

# NHS Ayrshire & Arran



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>Monday 14 August 2023</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Area Professional Committee Annual Reports for 2022-2023</b>
<b>Responsible Director:</b>	<b>Ms Claire Burden, Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire &amp; Arran</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>Mr Adrian Carragher, Area Clinical Forum Chair</b>

## 1. Purpose

This is presented to the Board for:

- Awareness

This paper relates to:

- Government policy/directive

This aligns to the following NHSScotland quality ambition(s):

- Safe
- Effective
- Person Centred

## 2. Report summary

### 2.1 Situation

Rebuilding our National Health Service (2001) emphasised that NHS Boards should draw on the full range of Professional skills and expertise that exists in all parts of their local NHS system. These professions should provide advice on clinical and other professional matters. CEL 16 (2010) Area Clinical Forums (ACFs) suggested that NHS Boards further develop and enhance the role of ACFs and the individual Area Professional Committees which advise on profession specific issues. The current Professional Committee structure was formed in 2001 and an additional Committee, the Area Healthcare Science Professional Committee, was added in 2011.

### 2.2 Background

ACFs and their constituent members have a key role in supporting the implementation of the key dimensions of the Health and Social Care delivery plan (2016), the development of the Integration Joint Boards and the implementation of other key strategic documents such as: National clinical strategy, Realistic Medicine, a Vision for Nursing, Prescription for Excellence, National Active and Independent Living Improvement Plan, both AHP and HCS delivery plans and National Workforce Plan. This will ensure that our staff can support services and planning as we look ahead to care for our citizens.

To allow the ACF Chair to complete a four year term of office and to ensure a staggered approach, the Board agreed on 23 May 2022 that his role as Area Healthcare Science Professional Committee Chair be extended to 31 March 2024. AHCSPC and ACF members supported this proposal.

Developing ACFs within this broader strategic context aims to harness the knowledge, skills and commitment of clinicians across NHS Scotland.

Throughout the year the ACF has been involved in a range of consultations and discussions, helping to influence and support the NHS Board in its ongoing development and remobilisation post-pandemic, at the same time as supporting and influencing at a Scottish level through the National ACF. The ACF is committed to continuing this support. The strength of the ACF lies in the multi-disciplinary nature of its membership and the cross-cutting themes from all Professional Committees over the year are described below. In addition, the support of the Chief Executive and other Executive Officers is recognised and valued by ACF members.

## **2.3 Assessment**

ACF and Professional Committees are keen to continue to support and engage in taking forward the Board's 10 year strategic vision, Caring for Ayrshire.

- Participation through membership of the Caring for Ayrshire Professional Reference Group.
- The support of senior management for the Professional Committee structure is important and welcomed, but not always equal across the Committees.
- ACF and the Professional Committees continue to be involved in a range of improvement programmes across the professions and would seek to engage with these pieces of work earlier, or as early as possible in the process to ensure maximum benefit.
- ACF is keen to strengthen relationships between the ACF, the Professional Committees and the Integration Joint Boards.

### **2.3.1 Quality/patient care**

The engagement and participation of ACF and Professional Committees in taking forward Caring for Ayrshire will positively impact on quality of care and services.

### **2.3.2 Workforce**

Workforce issues are a cause for serious concern for the ACF and the Professional Committees and the ACF is taking a proactive approach to engage with the HR Director on strategic workforce issues. This is also well understood at the national ACF level. However, it should be noted that individual ACF members and in some cases Professional Committees are also proactive in their discussions with colleagues nationally at NHS Education for Scotland and Scottish Government to ensure that these concerns are understood and acted upon as appropriate.

### **2.3.3 Financial**

There is no financial impact.

#### **2.3.4 Risk assessment/management**

This report has been informed by the contribution of the members of the Area Professional Committees and has been approved by each of these Committees.

#### **2.3.5 Equality and diversity, including health inequalities**

An impact assessment has not been completed as this is an internal report on Area Professional Committee activities.

#### **2.3.6 Other impacts**

The Scottish Government Health and Social Care Directorate stipulates close involvement of clinical staff in leading and developing services.

#### **2.3.7 Communication, involvement, engagement and consultation**

This report has been informed by the contribution of the members of the Area Professional Committees and has been approved by each of these Committees.

#### **2.3.8 Route to the meeting**

This has previously been considered by the following groups as part of its development. The groups have either supported the content, or their feedback has informed the development of the content presented in this report.

- The reports have been considered and approved by the relevant Professional Committee members either at their meeting or via email due to the meeting schedule.

### **2.4 Recommendation**

Members are asked to:

- Be aware of the work of the Area Professional Committees during 2022-2023 and continue to support this work in the future.
- To be aware of the challenge that exists for those professionals who wish to contribute to the Board's strategic agenda and organisational development, particularly in view of the current system pressures.
- To be aware that Professional Committees are keen to support the NHS Board's remobilisation planning in response to Covid-19 as well as the Caring for Ayrshire programme and support and build on new ways of working. The Covid-19 pandemic has required many rapid changes in working practices, including greater use of digital technology in delivering services, and it will be important to continue to support and further develop this work, with a particular focus on the complex issues of access to information and sharing of information with external agencies e.g. Pharmacists, Optometrists and Dentists who are often disadvantaged due to issues around data protection and information security concerns. Acknowledge the work of all staff who in many areas have gone beyond what could and should be expected of them in order to do everything to keep the citizens of Ayrshire safe and, when needed, to support those who became critically ill as a result of the pandemic, as well as in taking forward remobilisation activity.

### **3. List of appendices**

The following appendices are included with this report:

- Appendix 1, Area Allied Health Professions Professional Committee
- Appendix 2, Area Dental Professional Committee
- Appendix 3, Area Healthcare Science Professional Committee
- Appendix 4, Area Medical Professional Committee
- Appendix 5, Area Nursing and Midwifery Professional Committee
- Appendix 6, Area Optical Professional Committee
- Appendix 7, Area Pharmaceutical Professional Committee
- Appendix 8, Area Psychology Professional Committee
- Appendix 9, Area Dental Professional Committee

## **NHS Ayrshire & Arran Allied Health Professional Committee**

### **Annual Report for 2022/23**

#### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 During a challenging year for Allied Health Professions (AHPs), which has included significant vacancies within the AHP senior management structure, the Area Allied Health Professional Committee (AAHPPC) has continued to engage with members and wider constituents to ensure that AHPs are sighted on NHS Ayrshire & Arran's (NHSAA) strategic plans.

