

**East Ayrshire Health & Social Care Partnership
Integration Joint Board
20 March 2024 at 2pm
Council Chambers/ MS Teams**

Present:

- *Dr Sukhomoy Das, NHS Non-Executive Director (Chair)
- Mr Craig McArthur, Chief Officer
- Mr Alex McPhee, Interim Chief Finance Officer
- Ms Dalene Steele, Associate Nurse Director
- Ms Marion MacAulay, Chief Social Work Officer
- Ms Lianne McNally, Senior Manager AHP
- *Councillor Clare Maitland, East Ayrshire Council
- *Councillor Douglas Reid, East Ayrshire Council
- Ms Arlene Bunton, Scottish Care Representative
- *Neil McAleese, NHS Non-Executive Board Member
- *Councillor Neill Watts, East Ayrshire Council
- *Ms Sheila Cowan, NHS Non-Executive Board Member
- *Ms Jennifer Wilson, Nurse Director
- Ms Fiona Pirrie, IJB Stakeholder Forum Representative
- Ms Moira Fenton, Third Sector Representative
- * Councillor Kevin McGregor, East Ayrshire Council
- * ***signifies a voting member***

In Attendance:

- Mr Jim Murdoch, Senior Manager Wellbeing and Recovery
- Mr Erik Sutherland, Head of Locality Health & Care
- Ms Vicki Campbell, Head of Primary & Urgent Care
- Ms Amanda McInnes, Senior Manager Business Support
- Mr Neil Kerr, ADP Independent Chair
- Ms Catherine Adair, Governance and Communications Manager
- Ms Fiona Hart, IJB Finance Manager
- Mr Craig Ross, Senior Manager Locality Services
- Ms Claire McCamon, Senior Manager-Primary Care Services
- Ms Yvonne Deans, Service Manager
- Ms Eilidh MacKay, Chief Auditor
- Mr Paul Davis, Audit Manager
- Dr Laura McGarrity, Consultant Anaesthetist
- Alison Anderson, Committee Secretary (Minutes)

Observers: Ms Jane Hall, Associate Director of Pharmacy
 Ms Claire Straiton, Service Manager Dental
 Mr Peter Ommer, Director of Dentistry
 Ms Joyce White, Non-Executive Board Member, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
 Ms Stephanie Cox, Planning and Performance Officer

Agenda	Discussion	Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome & Apologies</u></p> <p>Dr Sukhomoy Das welcomed everybody to the meeting and noted apologies from Jo Gibson, Allina Das, Alexia Pellowe, Shirley Ferguson, Hendrika Psaila, Lynne McNiven and Councillor Maureen McKay.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Good News Story: Reablement Early Implementation</u></p> <p>Ms Yvonne Deans delivered a presentation on the early implementation of Reablement. The main aim of Reablement is to allow people to gain or regain their confidence, ability and the necessary skills to live as independently as possible.</p> <p>Reablement takes a person centred approach, usually delivered in the individual's home, and is outcomes based with goals agreed and set between the individual the Reablement staff, family and care givers.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that there are traditional home care models however these can encourage dependency.</p> <p>It was noted that there had been some challenges recruiting initially but these are now resolved. Support assistants are also trained and can carry non-complex cases. There is close partnership working with District Nursing and Housing.</p> <p>Dr Sukhomoy Das noted that this service not only aids the patient, but can deliver financial savings. Ms Jennifer Wilson expressed her thanks for the presentation and also highlighted the importance of the outcomes for patients, and the impact of the benefit to mental health, family and long term support for people with long term conditions.</p> <p>Dr Laura McGarrity commended the service and enquired about links with front door services and acute. Dr McGarrity offered her personal support as a link to the Caring for Ayrshire Strategy and Care Closer to Home.</p> <p>Mr Craig McArthur commented on the positive impact on patients. It was noted that the budget paper, along with proposed savings for the next financial year, will be considered later in the meeting.</p> <p>On behalf of the Board, Dr Das thanked Ms Deans for delivering the presentation and bringing this service to the attention of IJB members.</p>	

