

**East Ayrshire Health & Social Care Partnership
Integration Joint Board
19 March 2025 at 2pm
Council Chambers/ MS Teams**

Present:

*Dr Sukhomoy Das, NHS Non-Executive Director (Chair)
Mr Craig McArthur, Director of Health and Social Care
Ms Dalene Steele, Associate Nurse Director
*Councillor Clare Maitland, East Ayrshire Council
Ms Arlene Bunton, Scottish Care Representative/Independent Sector Lead
Dr Alexia Pellowe, Clinical Director
*Ms Jennifer Wilson, NHS Executive Nurse Director
*Ms Sheila Cowan, NHS Non-Executive Board Member
*Neil McAleese, NHS Non-Executive Board Member
*Councillor Neill Watts, East Ayrshire Council
*Councillor Jayne Sangster, East Ayrshire Council
Ms Allina Das, staff representative NHSAA (RCN)
Ms Marion MacAulay, Head of Children's Health, Care and Justice Services / Chief Social Work Officer
Mr Alex McPhee, Interim Chief Financial Officer
Ms Moira Fenton, Health & Wellbeing Partnership Manager CVO
Ms Fiona Pirrie, CEO, East Ayrshire Carers Centre (IJB Stakeholder Representative)
Ms Diane Gill, staff representative EAC (Unison)

****signifies a voting member***

In Attendance:

Ms Debbie McGill, Head of Primary and Urgent Care
Mr Jim Murdoch, Senior Manager Wellbeing and Recovery
Ms Dale Meller, Senior Manager Public Protection & Learning
Ms Amanda McInnes, Senior Manager Business Support
Ms Mhairi McCandless, Service Manager, Addiction & Recovery
Ms Fiona Hart, Service Manager, IJB Finance
Ms Julie Ross-Binning, Senior Business Support Officer
Mr Neil Kerr, ADP independent Chair
Craig Ross, Senior Manager, Locality Health & Care
Ms Lynne McNiven, Director of Public Health
Lukas Wacławski, Integration Governance & Evidence, Scottish Government
Mr Brian Martin, Advanced Nurse Practitioner, RADAR Service

Alison Anderson, Committee Secretary (Minutes)

Agenda	Discussion	Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome & Apologies</u></p> <p>Dr Sukhomoy Das welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from Erik Sutherland.</p> <p>It was noted of the extra meeting planned for the 1st of April 2025 which will be dedicated to the Annual Budget 2025/26 report, postponed from today's meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>GOOD NEWS STORY – Methadone Micro-Dosing</u></p> <p>Ms Mhairi McCandless and Mr Brian Martin were in attendance to present the Good News Story, Methadone Micro-Dosing.</p> <p>Dr Das welcomed the presentation provided by Brian and noted the excellent work that had been undertaken. Brian confirmed that he is hopeful of getting the Methadone Micro-Dosing paper published in an academic journal.</p> <p>Dr Das thanked Brian for his presentation and welcomed the opportunity for publishing the paper.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Declaration Of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
4.	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 05 February 2025 <p>The minutes were approved as an accurate record of discussions.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p><u>Q2 Whistleblowing Report (1 July – 30 September 24)</u></p> <p>Action now complete.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Debrief on Response to Storm Eowyn</u></p> <p>Mr Craig Ross presented to the Integration Joint Board a debrief report on HSCP service response during Storm Eowyn.</p> <p>The report provided an update to IJB members on HSCP services' response to Storm Eowyn during the period from 21 January 2025 and debriefings which have taken place through various resilience and business continuity fora, including: ALRP, East Ayrshire Council SRG, HSCP Resilience Group, and IJB Development Session.</p>	

	<p>Discussion took place on the lessons learned around the use of generators, gas and electricity supplies for those with the highest level of need in the community. Learning gained will be incorporated into any future responses.</p> <p>Dr Das extended his thanks on behalf of the IJB to the workforce and leadership for their support and guidance.</p> <p>The Board agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Receive the report; Note and comment on the contents of the report; Note that lessons learned from the debrief will be incorporated in Business Continuity Plans; Recognise the workforce in maintaining essential care and support, and; Otherwise comment on the report. 	
7.	<p><u>EA HSCP Social Care Contribution and Charging Framework and Approved Rates, Contributions and Charges 2025/26</u></p> <p>Ms Fiona Hart presented the report to the IJB with the annual alterations in respect of charges and contributions for Social Care Services and the updated East Ayrshire Health & Social Care Partnership Social Care Services Contributions and Charging Framework for Financial Year 2025/26 and also to approve the proposed rates paid for Social Care Charges.</p> <p>Concerns were raised in regards to risks in terms of the Care at Home hourly rates and of the applied uplift of 4.91% increase within the independent sector.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the charges had previously been approved by Cabinet on the 12th of March 2025.</p> <p>The Board noted the risks discussed and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Note the updated East Ayrshire Social Care Services Contribution and Charging Framework; Note the updated charges and thresholds detailed in paragraphs 26-34 of this report; Note that in relation to care home charges COSLA, Scottish Government and Scottish Care have not yet finalised the rate at this time; Note the uplifts in relation to Specialist Adult Care Homes The Laurels and Beeches detailed in paragraph 39, Table 4 will be agreed following confirmation of the NCHC uplift; Agree the uplift in respect of Kirklea and Newhouse detailed in paragraphs 40-42 and note Scotland Excel have yet to agree the framework rates; Agree the proposed provider rates in relation to care at home, community based support, sleepovers and Ucan in paragraphs 43 - 48; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (vii) Agree the proposed uplift in respect of the Resource Allocation System in paragraphs 49-52; (viii) Agree the proposed personal assistant rate in paragraph 53; (ix) Note that foster care payments are aligned to the Scottish Recommended Allowance; (x) Approve the proposed alignment of the Household Allowances in Table 6; (xi) Note fee negotiations are progressing in respect of external fostering, secure accommodation and children's residential in paragraphs 61 - 66; (xii) Note Kinship Allowance is aligned to the Scottish Recommended Allowance in Table 7; (xiii) Agree to hold the Wellbeing payment rate in paragraph 69; (xiv) Agree the updated Kinship Financial Assessment deduction detailed in Table 8; (xv) Agree to cease Adoption Allowances age 18 and hold rates noted in Table 9; (xvi) Agree to hold Supported Accommodation rates in paragraph 74; (xvii) Approve the payments made to children and young people as detailed in paragraphs 75-79; (xviii) Approve the uplift in relation to Short Breaks detailed in Table 11; (xix) Note the significant financial risk detailed in paragraph 96 in respect of the uncertainty around the care home rates uplift; (xx) Issue a Direction to East Ayrshire Council to implement the alterations to charges and contributions for social care services for the Financial Year 2025/26 and the rates paid for social care services; and; (xxi) Otherwise note the contents of this report. 	
8.	<p><u>Annual Update Report</u></p> <p>Mr Jim Murdoch presented the annual updates on the Strategic Plan 2024-27, Workforce Plan 2022-25, Communications Strategy 2024-27 and the Property and Asset Management Strategy 2024-27 to the Integration Joint Board (IJB) for consideration and approval.</p> <p>The Strategic Plan, as revised for 2024-27, sets out the IJB's strategic commissioning intentions and delivery arrangements through the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) against the following six strategic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting Well, Living Well and Dying Well • People at the Heart of All We Do • Caring for East Ayrshire • Caring for Our Workforce • Safe and Protected • Digital Connections <p>It was noted that the paper will be updated with any necessary amendments following the outcome of the Annual Budget Report, which is due for</p>	

