

## SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL – 14 JANUARY 2025

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### Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday 14 January 2025 at 3pm

**Present:** Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Curley (for Daisley), Hellyer, Jackson, Law, McCabe 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)
Maxine Ward	Head of Addiction and Homelessness Services (Inverclyde HSCP)
Arlene Mailey	Service Manager, Quality & Development Service (Inverclyde HSCP)
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Peter MacDonald	Solicitor, Legal Services
Alison Ramsey	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Cassidy, Law and McCabe attending remotely.

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

#### **8 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

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

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

Agenda item 4 (Homelessness – New Model of Care and Support) – Councillor Brooks and Councillor Jackson

#### **9 Revenue & Capital Budget Report – 2024/25 Revenue Outturn Position as at 31 October 2024**

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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 2024/25 as at 31 October 2024.

**Decided:**

(1) that the projected current year revenue outturn of £0.575million overspend at 31 October 2024 be noted;

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- (1) that the current projected capital position be noted; and
- (2) that the current reserves position be noted.

### 10 Children and Families Placements 10

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an overview of placements for children and young people who require to be looked after away from home and which included (1) an analysis of (a) the use of placements commissioned from external providers, and (b) national and local challenges, and (2) an update on governance and scrutiny arrangements around care planning.

**Decided:** that the content of the report be noted, including the (a) demand analysis for placements for children and young people who are looked after away from home, (b) national challenges, and (c) local activity to improve capacity as part of a wider service redesign.

### 11 Homelessness – New Model of Care and Support 11

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership (1) advising of the decision of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board at its meeting on 18 November 2024 to approve a proposal for the redesign of local homelessness services, (2) providing an overview of the options considered at that meeting, (c) providing detail on the preferred option, and (d) providing context around the existing model of Homelessness services and the local case for change.

Councillor Brooks declared a connection in this item as a Board member of River Clyde Homes and Councillor Jackson declared a connection as he works occasionally at the Inverclyde Centre through his business. Both Councillors also formed the view that the nature of their connections and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process and were declaring for transparency.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the content of the report be noted;
- (2) that the decision of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board to undertake a review of the Homelessness Service be noted;
- (3) that the decision of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board to de-commission the Homelessness service based at the Inverclyde Centre be noted; and
- (4) that the thanks and appreciation of the Panel be extended to all staff connected with the provision of the Homelessness 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 consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**

### 12 Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations 12

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.

**Decided:**

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- (1) that the governance report for the period 28 September 2024 to 29 November 2024 be noted; and
- (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.