AAHPPC elections took place during the year and this resulted in a number of new members joining the Committee who are settling well into their new role.

Maintaining robust communication with AHP Senior management and Committee members has remained an overarching priority, including feedback of views and opinions to the Area Clinical Forum (ACF) and leadership networks as appropriate.

#### **1.2 Key Messages**

The Committee has continued to prioritise stakeholder engagement and commitment to the work of the committee, and the ambition to appropriately support NHSAA alongside the three Health and Social Care partnerships (HSCPs).

A common recurring theme is the limited representation of AHPs at strategic Acute Services level, which we feel has been acknowledged however requires further consideration to allow a more inclusive approach.

There has been a national review of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Proficiency, the first since 2015. The main updates are on an expansion of the role of equality, diversity and inclusion. A new standard has been included related to promoting public health and preventing ill-health, recognising the importance of the wider healthcare system and the vital role of AHPs within this.

#### **3. Membership**

- 3.1 The Committee's membership during the reporting period was as follows:

Suzanne Kean, Dietetics (Co-Chair since March 2022, previously Vice Chair)  
Alison Wallace, OT (Co-Chair since March 2022)  
Ruth Barclay-Paterson, Dietetics – left 31 July 2022  
Collette Bloy, SLT – joined January 2023  
Darren Brand, Orthoptics

Sine Collins, Orthotics/Prosthetics – joined 1 August 2022  
 Karen Connelly, Radiography – joined 1 August 2022  
 Nicola Gault, Radiography  
 Sam Gilchrist, OT – joined in January 2023  
 Vivienne Goldie, OT – left November 2022  
 Caryn Gray, Podiatry – left 31 July 2022  
 Heather Johnston, Podiatry – joined 1 August 2022  
 Fiona Monaghan, Orthotics/Prosthetics – joined 1 August 2022  
 Louise Sinclair, Podiatry  
 Marion Sloan, Orthoptics  
 (alternates attendance on annual basis with Darren Brand)  
 Fiona Smith, Physiotherapy – joined 1 August 2022  
 Jane Stewart, SLT – left November 2022  
 Gemma Taylor, Physiotherapy – left 31 July 2022  
 Katrina Walker, SLT  
 Madelaine Halkett/Christine Wallace, Physiotherapy – left 31 July 2022  
 Vacancy - Dietetics  
 Vacancy – Radiography  
 2 x Vacancy – Arts Therapies

#### 4. Meeting

4.1 The Committee met on six occasions between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

4.2 The NHS Board has previously agreed that attendance at Committee meetings should be recorded in the relevant Annual Report. The attendance record of each member is shown below (Y indicates attended).

Member	Dates					
	19/05/22 inquire	11/08/22	29/09/22	24/11/22	24/01/23	23/03/23
Suzanne Kean	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Alison Wallace	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y
Ruth Barclay-Paterson	Y					
Collette Bloy				Y	Y	
Darren Brand						Y
Sine Collins		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Karen Connelly		Y	Y		Y	Y
Nicola Gault	Y	Y		Y	Y	
Samantha Gilchrist				Y	Y	Y
Vivienne Goldie	Y	Y	Y			
Caryn Gray						
Heather Johnstone			Y			Y
Fiona Monaghan						
Louise Sinclair			Y	Y	Y	Y
Marion Sloan						
Fiona Smith		Y	Y		Y	Y
Jane Stewart	Y	Y	Y			
Gemma Taylor						
Katrina Walker		Y	Y	Y		Y

Madeleine Halkett/Christine Wallace						
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## 5. Committee Activities

- 5.1 Committee discussion during the year has focused on AHP workforce planning, staff wellbeing, re-mobilisation planning and the Caring for Ayrshire strategic programme, as well as AHP governance and risk management arrangements.

Key activities and events during the year include the following:

19 May 2022 – The Associate Director for AHPs, Emma Stirling, attended to update on Long COVID.

24 November 2022 – The AHP Senior Manager, Lianne McInally, provided an update on AHP senior manager changes, workforce, digital, discharge without delay, care home support and People Safe.

26 January 2023 – The Head of Corporate Governance, Shona McCulloch, attended to provide an update on corporate governance.

## 6. Priorities for 2023/24

- 6.1 The Committee will aspire to continue its current engagement with the Board's strategic priorities, in conjunction with the ACF, in a more proactive manner.

To support our local AHP community with the Scottish Government AHP Education and Workforce policy review.

To represent our professions and citizens as the Board takes forward the revised and reinvigorated Caring for Ayrshire ambition.

## 7. Chair's Comments

- 7.1 We as Co-Chairs have relished the opportunity to connect with our wider AHP colleagues during a time of significant change and challenges. We were delighted to welcome a number of new AAHPPC members during the year. We have provided an inclusive platform for each of the AHP professions to actively highlight and discuss the impacts of current health and social care demands and policy. Our hope for the coming year would be that all AHP staff and Board members are aware of the wider role of the Committee and the value of engagement.

Suzanne Kean / Alison Wallace  
Co-Chair – Area Allied Health Professions Professional Committee  
March 2023

## **NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Dental Professional Committee**

### **Annual Report for 2022/23**

#### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This past year has seen many changes, elections have happened and we have a good mix of old faces and new. Any change of membership means a period of transition as new members start to understand the role of the committee. Never the less discussion has continued and has been dominated by matters surrounding COVID. We have for the first time been joined by two members of the dental care profession, these individuals have brought a different perspective to the table and their inclusion has been long looked for.

Dental services can broadly be broken down into three arms, all interlinked and all dependent on each other. Although each arm shares the same aim in caring for each patient as best as it can they all have a different master and different pressures.

Hospital dental services, Maxillofacial, Orthodontic and general anesthesia (via the public dental service) are experiencing the same pressures as other areas of secondary care and capacity to treat remains a concern. Although different ways and means have been explored and well utilised the service has seen a rise in referral from primary care where patient demand has increased. Waiting lists for secondary care have risen and prioritisation of the most vulnerable remains a priority.

General dental services have had great success in restarting “business as normal”. However as more patients have been seen so more problems have come to light that require the assistance of hospital or public dental services. In addition patient expectations have also increased and they are no longer prepared to place in the “holding pattern” that has worked well for two years in reducing pressure on the other arms of the service. Therefore the success of re-establishing general dental services has impacted heavily on the demand for hospital dental services.

