vaccine. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• those living in residential care homes for older adults</li> <li>• all adults aged 50 years or over</li> <li>• frontline health and social care workers</li> <li>• all those aged 16 to 49 years with underlying health conditions that put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19 (as set out in the <a href="#">green book</a>), and adult carers</li> <li>• adult household contacts (aged 16 or over) of immunosuppressed individuals</li> </ul> <p>As most younger adults will only have received their second COVID-19 vaccine dose in late summer or early autumn, the benefits of booster vaccination in this group will</p>



	<p>be considered at a later time when more information is available. In general, younger, healthy individuals may be expected to generate stronger vaccine-induced immune responses from primary course vaccination compared to older individuals.</p> <p>JCVI will review data as they emerge and consider further advice at the appropriate time on booster vaccinations in younger adult age groups, children aged 12 to 16 years with underlying health conditions, and women who are pregnant.</p> <p>The advice is clear that the COVID-19 booster advice is distinct from, and does not supersede, the recent JCVI advice regarding a third primary vaccine dose for those who were severely immunocompromised at the time of their first or second dose. At a later date the JCVI will review whether such persons require a further booster dose following completion of their three-dose primary vaccine course.</p> <p>The JCVI advice states that a COVID-19 booster vaccine dose should be offered no earlier than six months after completion of the primary vaccine course (two doses)</p> <p>JCVI advice also states that the booster dose can be given alongside the flu vaccination therefore planning has included delivery of this vaccination at the same time where appropriate. Separate delivery plans are underway for infant and primary school children.</p> <p><b>Flu Programme</b> - Scottish Ministers have indicated that they wish to extend the eligibility of the flu immunisation programme :</p> <p><b>Existing Eligible Groups</b>  Pre-school children aged 2-5 years; All primary school children in P 1-7  All patients aged 65 years and over  Chronic respiratory disease aged six months or older  Chronic heart disease aged six months or older  Chronic liver disease aged six months or older  Chronic neurological disease aged six months or older  Diabetes aged six months or older  Immunosuppression aged six months or older  Asplenia or dysfunction of the spleen  Pregnant women  People in long-stay residential care or homes  Unpaid carers and young carers  Health/Social Care Workers  Morbid obesity (class III obesity).</p> <p><b>New Eligible Groups 20/21</b>  NHS Independent Contractors  All secondary school children  Nursery, Primary and Secondary school teachers and support staff.  Prison population  Prison Officers and support staff  All patients aged 50-64 – further information to be provided</p> <p>Above lists not exhaustive.</p> <p>Planning is well underway to deliver the above programme.</p>
2.14	<p><u>Community Testing</u></p>

	<p>A four week rolling programme has been established for the siting of a symptomatic mobile testing unit across North Ayrshire. Attendance at the MTUs continue to be very positive. When notified of potential outbreak in a neighbourhood we can very quickly deploy the unit to assist citizens with easy access to symptomatic testing.</p>		
	<p>As previously reported Asymptomatic Test Centres have also been established but unlike the Mobile Testing Units, attendance has been quite poor. We are therefore changing our model of delivery from static sites to mobile asymptomatic units and are hoping to receive vehicles in the near future.</p> <p>Scottish Government have commenced discussions with NHS Ayrshire &amp; Arran regarding a walk-through site to undertake Symptomatic Testing (PCR) in Irvine. This site would ensure ease of access to PCR testing for the local communities as we approach winter, and also offer collection of rapid lateral flow tests for regular testing of those without symptoms.</p> <p>Discussions on-going with North Ayrshire Council in terms of sites which fulfil size requirements, given availability likely to be outdoor i.e a car park and intention would be for initially a 6 month period.</p>		
2.15	<u>Staff Testing</u>		
	<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>		
3.	<b>PROPOSALS</b>		
3.1	<u>Anticipated Outcomes</u>		
	<p>Not applicable.</p>		
3.2	<u>Measuring Impact</u>		
	<p>Not applicable</p>		
4.	<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	
5.	<b>CONSULTATION</b>		



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.
<b>6.</b>	<b>CONCLUSION</b>
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](mailto:carolinecameron@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)**