

**WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

**Report by: Beth Culshaw, Chief Officer West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)**

**Council Meeting of 19 June 2024**

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**Subject: Review of Integration Scheme**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to seek West Dunbartonshire Council approval for the Integration Scheme between West Dunbartonshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

**2. Recommendations**

**It is recommended that West Dunbartonshire Council:**

- 2.1** Approve the Integration Scheme between West Dunbartonshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (Appendix I)

**3. Background**

- 3.1** Integration Schemes (based on a model integration scheme developed by the Scottish Government) were published by all Integration Joint Boards within the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board area as part of the implementation of the Integration Joint Boards (known locally as the HSCP Partnership Board). The Schemes set out the key arrangements for how Health and Social Care Integration is to be planned, delivered and monitored within their local area.
- 3.2** Integration Schemes are required by statute to be reviewed within a “relevant period” of five years from initial publication. The Schemes for Integration Joint Boards across the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board area received parliamentary approval at different times and are therefore subject to different review schedules. In order to ensure consistency, where possible, across the six Integration Joint Boards and to reduce duplication of effort, in 2019 it was agreed to carry out simultaneous reviews to enable revised Schemes to be approved at the same time.
- 3.3** West Dunbartonshire Integration Scheme was the first to go live and at that time was reaching the end of its relevant period in June 2020.
- 3.4** On the 26 February 2020, West Dunbartonshire Council considered a report from the Chief Officer, West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership on this matter and agreed to note the content of the report and to approve the draft revised Integration Scheme for consultation.
- 3.5** On the 25 February 2020, Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board considered a similar paper. The extract of the minute of that meetings

shows that “due to time constraints, Prof Brown proposed that this item also be deferred to the Board Seminar Session, which would take place in March [2020], to ensure sufficient time for consideration and approval. Members were content to accept this approach.”

- 3.6** Given the timing of this initial phase of work Members will be unsurprised to learn that due to the global pandemic the NHS Board Seminar Session referenced in paragraph 3.5 did not go ahead and this work fell into abeyance as dealing with Covid-19 became the focus of collective endeavors.
- 3.7** This afforded officers a period of further review and reflection and in 2022 the work was reinvigorated with a pan Glasgow HSCP working group re-established to consider the content of the Integration Scheme. This group have considered how all six Integration Schemes can be more effectively aligned in terms of language and format with the aim of developing revised Integration Schemes for approval by all six local authorities, the Health Board and ultimately the Cabinet Secretary.
- 3.8** On the 25 October 2023 West Dunbartonshire Council considered a report submitted by the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care Partnership providing an update on work ongoing to review the Integration Scheme between West Dunbartonshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, and presenting a draft revised Integration Scheme for comment and approval to go out for consultation. West Dunbartonshire Council agreed to instruct officers to consult prescribed consultees in line with the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 3.9** The Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board Finance, Planning and Performance Committee considered a similar paper on 3 October 2023 and granted their approval to start consultation on the Integration Schemes.
- 3.10** As a result of the two aforementioned approvals a period of formal consultation was launched from the 1 December 2023 to the 31 January 2024. Only one response was received, this was from West Dunbartonshire Council and can be found at Appendix II of this report.

#### **4. Main Issues**

- 4.1** A review of the Integration Schemes has taken place both locally and by the pan Glasgow working group and has identified a series of required edits.
- 4.2** This group also considered areas that are consistent across all pan Glasgow Integration Schemes and present for consideration updates and standardisation of content to achieve a higher level of consistency across Integration Schemes and to reflect the position within Integration Joint Boards for each area of the Integration Scheme that may have changed since Integration Schemes were originally published.
- 4.3** The core content and structure of the draft revised Integration Scheme

remains consistent with the current Integration Scheme, and therefore retains its close alignment with the model Integration Scheme approved by the Scottish Government and the requirements laid out within the Public Bodies Joint Working Integration Scheme Scotland Regulations 2014.