The general dental service is to a degree beholden to masters in central government. A long promised change to a system that all parties recognise as long overdue reform, is starting to take shape and early 2023 saw the first draft of where this was heading. The scope of this committee is local, however the establishment of a Director of Dentistry for Ayrshire and Arran who regularly meets with the Chief Dental Officer for Scotland has allowed feed up of information.

It has become increasingly apparent during 2022/23 that staffing levels within general dental services are low. The committee has been able to feedback concerns about lack of trained dental nurses and Ayrshire and Arran have been able to respond with an increase in training places at our own training course. Dentists are harder to come by and COVID saw both a reduction in graduates into



and also an increase in retirees out of the profession. The ability of practices to take on new patients moving around and into Ayrshire has been reduced and the committee continues to look into ways to attract new dentists to the area. In the meantime there is increased demand being placed on the public dental services to provide emergency care for these unregistered patients.

The third arm of local dental provision is that of the public dental service, the scope of this specialist service is incredibly broad. The past year has seen a complete re-establishment of the full range of service. The committee has greatly welcomed the return to schools for both the Childsmile teams and also the National Dental Inspection Programme (NDIP) teams. The committee is very aware that in order to reduce future demand on stretched services we need to improve prevention as much as possible. The committee has also been extremely supportive of the increased provision within the public dental service for capacity to treat unregistered patients whilst maintaining support for patients with additional needs too complex for treatment elsewhere. It is credit to the members of the public dental service that the provision of general anaesthetic dental services to vulnerable paediatric patients have been prioritised all the way through the challenges of the last few years. But capacity still remains below demand and impacted by the wider difficulties that secondary care is facing.

The Committee has been regularly supported by representatives of Senior Health Board management. The invaluable input from positive attendance by Consultant in Dental Public Health, members from Dental Management including the Director of Dentistry, Head of Primary Care and OOH services and Associate Medical Director for Primary Care. They have all added value to the Committees discussions.

## 1.2 Key Messages

- Capacity in general dental services is stretched due to lack of dentists and dental nurses
- Increased pressure is being placed on public dental services
- Secondary care is facing increased demand in a restricted environment
- Service redesign is coming nationally although it is unclear how this will impact locally.

## 2. Membership

2.1 This year saw the expansion of the committee to include for the very first time representatives from the dental care profession. The General Dental Council recognised dental care professionals in 2008 as full professionals in their own right and not just roles supporting the dentist. The term dental care professional covers dental hygienists and therapists, dental technicians and clinical dental technicians, but by far the largest cohort are dental nurses. These individuals are a vital part of the dental team and the committee is delighted that they are now have representation within the Area Dental Professional Committee.

## 3. Meeting

3.1 The committee met on six occasions between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. Following on from a move to a digital platform as a result of COVID restrictions the

majority of meetings have been online but the committee was delighted to meet in person for the first time in three years in January 2023.

- 3.2 The NHS Board has previously agreed that attendance at Committee meetings should be recorded in the relevant Annual Report. The attendance record of each member is shown below (Y indicates attended).

Member	Dates					
	17/5/22	9/8/22	27/9/22	22/11/22	24/1/23	21/3/23
Elaine Anderson	-	N	N	Y	Y	N
Malcolm Balfour	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hardeep Basi	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Mat
Andrew Beattie	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Peter Byrne	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Debbie Boyd	N	-	-	-	-	-
Ainsley Coats	-	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Ed Coote	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nikki Cowan	Y	-	-	-	-	-
Lauren Crossan	-	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Laura Heap	-	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Iain MacFarlane	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Graeme Proctor	-	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Sheryl Shankland	-	Y	N	Y	N	-
Gillian Ward	N	-	-	-	-	-
Karen Watson	-	Y	Y	N	N	N

Elections were held after the meeting on May 2022

#### 4. Committee Activities

- 4.1 Continued discussion regarding optimisation of board resources to support dental teams  
 Progression of the digital communication strategy with local groups  
 Cementing intra professional communication channels.  
 Discussion regarding how remobilisation activities integrate into the wider agenda for transformational change.

#### 5. Priorities for 2023/24

- 5.1 Ensuring our local teams are well supported through what is still a difficult period

Support Primary and Secondary Care to re-establish comprehensive dental services for the citizens of Ayrshire.

Participation in service redesign at both local and national level to utilise the resources available.

Continued engagement at both local and national level in regards to digital progression of information sharing.

Cementation of communication channel established during COVID as conduits for professional engagement

Resourcing and reinvigorating oral health initiatives in order to compensate for the hiatus in well-established prevention based activity

## **6. Chair's Comments**

- 6.1 This year has seen marked progress towards a fully functional dental service, both in general practice and within the public dental service. Hospital services remain challenged and the impact of COVID has seemed to wax and wane but never gone away. General dental services are still awaiting a revised service agreement from central government. The first draft of this was published in early 2023 but there is as yet no information about how this is actually going to function or be funded, with implementation anticipated in November 2023 there has been much discussion in the committee about how services may be affected. Currently general dental services are being impacted by a shortage of dentists, nurses and technicians and in the current inflationary climate there are increasing pressures on the viability of provision of NHS care as we know it. Currently supporting the emergency care of dental patients in the absence of general dental service availability is placing increasing pressure on the public dental service. The public dental services have seen a restarting of all areas of care however as some of these services are only possible under general anaesthetic in the hospital environment, these have proved particularly difficult. The vital role of the public dental service in supporting the patients with the greatest needs means that this service is likely to find itself under increased demand in the coming years. This is not meant as a negative summary, it is meant as true reflection of some serious challenges facing the dental profession in the next period. The committee has changed but the strength and diversity that it brings to the table should not be underestimated.

Ed Coote  
Chair, Area Dental Professional Committee  
02/05/2023

# NHS Ayrshire & Arran Healthcare Science Professional Committee

## Annual Report for 2022/23

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 While the Healthcare Science Professional Committee has seen a number of new members join, it has continued to be challenging on occasion to ensure that meetings are quorate.

There is a general feeling that while the Committee continues to meet, it is in part still in a “holding” position and not currently fulfilling its function. This is in part due to ongoing Service pressures but is compounded in some areas by general staffing pressures.

It is hoped that 2023 onwards will see an improvement which will be led by efforts via the Chair to re-engage with staff and Services where in particular there is a lack of representation on the Committee.

