



North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership
Minute of Integration Joint Board meeting held on
Thursday 20 March 2025 at 10.00 a.m.
involving participation by remote electronic means and physical attendance
within the Council Chambers, Irvine.

Present (Physical Participation)

Voting Members

Councillor Margaret Johnson, North Ayrshire Council (Chair)
Joyce White, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Nairn Angus- McDonald, North Ayrshire Council
Councillor Anthea Dickson, North Ayrshire Council
Councillor Tom Marshall, North Ayrshire Council
Sharon Morrow, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
Tom Hopkins, NHS Ayrshire and Arran

Professional Advisers

Thelma Bowers, Head of Service (Mental Health) (NAHSCP)
Darren Fullarton, Associate Nurse Director/ Lead Nurse
Eleanor Currie, Interim Section 95 Officer
Scott Hunter, Chief Social Work Officer

Stakeholder Representative

Loretta Galloway, Unity Enterprise
Lynda McFarlane, Staff Representative
Paul Smith, Carer Representative

Present (Remote Participation)

Professional Advisers

Caroline Cameron, Director of Health and Social Care Partnership
Iain Jamieson, Clinical Director

Stakeholder Representative

Lorna Sim, Staff Representative NHS Ayrshire and Arran
Vicky Yuill, Third Sector Representative

In Attendance (Physical Participation)

Elizabeth Stewart, Head of Service (Children, Families and Justice)
Kerry Logan, Head of Service (Health and Community Care)
Michelle Sutherland, Partnership Facilitator (Health & Community Care)
Karen Andrews, Team Manager (Governance)
Raymond Lynch, Senior Manager (Legal Services)
Shannon Wilson, Committee Services Officer
Claudia Cheung, Digital, Media and Marketing Analyst

Apologies

Sharon Hackney, Lead Allied Health Professional
Lynne McNiven, Public Health Representative
Aileen Craig, IJB Monitoring Officer
Marc Mazzucco, NHS Ayrshire and Arran

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in terms of Standing Order 7.2 and Section 5.14 of the Code of Conduct for Members of Devolved Public Bodies.

3. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2025 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7(10 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

4. Director's Report

Submitted report by Caroline Cameron, Director (NAHSCP) on the developments within the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

Noted.

5. North Ayrshire HSCP Clinical and Care Governance bi-annual Report 2024-25

Submitted report by Darren Fullarton, Lead Nurse/Associate Nurse Director NHS on the Clinical and Care Governance bi-annual Report 2024-25.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

Noted.

6. 2024-25 Month 10 Financial Performance

Submitted report by Eleanor Currie, Interim Chief Financial Officer (HSCP) on the Integration Joint Board's financial performance as at month 10 (January). Appendix A to the report detailed the financial overview of the Partnership position, while Appendix B provided an overview of those service changed which did not have financial savings attached. Appendix C highlighted the movement in the budget position following the initial approved budget.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

The Board agreed to (a) note the overall integrated financial performance report for the financial year 2024-25 and the current overall projected yearend overspend of £4.980m which includes the recovery plan reductions anticipated until the year-end; (b) note the progress with delivery of agreed savings; (c) note the actions which are being taken to progress financial recovery and the benefit of £4.002m achieved in-year; and (d) note the remaining financial risks for 2024-25.

7. Revenue Budget 2025-26 and beyond

Submitted report by Eleanor Currie, Interim Chief Financial Officer (HSCP) on the financial position for the Partnership for 2025-26, including the proposed delegated funding, service budget pressures, plans developed to set a budget and the associated risks.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

Councillor Angus-McDonald proposed an amendment in the following terms:

"IJB notes the lateness in which members received today's budget papers; and that the Equality Impact Assessments have not been published as part of them.

The IJB expresses concern about the impact some of the budget proposals will have on the most vulnerable in our community; the financial risks of approving a deficit budget for 2025/26; the 'debt' that the IJB will owe to partners in respect of the 2024/25 overspend; and that the HSCP holds no financial reserves.

IJB therefore asks:

1. Officers to publish the Equality Impact Assessments alongside today's agenda online;
2. That members receive future reports to the IJB monitoring the impact of the proposals on our communities;
3. Officers to bring a paper on addressing the 2025/26 deficit to the next IJB;
4. That the CEOs of both North Ayrshire Council and the NHS Ayrshire & Arran are invited as compulsory members of the IJB Officer/Member Working Group on Finance; and
5. The Chief Officer to write directly to the Cabinet Secretary highlighting the precarious financial position of the HSCP; the impact of the proposals within today's paper on the most vulnerable; and the risk of more savage cuts in future years if the underlying deficit is not addressed by all funding partners including the Scottish Government."

The Chair agreed to a recess at 12.08 p.m. to consider the amendment, reconvening at 12.33 p.m.

Councillor Marshall left the meeting at this point.

Councillor Angus-McDonald withdrew the amendment and in terms of Standing Order 15.1 the Committee voted on the recommendation. On a division and a roll call vote, there voted in agreement: Councillor Margaret Johnson, Councillor Anthea Dickson, Tom Hopkins, Sharon Morrow and Joyce White (5); and Councillor Nairn Angus-McDonald (1) disagreeing with the Officer's recommendation.

The Board therefore agreed to (a) approve the budget for 2025-26 for the Partnership inclusive of all pressures, savings and reserves, noting that the funding position is subject to confirmation by NHS Ayrshire and Arran; (b) note the NHS Renewal submission by North Ayrshire via NHS AA and that if additional funding is received plans may be subject to change; (c) receive a further update on the budget for 2025-26 when further information is received in respect of NHS pressures and funding; (d) approve the new hourly rates for commissioned providers and Personal Assistants; and (e) note the risks associated with this budget.

8. Strategic Risk Register

Submitted report by Eleanor Currie, Interim Chief Financial Officer (HSCP) on the IJB Strategic Risk Register.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

The Board agreed to approve the updated IJB Strategic Risk Register including the addition of two new risks and the removal of one risk.

9. Valedictory

On behalf of the Committee, the Vice-Chair thanked Councillor Johnson for her Chairmanship of the Integration Joint Board, highlighting the excellent work and leadership given to the Committee in those two years and acknowledged the ongoing partnership as Councillor Johnson assumes the Vice-Chair position. The Committee joined the Vice-Chair in paying tribute to Councillor Johnson.

Councillor Johnson thanked the Vice-Chair and the Committee for their kind words.

The meeting ended at 12.50 pm.

The full meeting proceedings can be viewed at
<https://north-ayrshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>