- 4.4** Key areas of the Scheme that required review and revision to the text included the sections on Finance, Risk Management, Complaints and Information and Data Handling to reflect legislative changes and actual operational delivery.
- 4.5** The key substantive change proposed is in relation to Section 3 (Local Governance Arrangements) where it is proposed that the term of the Chair/Vice Chair of the Integration Joint Board is reduced from three years to two years. This brings the term in West Dunbartonshire into line with that of the other Integration Joint Boards in the Greater Glasgow area.
- 4.6** Content in relation to Section 12 of the Integration Scheme (Finance) was reviewed by the HSCP Chief Finance Officers Group, who developed revised text and presented this to the pan Glasgow working group with the recommendation that this be adopted by all Integration Joint Boards within the Greater Glasgow area with some minor local variations.
- 4.7** The section on Local Operational Delivery Arrangements has been revised in how the arrangements for Hosted Services are described. Previous iterations of all Schemes contained an annex that listed the services subject to hosting arrangements and which HSCP area was responsible for those services across the Board territory. This has now been removed not only to futureproof the Schemes from any subsequent changes but to emphasise that the Scottish Government approves the Schemes but not specific hosting arrangements which are agreed locally. The Schemes instead now simply describe how hosting arrangements are to be implemented.
- 4.8** The pan Glasgow group has been in regular contact with the Scottish Government on processes and timescales to obtain Cabinet Secretary approval for revised Schemes. Advice and guidance was also sought on any areas within Schemes that the Scottish Government has knowledge of from their experience nationally which generally required improvement.
- 4.9** The draft revised Integration Scheme was shared with colleagues in West Dunbartonshire Council Legal Services to gain a legal perspective on whether the Integration Scheme meets the statutory requirements surrounding review and development of Integration Schemes laid out in the Act. Appendix II details the feedback received from West Dunbartonshire Council during the formal period of statutory consultation, the required amendment can be found in the Integration Scheme (Appendix I) paragraph 9.5.
- 4.10** It is anticipated that NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde will consider all six Integration Schemes for approval on the 25 June 2024. If approved by both West Dunbartonshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

the Scheme will be presented to the Integration Joint Board for noting and subsequently submitted to the Cabinet Secretary for Ministerial approval.

## **5. Options Appraisal**

- 5.1** An options appraisal is not required in respect of the recommendations within this report.

## **6. People Implications**

There are no people implications in respect of the recommendations within this report.

## **7. Financial and Procurement Implications**

- 7.1** There are no financial and procurement implications in respect of the recommendations within this report.

## **8. Risk Analysis**

- 8.1** There is no direct link with West Dunbartonshire Councils Strategic Risk Register. Should West Dunbartonshire Council not approve the recommendations in this report the operational risk is minimal as an approved Integration Scheme remains in place. However, there is a reputational risk should this work not progress in line with Scottish Government requirements.

## **9. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)**

- 9.1** An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required as the recommendations within this report do not directly impact on those with protected characteristics. (EQIA screening reference 1063).

## **10. Environmental Sustainability**

- 10.1** A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is not required in respect of the recommendations within this report.

## **11. Consultation**

- 11.1** Relevant Council Officers have been consulted in the preparation of this covering report and their comments incorporated appropriately.

## **12. Strategic Assessment**

- 12.1** The delivery of West Dunbartonshire Councils Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027 is dependent on a wide range of services with good governance an enduring theme throughout the plan.

- 12.2** Consideration and ultimately approval of the Integration Scheme ensures: that resources are directed in accordance with agreed policy and according to priorities; that there is clear and inclusive decision making,

and provides clarity in respect of the accountability for the use of those resources and functions delegated to the Integration Joint Board.

**Beth Culshaw**

Chief Officer West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership

23 May 2024

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**Appendices:** Appendix I: Revised Integration Scheme  
Appendix II: Consultation Response West  
Dunbartonshire Council

**Wards Affected:** All Wards