### 1.2 Key Messages

- Service and workforce pressures continue to impact Services in general with the knock on effect that participation on the Committee is at times limited.
- A renewed effort to encourage participation and support from staff will be undertaken in 2023 which should also provide staff with a better understanding of the function of the professional committee.

### 2. Membership

- 2.1 The Committee’s membership during the reporting period was as follows:

Adrian Carragher (Chair)  
Jennifer Shirkie, Life Sciences  
Callan Thain, Life Sciences  
Kate McCluskey, Life Sciences  
Michele Armour, Life Sciences (stood down January 2023)  
Michael O’Neil, Physical Sciences  
Balal Tariq, Physical Sciences  
David Dickie, Physical Sciences

There is currently one vacancy for Life Sciences, three vacancies for Physiological Sciences and one vacancy for Physical Sciences.

The Medical Director, Dr Crawford McGuffie, is invited to be in attendance at meetings.

### 3. Meeting

3.1 The Committee met on five occasions between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. The ongoing vacancies have impacted on meetings, with one meeting cancelled and an informal discussion took place at four meetings due to being inquorate.

3.2 The NHS Board has previously agreed that attendance at Committee meetings should be recorded in the relevant Annual Report. The attendance record of each member is shown below (Y indicates attended).

Inquorate meetings were not minuted however on occasion informal discussion of topical issues was discussed but those in attendance on the basis this was a productive use of their time. It is recognised that not all inquorate meetings recorded attendance.

Member	Dates					
	17/05/22 inquorate	09/08/22 inquorate	27/09/22 inquorate	22/11/22 inquorate	24/01/23 cancelled	21/03/2023
Adrian Carragher (Chair)		Y		Y		Y
Jennifer Shirkie		Y				Y
Callan Thain						
Kate McCluskey				Y		Y
Michele Armour (stood down Jan-23)		Y				
Michael O'Neil				Y		Y
Balal Tariq		Y		Y		Y
David Dickie				Y		Y

### 4. Committee Activities

4.1 Given that almost all meetings were inquorate, no formal business was discussed and recorded during this period however informal discussions have typically focussed on post pandemic recovery, Caring for Ayrshire and individual Service issues.

### 5. Priorities for 2023/24

- 5.1 Priorities for the coming year will include:
- A renewed effort to engage with Services and Staff in the support of the Committee to restore it to full function and remit.

- Linked with the engagement, efforts to fill the vacancies on the Committee will continue.
- Work to be undertaken to secure the reappointment of an NHS Ayrshire & Arran Lead Healthcare Science Officer.

## 6. Chair's Comments

6.1 As Chair of the Professional Committee I have the responsibility for driving forward the work of the Committee and it is clear from the past year that this has in effect stalled.

There is a well-established awareness and to some degree understanding, both professionally and publicly, of the demands and pressures on the health & social care system as a whole which in practical terms is a significant element for what might be described as paralysis on the part of the Committee however as I reflect on this statement itself I am unable to proportion this which suggests that there are other elements in play too.

We had for several years prior to the pandemic, recognised that the current model of care was unsustainable and had begun work locally to change this. What we are likely seeing is both a "bringing forward" of the predicted problems along with an exacerbation of said problems as a result of the pandemic i.e. the pandemic didn't cause the problems, they were already upon us but it has expedited them. The challenge for Service is that a combination of recovery *and* change is simultaneously required while at the same time maintenance of critical services sits on top of this. I suspect in some areas it has at times felt to border on being overwhelming but we need to recognise that Services are not alone and that many other areas of health and social care have very similar issues.

As Healthcare Scientists we are the ones who need to lead the change within our services and professions that will secure them for the future and in a form that is safe, accurate & effective for 2023 and beyond.

While this annual report is personally disappointing or rather frustrating given the lack of progress, I have reflected that this has been an incredibly challenging time for everyone yet we are still here delivering the services and care expected albeit not necessarily as we would like and that this is due to the ongoing commitment of staff to who I say, again, thank you.

As personal experiences go, this has been a very significant one I suspect for all of us and one we can and will build upon so I am extremely optimistic that the Report for 2023/24 will present a significantly improved and positive picture.

Adrian Carragher  
Chair – Area Healthcare Science Professional Committee  
30/07/2023



# **NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Medical Professional Committee**

## **Annual Report for 2022/2023**

### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 The committee is formed of members from the GP and Hospital subcommittees. The Medical Director is also invited.

The Committee has continued to meet virtually via MS Teams over the last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic as well as convenience and ability to make best use of time and resources. The Committee strives to review all Board papers in addition to looking at wider system challenges including workforce and development of services. The Caring for Ayrshire agenda remains high on the list of priorities.

We plan to reinstate the invites for the Deputy Medical Director for Primary Care and the Clinical Directors from each of the Health and Social Care Partnerships.

### **1.2 Key Messages**

The entire health and social care system within Ayrshire and Arran and indeed the country remains under tremendous pressures for a variety of reasons. There is ongoing recovery from the pandemic as well as workforce and financial pressures. The input from all areas of the clinical community has undoubtedly served us well as we have dealt with the constantly evolving challenges to the best of our abilities.

We remain deeply concerned about staff retention and wellbeing. Clinicians are working in a system that is under huge pressure as we continue to strive to deliver high quality healthcare to the citizens of Ayrshire and Arran. Wellbeing is adversely affected by the workload and workforce issues. Retention of staff is critical as there are a number of factors influencing this at present - workload, pension and taxation issues have not been resolved completely, threat of industrial action, more attractive working options in other sectors and abroad, primary care employed staff were not awarded the same pay uplift as NHS employed staff by government which has exacerbated recruitment and retention issues in the community.

As has been highlighted before the committee remains concerned about its role in reviewing board papers. We feel that it would be of increased benefit to have earlier involvement so that we can influence the content of board papers and move towards the aim of clinically led reform.

### **2. Membership**

2.1 The Committee's membership during the reporting period was as follows:

Dr Rachel Fraser, Co-Chair  
 Dr Tom Hopkins, Co-Chair  
 Dr Chris Black  
 Dr Crawford McGuffie  
 Dr Scott McCulloch  
 Dr Richard Townsley  
 Dr Aileen Clyde  
 Dr Lawrence Armstrong  
 Dr Alexia Pellowe – joined September 22  
 Dr Tona Fernandez – joined September 22  
 Brian O'Suillebhain – commenced deputising for Lynne McNiven (May 22)

### 3. Meeting

3.1 The Committee met on 5 occasions between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

3.2 The NHS Board has previously agreed that attendance at Committee meetings should be recorded in the relevant Annual Report. The attendance record of each member is shown below.