	<p>discussion at a Special IJB meeting on the 1st of April 2025, and an update report provided to IJB thereafter if necessary.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Consider the annual updates on the Strategic Plan 2024-27, Workforce Plan 2022-25, Communications Strategy 2024-27 and Property and Asset Management Strategy 2024-27; ii. Endorse the Strategic Priorities set out in the Strategic Plan as revised for 2024-27; iii. Note that the Annual Budget Report 2025/26 will be presented to the IJB for consideration and approval on 19 March 2025; and, iv. Issue a Direction to East Ayrshire Council and NHS Ayrshire and Arran in line with the Strategic Plan and within the allocated budget for 2025-26; 	
9.	<p><u>Governance Report</u></p> <p>Mr Craig McArthur presented the report to provide the Integration Joint Board (IJB) with an update on a change to the Voting membership of the IJB for East Ayrshire Council, seek approval on membership of the Audit and Performance Committee (APC), and provide an update on the Voting membership of the IJB for NHS Ayrshire and Arran.</p> <p>Dr Das welcomed Councillor Jayne Sangster on behalf of the IJB as the new voting member for East Ayrshire Council. IJB agreed that Cllr Sangster would join the Audit and Performance Committee. Thanks was given to Councillor Barry Douglas for his support over the last few months.</p> <p>Ms Jennifer Wilson, Nurse Director, NHS Board Executive Member, has been appointed to EA IJB for a further three year term starting 1 April 2025. The IJB welcomed this appointment and Jennifer's continued support.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Note the change of Voting membership for East Ayrshire Council on the IJB; ii. Approve membership to the Audit and Performance Committee; and, iii. Note the update of Voting membership for NHS Ayrshire and Arran on the IJB. 	
10.	<p><u>Affiliations to Outside Organisations</u></p> <p>Mr Craig McArthur presented the report to provide information on and to consider the background, aims and objectives, and activities of those organisations which have sought association with, and affiliation of, Social Work Services as part of the Health and Social Care Partnership.</p> <p>It was noted that Affiliations to outside organisations provide additional information, learning, guidance and expertise to services in areas of specialism, for example, adoption and fostering. In addition, professional social work organisations including Social Work Scotland provide learning</p>	

	<p>and training opportunities, and opportunities to benchmark and share best practice at a national level.</p> <p>The Board noted the content of the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consider and approve the affiliations, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report; and, Agree that the appropriate Partnership section make payment of the affiliation fees to those approved organisations; and 	
11.	<p><u>IJB Directions Update</u></p> <p>Mr Craig McArthur presented the report to provide the Integration Joint Board (IJB) with an update on the IJB Directions issued since the implementation of the new recording and issuing system on 1 April 2023.</p> <p>It was noted that all Directions within the report are complete. Craig advised that going forward, due to the current financial pressures, more detailed information will require to be recorded on future Directions.</p> <p>The Board noted the content of the report.</p>	
12.	<p><u>Governance Papers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUDIT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE – 26 NOVEMBER 2024 • AUDIT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE – 18 DECEMBER 2024 • HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING – 07 NOVEMBER 2024 • HEALTH, CARE & GOVERNANCE GROUP – 05 NOVEMBER 2024 • STRATEGIC PLANNING GROUP – 24 OCTOBER 2024 	
13.	<p><u>AOCB</u></p> <p>Dr Das extended his thanks to the Audit and Performance Committee for its extra scrutiny of the Financial Recovery Plan.</p>	
14.	<p><u>Date Of Next Meetings</u></p> <p>1 April 2025 at 12.00 noon – Annual Budget 2025/26 (Special Session) 14 May 2025 at 2.00pm, Council Chambers / MS Teams (Development Session) 25 June 2025 at 2.00pm, Council Chambers/ MS Teams (Full Meeting)</p>	