3.	<p><u>Declaration Of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Minute Of Previous Meeting held on 07 February 2024</u></p> <p>The minute was approved as an accurate record of discussions.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>The 3 items on the Action Log was reviewed and it was confirmed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Audit Annual Report – not yet due • Children & Young People’s Strategic Partnership Reports – update will be provided at Development Session on 8 May; • Housing Contribution Statement – report on agenda today. 	
6.	<p><u>Governance Report</u></p> <p>Mr Craig McArthur presented the report to provide an update on changes to membership of the IJB for: Stakeholder Forum Representative; Person/Patient Representative; Public Health Representative; Associate Medical Director Representative; and reappointment of a Voting Member.</p> <p>Mr McArthur noted his thanks to the members who have left the IJB and welcomed the new members. Dr Sukhomoy Das also recorded his thanks to the outgoing members and welcomed the new members who have joined.</p> <p>Additionally, as part of the annual review programme, the Terms of Reference for a number of committees have been reviewed and were presented for approval.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Note the change of Person/Patient Representative on the IJB; ii. Note the change of Stakeholder Forum Representative on the IJB; iii. Note the change of Associate Medical Director Representative on the IJB; iv. Note the change of Public Health Representative on the IJB; v. Note the reappointment of an IJB Voting Member; vi. Note the annual review of Governance Committees Terms of Reference is underway, and approve the Terms of Reference for Partnership Forum, Adverse Events Review Group, Audit and Performance Committee and Health and Care Governance Committee 	
7.	<p><u>Financial Regulations</u></p> <p>Mr Alex McPhee presented the report for the Board to review the IJB Financial Regulations.</p> <p>The Financial Regulations are a key component of sound governance arrangements and provide the framework for managing the IJBs financial affairs. They are intended as an aid to good financial management and outline the necessary procedures to secure the proper administration of financial affairs.</p>	

	<p>Elected and appointed members of the IJB together with officers appointed or seconded to the Board have a duty to abide by the highest standards of probity in dealing with financial issues. This is achieved by ensuring everyone is clear about the standards to which they are working and the controls in place to ensure these standards are met.</p> <p>The Financial Regulations were last approved by the Board on 23 March 2022.</p> <p>The Board were advised that following this latest review, the only changes proposed are in paragraphs 46-54 and relate to Responsibility for Internal Audit.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve the reviewed Financial Regulations detailed in Appendix 1, noting the proposed changes to the Financial Regulations previously approved by the IJB on 23 March 2022 in the Internal Audit section (paras 46 to 54); ii. Note that any required changes to the Financial Regulations as a consequence of the ongoing review of the Integration Scheme by the Parties to the IJB will be brought to a future meeting of the IJB for approval; iii. Note that the Financial Regulations will be formally reviewed in March 2026; and iv. Otherwise note the content of the report. 	
8.	<p><u>IJB Reserve Strategy</u></p> <p>Mr Alex McPhee presented the report for the Board to review the IJB Reserves Strategy.</p> <p>The Reserve Strategy is a key component of sound governance arrangements for the IJB. Reserve funds are a fundamental part of robust financial management and systems of internal control.</p> <p>The initial Reserve Strategy was approved by the IJB on 24 March 2016 and that updates were approved by the IJB on 25 March 2020 and 23 March 2022.</p> <p>Members were advised that further to review, there were no changes to the Reserve Strategy approved by the IJB on 23 March 2022 and a further formal review would be undertaken in March 2026 and presented to the IJB for approval.</p> <p>The IJB level of reserves was confirmed as a minimum level of 2% of annual budgeted expenditure and this is consistent from a Pan Ayrshire perspective.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve the reviewed Reserve Strategy detailed in Appendix 1, noting that there are no proposed changes to the Reserve Strategy previously approved by the IJB on 23 March 2022; and ii. Otherwise, note the content of the report. 	
9.	<p><u>Social Care Contribution and Charging Framework and Approved Rates, Contributions and Charges 2024/25</u></p>	

Ms Fiona Hart presented the report 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 2024/25. Also to approve the proposed rates paid for Social Care Charges.

Charging and contributing for Services in East Ayrshire is based on the annual update of COSLA National Strategy and Guidance for Charging Applying to Non Residential Care Services. The updated East Ayrshire Contributions and Charging Framework incorporates national guidance with scope for local interpretation and this was presented to IJB for endorsement.

The report detailed inflationary adjustments to charges for social care services which has been reflected in the Health and Social Care Partnership Revenue Budget 2024/25, and noted increased thresholds for income disregards and charges to service users for a range of Social Care services.

Ms Hart advised that a stronger, proactive wellbeing approach to foster and kinship carers is being developed.

Dr Das noted that the majority of the payments and costs which were being amended were following national guidance and framework.

