

SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL – 16 JANUARY 2024

Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday 16 January 2024 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Crowther (for Daisley), Jackson, McCluskey, Quinn, Reynolds and Robertson.

Chair: Councillor Brennan presided.

In attendance:

Kate Rocks	Chief Officer (Inverclyde HSCP)
Craig Given	Head of Finance, Planning & Resources (Inverclyde HSCP)
Vicky Pollock	Legal Services Manager (for Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services)
Jonathan Hinds	Chief Social Work Officer and Head of Children & Families and Criminal Justice Services (Inverclyde HSCP)
Alan Best	Interim Head of Health & Community Care (Inverclyde HSCP)
Audrey Howard	Interim Head of Public Protection (People) (Inverclyde HSCP)
Marie Keirs	Senior Finance Manager (Inverclyde HSCP)
Arlene Mailey	Service Manager, Quality & Development Service (Inverclyde HSCP)
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
Alison Ramsey	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Quinn attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Panel.

7 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 7

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Daisley, with Councillor Crowther substituting.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but certain connections were intimated for the purposes of transparency as follows:

Agenda item 6 (Care at Home Inspection) – Councillor Crowther

Agenda item 7 (Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations) – Councillor Cassidy

8 Revenue & Capital Budget Report – 2023/24 Revenue Outturn Position as at 31 October 2023 8

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership and the Head of Finance, Planning & Resources, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, on the projected outturn on revenue and capital for 2023/24 as at 31 October 2023.

Decided:

(1) that the projected current year revenue outturn of £0.451million overspend at 31

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October 2023 be noted;

(2) that the current projected capital position be noted; and

(3) that the current reserves position be noted.

- 9 National Care Service Update 9**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership advising the Panel of the latest communications regarding the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill and providing an update on national developments.
Decided: that the correspondence received on 6 December 2023 from the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, as appended to the report, and the update on the Children’s Services Reform Research be noted.
- 10 Children & Families Service Specification 10**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership outlining the intent to develop a service specification to guide a redesign of Children and Families Services in Inverclyde to meet changing needs and promote early help and family support.
Decided: that the contents of the report be noted.
- 11 Independent Review of Adult Respite and Carers Provision 11**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership advising the Panel of the commissioning of an independent review of adult respite and carers provision in Inverclyde, which will include a consultation on the closure of Hillend Respite Unit and the development of a respite/short break strategy.
Decided:
 (1) that the Panel notes the commissioning of an independent review of adult respite and carers provision;
 (2) that it be noted that the completed consultation and strategy will be presented to the Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel in early summer 2024; and
 (3) that it be noted that all service users of respite will be reviewed, and alternative respite option provision put in place in the event of the decommissioning of the internal service after consultation with users of the service and carers.
- 12 Care at Home Inspection 12**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the positive outcome of the recent unannounced 6 day inspection of the Care at Home Service by the Care Inspectorate.
 Councillor Crowther declared a connection in this item as a family member is a service user. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.
Decided:
 (1) that the contents of the report be noted; and
 (2) that the thanks and appreciation of the Panel be extended to all staff connected with the provision of this service.
- It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during**

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consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations	6 & 9
Update on External Service Provider	6
13 Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations	13
<p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on matters relating to the Health & Social Care Partnership governance processes for Externally Commissioned Social Care Services. Councillor Cassidy declared a connection in this item as a family member is on the Board of an organisation mentioned within the report. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.</p> <p>Decided:</p> <p>(1) that the governance report for the period 30 September to 1 December 2023 be noted; and</p> <p>(2) that Members acknowledge that officers regard the control mechanisms in place through the governance meetings and managing poorly performing services guidance within the Contract Management Framework is sufficiently robust to ensure ongoing quality and safety and the fostering of a commissioning culture of continuous improvement.</p>	
14 Update on External Service Provider	14
<p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on an external service provider.</p> <p>Decided: that the contents of the report be noted, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.</p>	