	18/5/22	10/8/22	28/9/22	23/11/22	25/1/23	22/3/23
Dr Rachel Fraser			√	√	√	
Dr Tom Hopkins			√	√	√	
Dr Crawford McGuffie			x	x	√	
Dr Chris Black			√	√	√	
Dr Aileen Clyde			x	√	√	
Dr Richard Townsley			x	x	√	
Dr Lawrence Armstrong			x	x	x	
Dr Scott McCulloch			x	√	x	
Dr Alexia Pellowe			√	√	x	
Dr Tona Fernandez			√	√	x	
Dr Aileen Clyde			x	√	√	
Lynne McNiven						
Brian O'Suillebhain			x	√	√	

Meetings on 18/5/22, 10/8/22 and 22/3/23 were not quorate and did not proceed.  
 Dr Brian O'Sullebhain commenced deputising for Lynne McNiven in September 2022.

Attendance for AMPC meetings has been discussed and surveyed as we have at times struggled to achieve a quorum. The survey information indicated that workload and workforce pressures were impacting on individuals' ability to attend.

Sick leave contributed to short term absences. Additionally members indicated that they wish the committee to have a more proactive role which would add value to their contribution.

### 4. Committee Activities



4.1 We have continued to meet regularly and engage with the wider system. Each co-chair has attended the others sub-committee meetings on a regular basis and contributed to discussion. We have engaged with colleagues out with the committee as the system continues to recover from the pandemic. We are engaging with the Caring for Ayrshire agenda and proactively contributing to this.

## **5. Priorities for 2023/24**

5.1 Establish a more proactive approach for the committee and continue to move towards clinically led reform. Continue to engage with the Caring for Ayrshire agenda. Support colleagues and ensure that wellbeing of the workforce remains a priority.

## **6. Chair's Comments**

6.1 There is no doubt that the last three pandemic years have been incredibly challenging for all and the recovery of our NHS services continues. There is a wealth of opportunity to refocus and revitalise the systems within which we work. The committee group has focus and ambition to lead on this work.

Since the previous report Dr Hugh Brown has retired from the committee and we wish to thank him for his work and contribution over the years.

Dr Rachel Fraser and Dr Tom Hopkins  
Co-Chairs – Area Medical Professional Committee  
July 2023

## **NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Nursing & Midwifery Professional Committee**

### **Annual Report for 2022/23**

#### **1. Summary**

1.1 The Committee's role is to advise, at the NHS Board's request, or on its own initiative, authoritatively and promptly on: -

- The health and professional service needs of the local population
- Issues which impinge on patient care
- To create and maintain effective links with all other Area Professional Committees.
- Any other professional and other functions as may be prescribed in future under the relevant acts and guidance
- Where appropriate the implications associated with contracts for the provision of these services.

In so doing the Committee will reflect the views of the whole profession locally and not any faction or geographical grouping.

These functions will support the multi-professional Area Clinical Forum by:

- Reporting the business of the Area Professional Committees to ensure a co-ordinated approach on clinical matters among the different professions and within the component parts of the local NHS system (acute services, primary care, health improvement etc).
- Providing input on service design, redesign and development priorities and in this way playing an active role in advising the Area Clinical Forum on potential for service improvement.
- Sharing best practice among the different professions and actively promoting multi-disciplinary working – in both health care and health improvement.
- Engaging widely with local clinicians and other professionals, leading to broader participation in the work of the Committee.
- Providing the Area Clinical Forum with a clinical perspective on the development of the Local Health Plan and the NHS Board's strategic objectives.
- Investigating and taking forward particular issues on which clinical input is required on behalf of the Area Clinical Forum, taking into account the evidence base, best practice, clinical governance etc and make proposals for their resolution. The Committee should be pro-active as well as re-active on these issues.

- Advising the Area Clinical Forum on specific proposals to improve the integration of services, both within local NHS systems and across health and social care.

## 1.2 Key Messages

- This committee although been running for a while, the membership has changed considerably and is in the process of working and developing positive working relationships to maximise the effectiveness of the committee.
- We have reviewed as a committee working process to have a more robust, streamlined feedback system.
- The committee are working positively to ensure nursing and midwifery are represented at a strategic level.

## 2. Membership

2.1 The Committee's membership is detailed at Appendix 2 to this report.

## 3. Meeting

3.1 The Committee met on four occasions between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

3.2 The NHS Board has previously agreed that attendance at Committee meetings should be recorded in the relevant Annual Report. The attendance record of each member is shown below (Y indicates attended).

Member	18-05-22	28-09-22	23-11-22	25-01.23
M McLean	Y	Y		Y
A Toner	Y		Y	Y
S McLatchie	Y			
L Cameron	Y			
J Anderson	Y	Y	Y	
D Steele	Y	Y		
L Blain		Y		
F McKinnon		Y		
E McGarrity		Y		Y
L Rose		Y	Y	Y
J Sangster		Y	Y	Y
E Smith		Y		
M McColgan		Y		
P Parker			Y	
L Campbell			Y	Y
L Robertson			Y	Y
D Gilmour				Y
L Gray				Y

## 4. Committee Activities

- 4.1 Due to the committee being transient over the past year, the committee has not had any training/development opportunities as of yet. However, plans for development of the committee members will be moving forward into the new financial year.

### **Professional issues**

The committee continues to acknowledge and support the ongoing workforce issues, such as staff health and wellbeing, recruitment and retention, ensuring appropriate skill mix, the ageing workforce, impact of pensions and CARE scheme, retire and return and the impact of remote working.

Work continues supporting newly qualified practitioners, supporting our international nurse colleagues and development of Health Care Support Worker is acknowledged. In addition, safe and effective staffing, non-medical models of care and the challenges of Advanced and Specialist Practice were discussed. These are issues the Committee considers the NHS Board needs to continue to address proactively and the committee will continue to raise concerns where it feels these issues are impacting on the quality of care. The Chair of the committee takes part in the NMAHP professional leadership group.

There have not been any formal papers to discuss by the ANMPC.

## **5. Priorities for 2023/24**

- 5.1 The committee aims to:

- Build and develop on work from the previous year e.g., partnerships with ACF.
- Developing the skills of the committee members to scrutinise NHS Board papers and their application to nursing and midwifery practice.
- Bringing together spheres of the nursing and midwifery family to explore local service related issues and wider nursing and midwifery issues.

