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**INVERCLYDE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD – 28 NOVEMBER 2022**


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**Inverclyde Integration Joint Board**  
**Monday 28 November 2022 at 2.00pm**

**PRESENT:****Voting Members:**

Alan Cowan (Chair)	Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board
Councillor Robert Moran (Vice Chair)	Inverclyde Council
Councillor Martin McCluskey	Inverclyde Council
Councillor Elizabeth Robertson	Inverclyde Council
Ann Cameron-Burns	Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board
Simon Carr	Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board

**Non-Voting Professional Advisory Members:**

Kate Rocks	Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Audrey Howard	On behalf of Allen Stevenson, Chief Social Work Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Craig Given	Chief Finance Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Dr Hector MacDonald	Clinical Director, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Laura Moore	Chief Nurse, NHS GG&C

**Non-Voting Stakeholder Representative Members:**

Diana McCrone	Staff Representative, NHS Board
Charlene Elliott	Third Sector Representative, CVS Inverclyde
Christina Boyd	Carer's Representative
Hamish MacLeod	Service User Representative, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership Advisory Group

**Also present:**

Mark Laird	Audit Scotland
Grace Symes	Audit Scotland
Vicky Pollock	Legal Services Manager, Inverclyde Council
Anne Malarkey	Head of Homelessness, Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Recovery Services, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Marie Kiers	Senior Finance Manager, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer, Inverclyde Council
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer, Inverclyde Council
Karen MacVey	Legal & Democratic Services Team Leader, Inverclyde Council
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications, Inverclyde Council

**Chair:** Alan Cowan presided

The meeting took place via video-conference.

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**83 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest****83**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of:

Councillor Lynne Quinn	Inverclyde Council
David Gould	Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board
Allen Stevenson	Chief Social Work Officer

No declarations of interest were intimated.

Prior to discussion on the following item the Chair thanked all officers and Audit Scotland for their contributions and efforts to finalise the Annual Report and Accounts.

**84 Annual Report to the IJB and the Controller of Audit for the Financial Year Ended 31 March 2022****84**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership appending the Annual Report and Auditor's Letter to the Board for the financial year ended 31 March 2022 which had been prepared by the IJB's external auditors, Audit Scotland.

The report was presented by Mr Given, it being a statutory requirement of the accounts closure process that the IJB receives a letter from the appointed External Auditors highlighting the main matters arising in respect of the prior year accounts. Mr Laird was then invited to present the Audit Scotland Report.

The Chair invited Councillor Robertson, as Chair of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board Audit Committee, to address the Board.

Councillor Robertson advised that the Audit Committee had met at 1pm with representatives from Audit Scotland, and having considered and discussed the Annual Report, were content to (a) recommended that the IJB authorise the Chair, Chief Officer and Chief Financial Officer to accept and sign the final 2021/22 accounts on behalf of the IJB, and (b) recommend that the Letter of Representation be signed by the Chief Financial Officer.

Councillor Robertson commented favourably on the report and noted that the Audit Committee had earlier expressed thanks to all involved in the process. In response to the statement made within the Key Messages section of the report that 'The IJB has a medium-term financial plan but is yet to develop a longer-term plan' Councillor Robertson noted that the Audit Committee had acknowledged the difficulties in producing a longer-term financial plan when future financial settlements are unknown and made in the short-term. It was noted that the Audit Committee had also discussed Best Value, returning unspent funding and Locality Planning. Councillor Robertson also submitted Councillor Quinn's support for the recommendations in her absence.

The Board also commented on the statement made within the Key Messages section of the report that 'The IJB has a medium-term financial plan but is yet to develop a longer-term plan', agreeing that longer-term planning was difficult given the unpredictability of financial settlements. Ms Rocks emphasised the positive comments made within the report and noted that the implementation of the National Care Service would bring further change. Ms Rocks also thanked Mr Given and his team for their work on the accounts. The Chair advised that the issues experienced by Inverclyde IJB were not unique and thanked all involved in the process.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the contents of the Annual Report to the IJB and Controller of Audit for the financial year to 31 March 2022 be endorsed;
- (2) that the Chair, HSCP Chief Officer and Chief Financial Officer be authorised to

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accept and sign the final 2021/22 Accounts on behalf of the IJJB; and

(3) that the Letter of Representation, as detailed at appendix 2 of the report, be endorsed and that approval be given to the signing of this by the Chief Financial Officer.

### 85 Cost of Living Proposals

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership outlining proposals for additional cost of living support for the citizens of Inverclyde.

The report was presented by Ms Rocks and detailed changes to existing hardship and destitution funding practices, expansion of the Warm Boxes scheme and a new initiative with the Third Sector which would enable community groups to access funds to pass on to the most financially vulnerable in Inverclyde.

Whilst expressing support for the proposals detailed in the report, the Board sought reassurance on the governance of the initiatives. Ms Rocks and Mr Given advised that financial governance measures would be in place before the projects advanced to service delivery and emphasised that they were an expansion of current projects and had been successfully trialled elsewhere. It was agreed that officers would submit an update report to the March 2023 meeting of the Board providing detail on the operation and governance of the proposals.

The Board sought reassurance on the implications for staff from the proposals, and Ms Rocks advised that staff training and guidance would be issued.

Ms Elliot, representative from CVS, advised the Board that she welcomed the proposals and would contact Ms Rocks after the meeting to discuss the involvement of the Third Sector. The Board also commented that they hoped the proposals would be well publicised.

#### **Decided:**

(1) that the HSCP proposals to widen access to Section 12 Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 and Section 22 Children (Scotland) Act 1995 funding, to the practitioners detailed within the report to a maximum of £300,000 funded from the 2022/23 underspend be approved;

(2) that the intention to develop a Standard Operating Procedure which ensures delivery within a governance framework be approved;

(3) that the intention to distribute an initial 500 Warm Boxes via the Care at Home service to service users at an estimated cost of £30,000 funded from the 2022/23 underspend be approved;

(4) that the intention to work with the Third Sector to implement a new funding distribution scheme to voluntary organisations under Section 10 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 to assist individuals in the community up to the value of £100,000 funded from the 2022/23 underspend be approved; and

(5) that it be remitted to officers to provide an update report to the March 2023 meeting providing detail on the operation and implementation of the proposals.