## **6. Chair's Comments**

- 6.1 Since becoming chair, the make-up of the group has changed significantly. The committee represents a unique opportunity for nurses and midwives across the sphere of the nursing and midwifery family to meet together and discuss those issues that impact on the profession.

Being the chair of the committee has enhanced positive relationships with other members of the committee including the vice chair who has supported me with this role.

On behalf of the committee, we look forward to the forthcoming year and the further developments of the committee.

Margaret McLean (Chair) Alison Toner (Vice Chair)  
ANMPC Committee  
24/04/2023

## **NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Optical Professional Committee**

### **Annual Report for 2022/23**

#### **1. Summary**

1.1 The Committee has changed the membership criteria to have better representation of the profession on the Area Optical Professional Committee (AOPC). We have been working closely with the three new Optometric Advisors (OAs) on the digital agenda and developing any initiatives that can help with the patient journey from Optometry to Ophthalmology.

#### **1.2 Key Messages**

- The committee is very grateful for the continued support of our colleagues in Secondary Care and the collaborative approach
- Access to Clinical portal is on the verge of happening. This will be a huge help in streamlining many processes and hopefully open the door for more shared care schemes
- I would like to highlight how well attended our meetings have been since we created the new committee structure.

#### **2. Membership**

2.1 The Committee's membership during the reporting period was as follows:

Mr Alistair Duff (Chair)

Mr William Lok (Vice Chair since 21 September 2022) – joined 1 August 2022

Mr Adnaan Ahmad – joined 1 August 2022

Mr Alan Beck

Mr Peter Carson

Mr Glenn Dickson – joined 1 August 2022

Ms Lesley Dobbie – joined 1 August 2022

Ms Carol Semple

Ms Gillian Syme – left 31 July 2022

The NHS Board approved changes to the Committee's Constitution in May 2022, including a refresh of membership to broaden representation. A nomination and election process subsequently took place in April 2022 and a number of new members joined the Committee on 1 August 2022.

The three new Optometric Advisors are invited to join the meeting in attendance and rotate their attendance at each meeting.

Primary Care colleagues are also in attendance at meetings.

### 3. Meeting

3.1 The Committee met on six occasions between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

3.2 The NHS Board has previously agreed that attendance at Committee meetings should be recorded in the relevant Annual Report. The attendance record of each member is shown below (Y indicates attended).

Member	Dates					
	11/05/22	03/08/22	21/09/22	16/11/22	18/01/23	15/03/23
Alistair Duff (Chair)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
William Lok (Vice Chair)		Y	Y	Y	Y	
Adnaan Ahmad		Y	Y	Y		
Alan Beck	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Peter Carson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Glenn Dickson		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lesley Dobbie		Y	Y	Y	Y	
Carol Semple		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Gill Syme	Y					

### 4. Committee Activities

4.1 The main area of focus was Digital and Information sharing. Alongside the OAs and the Digital team, we are in the final processes of making access to Clinical Portal (CP) live for optometrists in Ayrshire.

Diabetic Eye Screening (DES) – we have been liaising with the DES lead to adopt the hybrid method of looking after our DES patients in community.

VAROC clinic – Hazel McWhinnie, Head of Orthoptics, very kindly updated the committee on visual stress examinations and who is eligible.

The Eyecare Integration Group (EIG) has met several times recently and with the collaborative approach we have addressed several issues that were brought to our attention from both Primary and Secondary Care. The EIG will be vital moving forward to keep us up to speed.

Issues with workforce have been highlighted from the ACF and Committee members have been advised to use every opportunity to promote Optometry as a profession.

The three new OA roles have been the biggest improvement we have seen this year, splitting the role into specific job descriptions has worked very well. We are moving forward much quicker on items than it would have been possible to do previously. For example, a new Stroke pathway is currently being devised and

Consultant Ophthalmologists have also set up training via lectures for Optometrists to improve referrals into secondary care.

Sustainability has also been on the agenda at the end of every meeting to consider how we as a profession can do our bit to promote sustainability.

## **5. Priorities for 2023/24**

- 5.1 Our priorities for the year ahead are to work closely with our Ophthalmology colleagues to support any shared care that may be helpful and to improve the Committee's communication with the Optometry profession.

## **6. Chair's Comments**

- 6.1 I am extremely pleased with the progress we have made this year after a few restrictive years. If we can continue to get some of the planned projects over the line in the year ahead we will have made Ayrshire and Arran a better place for provision of eyecare.

Alistair Duff  
Chair – Area Optical Professional Committee  
March 2023

# NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Pharmaceutical Professional Committee

## Annual Report for 2022/23

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 During the year the APPC met in line with NHS Board meetings to advise on any professional matters pertaining to pharmacy and patient care. The meetings were held on a regular basis with less disruption due to COVID-19 pandemic than last year. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing vacancies for Pharmacy Locality Group Leads, several of the meetings have not been quorate and work is ongoing to fill these vacancies.

The Area Pharmaceutical Professional Committee (APPC) has a statutory function to advise the NHS Board with regard to pharmacy contracts in association with the National Health - Services (Pharmaceutical Services) (Scotland) Regulations 1995. Further to this statutory role, the Committee also appoint contractor and non-contractor members to the Pharmacy Practices Committee (PPC), a Committee that holds the delegated authority of NHS Ayrshire and Arran (NHSAA) in relation to the granting of NHS pharmacy contracts within Ayrshire and Arran.

### 1.2 Key Messages

The Committee has continued to support transformational change within all pharmacy sectors, supporting Achieving Excellence, the national pharmacy strategy and NHSAA's Caring for Ayrshire Programme. This includes:

- Supporting the profession which continues to play a key role following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Supporting pharmacist access to appropriate clinical patient information using new technology including Emergency Care Summary and Clinical Portal
- Supporting the successful roll out and expansion of Pharmacy First
- Supporting the roll out of serial prescribing across NHSAA.

### 2. Membership

- 2.1 The Committee's membership during the reporting period was as follows:

Sam Falconer, Pharmacy Locality Group (PLG) Lead, NA, Co-Chair – left 31 July 2022

Kerr Maconochie, PLG Lead SA - left 31 July 2022

Joyce Mitchell, Managed Service, Vice Chair – left 31 July 2022

Louisa Burns, Managed Service, Co-Chair since 9 August 2022

Anmarie Crowe, Managed Service, APPC Professional Secretary, Co-Chair since 9 August 2022

Shona Boag, Managed Service

Stuart Burns, Pharmacy Contractors Committee joined 1 August 2022



Ria Dickie, Managed Service - joined 1 August 2022  
 Linzi Milligan, Pharmacy Contractors Committee  
 Anthony Nugent, Managed Service - joined 1 August 2022  
 Victoria Radford, Pharmacy Contractors Committee – joined 1 August 2022  
 Marie Stewart, Managed Service  
 Dawn Turpie, Managed Service - left 31 July 2022  
 Vacancy – PLG Lead EA

There has been an ongoing vacancy for PLG Lead for EA. Following Sam Falconer and Kerr Maconochie stepping down from the Committee on 31 July 2022, there have been ongoing vacancies for PLG Lead nominees in NA and SA and a process is ongoing to seek new members.

### 3. Meeting

- 3.1 The Committee met on five occasions between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. Due to the ongoing vacancies for Pharmacy Locality Group Lead representatives, four of the meetings were inquorate and an informal discussion took place and one meeting was cancelled as inquorate.
- 3.2 The NHS Board has previously agreed that attendance at Committee meetings should be recorded in the relevant Annual Report. The attendance record of each member is shown below (Y indicates attended).

Member	Dates					
	17/05/22 inquorate	09/08/22	27/09/22 inquorate	22/11/22 inquorate	24/01/23 inquorate	21/03/23 cancelled- inquorate
Sam Falconer Co-Chair left 31/07/22						
Kerr Maconochie Co-Chair left 31/07/22	Y					
Joyce Mitchell left 31/07/22						
Louisa Burns Co-Chair since 09/08/22	Y		Y		Y	
Annmarie Crowe Co-Chair since 09/08/22		Y	Y	Y	Y	
Shona Boag		Y		Y		
Stuart Burns joined 01/08/22		Y				
Ria Dickie joined 01/08/22		Y		Y	Y	
Linzi Milligan	Y	Y	Y		Y	

Anthony Nugent joined 01/08/22		Y	Y		Y	
Victoria Radford joined 01/08/22	Y	Y		Y		
Marie Stewart	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Dawn Turpie left 31/07/22						
Vacancy – PLG Lead EA	--	--	--	--	--	--
Vacancy – PLG Lead NA since 01/08/22		--	--	--	--	--
Vacancy – PLG Lead SA since 01/08/22		--	--	--	--	--

#### 4. Committee Activities

- 4.1 The committee updated and issued an APPC information pack to all members in August 2022.
- 4.2 The committee reviewed and updated the terms of reference in January 2023.
- 4.3 The committee had updates from the following:

##### **Mr Paul Forsyth, NES – changes to Pharmacy Education and Training**

Mr Paul Forsyth, NES, provided a presentation on some fundamental changes to the future Pharmacist post-registration career pathway and highlighted areas for consideration. He also outlined the vision for development of the Scottish Pharmacy workforce career pathway over the next 10 years, with the aim of developing an adaptable workforce to lead and adapt to change while undertaking their Pharmacy role

##### **Ms Nicola Taylor, Service Manager, Primary Care- Digital update**

Ms Taylor provided an update on the rollout of Clinical Portal (CP). Unfortunately, there had been delays in taking this programme forward due to IT security and information governance issues. The Digital team was aware of the need to progress this work quickly and Primary Care was receiving weekly updates. Once CP had been rolled out to Optometrists, other independent contractor groups would follow. Ms Taylor recognised that the position was frustrating and reassured that progress was being made. Optometry colleagues had highlighted to Digital colleagues the clinical risk due to not having CP access and this had been escalated to a senior level in the organisation.

##### **Ms Roisin Kavanagh, Director of Pharmacy – presentation for new members on role of APPC as one of Board’s Professional Committees**

Ms Kavanagh provided a presentation outlining the function of the APPC as one of a range of professional advisory committees to the NHS Board. This included, where appropriate, provision of professional advice on the implications associated

with contracts for the provision of pharmaceutical services. The Committee's constitution had previously been circulated to members to read.

## **5. Priorities for 2023/24**

- 5.1
- To continue to support the professions with the vision for the role that pharmacy will play within the Caring for Ayrshire programme, and support the transformational change in hospital, community and primary care pharmacy.
  - To continue to support the roll out of serial prescriptions to achieve targets set by pharmacy leadership team.
  - To support the roll out of Pharmacy First Plus
  - Continue to support pharmacists' access to appropriate clinical information, following on from the roll out of ECS and the Clinical Portal
  - Continue to support the development of Pharmacist Independent Prescribers and their role across all pharmacy sectors
  - To support and promote Advanced Practice across the pharmacy professions and sectors recognising the positive impact this will have on patient experience
  - Continue to encourage Pharmacy Technicians to join the APPC to ensure that both pharmacy professions are well represented.
  - Continue to represent the profession on relevant Committees including the Health and Social Care Partnership and PGD sub Committee
  - To adopt a hybrid meeting model where there are face to face, virtual and evening meetings available to encourage attendance.
  - Advise on any contractual issues when they arise.

## **6. Co-Chair Comments**

- 6.1 The co-chairs would like to thank Angela O'Mahony in her role as Committee Secretary for all her guidance, help and support over the last year.

Annmarie Crowe / Louisa Burns  
Co-Chair – Area Pharmaceutical Professional Committee  
April 2023

## **NHS Ayrshire & Arran Area Psychology Committee**

### **Annual Report for 2022/23**

#### **1. Summary**

1.1 The Area Psychology Professional Committee (APsyPC) has representation from core Psychological Service Specialties within NHS Ayrshire & Arran. The Committee ensures that best practice and evidence based advice regarding psychology is provided to the NHS Board as required. The Committee disseminates information to and from the Psychology Service Business Meeting and APsyPC feedback is a standing item on that agenda.

#### **1.2 Key Messages**

- The Committee regularly discusses waiting time performance and service innovations in Psychology, particularly Digital developments (computerised CBT and Silvercloud), which align to the Caring for Ayrshire vision, a standing item on the agenda.
- The Committee is encouraged by the continued expansion of psychology provision in to new and existing specialties which will require additional funding to be maintained. The Committee has regularly discussed workforce issues and noted ongoing challenges with recruitment in some areas and the impact on access for patients and waiting time performance.
- The Scottish Government has launched consultation on the new 'National Specification of the delivery of psychological therapies and interventions in Scotland'. The Committee has reviewed and provided feedback, with many welcome features however areas of concern noted around expectations set and available infrastructure and staffing levels to support.

#### **2. Membership**

2.1 The Committee's membership during the reporting period was as follows:

Dr Maureen Seils, Adult Mental Health, Chair

Dr Michael Gunning, Clinical Psychology, Learning Disability – joined 1 November 2022

Ms Emma Hardy, Psychological Therapist/CBT – joined 1 August 2022 and left 12 December 2022

Dr Harriet Hockaday, Older Adult Mental Health – joined January 2023

Dr Allyson McDougall, Clinical Psychology, Learning Disability – left 31 October 2022

Ms Nicola McPherson, Psychological Therapist/CBT – joined 13 December 2022

Ms Lorraine O'Rourke, Counselling

Dr Carolyn Patterson, Clinical Health Psychology

Dr Lisa Ronald, Older Adult Mental Health – left February 2023

Dr Jessica Whyte, Child Health Clinical Psychology – joined 1 August 2023

The Committee currently has no elected Vice-chair.

The Committee invites an early career Applied Psychologist to be in attendance at meetings and Dr Bronagh Reynolds has been fulfilling this role.

An Executive Lead, identified through discussion at the committee, namely a Head of Psychology, has an open invitation to attend meetings.

### 3. Meeting

3.1 The Committee met on six occasions between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. The meeting on 27 September 2022 was inquorate and an informal discussion took place.

3.2 The NHS Board has previously agreed that attendance at Committee meetings should be recorded in the relevant Annual Report. The attendance record of each member is shown below (Y indicates attended).

Member	Dates					
	17/05/22	09/08/22	27/09/22 inquorate	22/11/22	24/01/23	21/03/23
Maureen Seils	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Michael Gunning					Y	Y
Emma Hardy		Y		Y		
Harriet Hockaday					Y	Y
Allyson McDougall		Y				
Lorraine O'Rourke	Y	Y		Y		Y
Carolyn Patterson	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
Lisa Ronald	Y			Y	Y	
Jessica Whyte		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

### 4. Committee Activities

4.1 The Committee has remained mindful of the continued need for transformational change in the context of remobilisation from the Covid-19 pandemic and the Caring for Ayrshire agenda. The committee noted variable knowledge and awareness through the wider psychology service of the Caring for Ayrshire programme/vision and have therefore sought further information to circulate to staff.

The committee has been keen to ensure engagement with members of the Psychology service and to encourage participation and interest in the committee's activities. To this end we have launched an Area Psychology Professional

Committee Newsletter which is shared with all members of the Psychology Service. This has been well received with positive feedback provided.

The Committee invited Dr Carolyn Patterson, Clinical Psychologist, and representative for the recently established Association of Clinical Psychologists (ACP) to provide an update on the ACP's role and ongoing activity.

Developments in Digital continue to be a frequent topic of conversation for the committee with lots of sharing of information, resources and ideas across specialties (i.e., discussion of therapeutic groups delivered remotely). There have been significant developments in some parts of the service with transition to Trakcare. Digital options, including Apps such as Silver Cloud and Computerised CBT, in addition to Attend Anywhere, have been key to recovery from Covid for the Psychology service and support waiting time compliance. The service has a new Digital Lead whom we plan to invite to the committee in the coming year.

There continues to be expansion of the Psychology Service in order to meet continued growth in demand and in line with Scottish Government funding for dedicated psychology provision in specialist areas and to target areas with long waits. This year has seen the introduction of Psychology posts to Adult Psychiatric In-Patient wards, Eating Disorder (across lifespan) and Infant Mental Health. The Committee is keen to ensure representation and engagement with staff across all specialities and have discussed the need to review membership to keep up with service expansion.

The Committee continues to discuss the significant challenges to recruitment that currently exist for Psychology posts in some areas. This presents a challenge for continued strong waiting time performance, for continuity of service provision, service development and leadership.

The Committee continued to review Board papers and comment where appropriate in relation to Psychology and Mental Health and Wellbeing. Developments relating to Mental Health and Wellbeing in Primary Care have been shared and discussed. For example the developments of new roles for the delivery of psychological interventions and therapies, such as Enhanced Psychological Practitioners (EPPs) in Primary Care and the expansion of existing and well established roles such as Clinical Associates in Applied Psychology (CAAPs) in to new specialisms such as learning disability and physical health in primary care.

Most notable has been the launch of the consultation on the 'National Specification of the delivery of psychological therapies and interventions in Scotland': [Delivery of psychological therapies and interventions: national specification - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://www.citizen.gov.scot/consultation/psychological-therapies-interventions-national-specification-scottish-government). The Committee gave over a meeting to review and provide consultation on this document. As this is a significant specification for the Psychology service further meetings will be given over to this as the need arises. In brief the committee welcome the specification which outlines what staff and the public can expect regarding psychological therapies. However concerns were raised about the level of expectation set, the time required for implementation and this being dependent upon appropriate staffing and infrastructure.

## 5. Priorities for 2023/24

- 5.1 The Committee will prioritise discussion around implementation of the ‘National Specification of the delivery of psychological therapies and interventions in Scotland’. The committee will be keen to appraise the benefits and challenges across the specialty areas/teams within which psychology is integrated.

The committee will produce the new APsyPC Newsletter on a regular basis throughout the year as a means of sharing information with staff, with particular attention to Caring for Ayrshire.

The Committee will seek to review membership to ensure representation and engagement with psychology in the new specialisms.

The committee plans to invite Psychologists within the service who lead on key areas to present to the committee, including the Digital lead, the Transforming Psychological Trauma Implementation Coordinator (TPTIC), the Psychological Therapies Training Coordinator (PTTC) & our Research Champion. The committee would like to highlight the audit and research work going on in the service.

The Committee would also like to secure a Vice Chair in the period 2023/2024.

## **6. Chair’s Comments**

- 6.1 This year has seen a great deal of transition in Committee membership. As there is now stable representation across the Committee we are keen to build on the activities and priorities outlined above.

My thanks to all those who have contributed to the work of the Committee through the year and we look forward to welcoming new members in the coming year. The Committee continues to be indebted to Angela O’Mahony for the high standard of administrative support and guidance provided to the Committee.

Dr Maureen Seils  
Chair – Area Psychology Professional Committee  
March 2023