The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:

- i. Note the updated East Ayrshire Social Care Services Contribution and Charging Framework;
- ii. Note the updated charges and thresholds detailed in paragraphs 27-34 of this report;
- iii. Note the introduction of charges in relation to Access to Funds and DWP Appointeeship in paragraphs 35-43 of the report;
- iv. Approve the use of income in relation to charging for Access to Funds and DWP Appointeeship in paragraphs 44-45 of the report;
- v. Note that in relation to care home charges COSLA, Scottish Government and Scottish Care have not yet finalised the rate at this time;
- vi. Note the uplifts in relation to Specialist Adult Care Homes The Laurels and Beeches detailed in paragraph 50, table 6 will be agreed following confirmation of the NCHC uplift;
- vii. Agree the uplift in respect of Kirklea and Newhouse detailed in paragraphs 51-53 and note Scotland Excel have yet to agree the framework rates;
- viii. Agree the proposed provider rates in relation to care at home, community based support, sleepovers and Ucan in paragraphs 54 - 60;
- ix. Agree the proposed personal assistant rate in paragraph 61;
- x. Note that foster care payments are aligned to the Scottish Recommended Allowance in paragraphs 62-67 and household rates in Appendix 3;
- xi. Note fee negotiations are progressing in respect of external fostering, secure accommodation and children's residential in paragraphs 68 and 73;
- xii. Note Kinship Allowance is aligned to the Scottish Recommended Allowance in Table 9;
- xiii. Agree interim Kinship Payments will be replaced by a Wellbeing payment in paragraph 76;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> xiv. Agree the updated Kinship Financial Assessment deduction detailed in Appendix 4; xv. Agree the proposed rates paid to adopters in Table 10 paragraph 81; xvi. Agree the update to the Adoption Allowance Scheme detail in paragraph 83; xvii. Agree the proposed rate in paragraph 84 in respect of supported accommodation for those in continuing care; xviii. Approve the payments made to children and young people as detailed in paragraphs 85-88; xix. Approve the uplift in relation to Short Breaks detailed in Table 12 at paragraph 91; xx. Note the significant financial risk detailed in paragraph 104 in respect of the uncertainty around the care home rates uplift; xxi. Issue a Direction to East Ayrshire Council to implement the alterations to charges and contributions for social care services for the Financial Year 2024/25 and the rates paid for social care services; and; xxii. Otherwise note the contents of this report. 	
<p>10.</p>	<p><u>Approved Budget Position 2024/25 Medium Term Financial Plan Update</u></p> <p>Mr Alex McPhee presented the report to seek IJB approval of the delegated budget and to Direct East Ayrshire Council and NHS Ayrshire & Arran to deliver services on behalf of the IJB within the total delegated resource. The report outlined proposed actions to achieve financial balance and align to the IJB’s strategic planning priorities for 2024/25. The report also provided a high level update on the Medium Term Financial Plan in advance of publication of the updated Scottish Government Health and Social Care Medium Term Financial Framework.</p> <p>There is a legal requirement under Section 93 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for IJBs to set a balanced budget in line with strategic planning priorities for the forthcoming year and an overview of the Annual Budget 2024/25 was presented to the IJB Development Day on 28 February 2024.</p> <p>The report outlines the proposed actions to achieve financial balance and to align to the IJB’s strategic planning priorities for 2024/25. For the first time since the inception of the IJB, contingency balances within the IJB Reserve are required within the proposal to provide flexibility to undertake transformational change activities, with alignment to agreed action plans and timescales for delivery. The anticipated draw on contingency balances £1.408m is non-recurring and the use of balances in the current year will reduce flexibility going-forward, with alternative recurring savings to be identified as early as possible, and certainly in advance of 1 April 2025.</p> <p>Dr Das noted the challenges faced within East Ayrshire, as well as nationally, and asked for clarification of the NHS Board budget which was not yet passed. It was noted that recommendation (iv) had been agreed with the Director of Finance, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, which had allowed the budget to be presented today.</p> <p>It was noted that NHS Board have not concluded their budget yet, with the exception of the pay uplift. It is expected that NHS Ayrshire & Arran will confirm allocations to the IJBs next week, and if allocations differ significantly from those anticipated,</p>	

members will be notified. If changes in the allocations are minimal, these will be captured in the next financial recovery report.

The Reserve Strategy outlines that, while there is no defined level of reserves to be held, a number of organisations, including East Ayrshire Council, set a minimum of 2% of annual budgeted expenditure. The strategy therefore recommends that the IJB will aspire to hold at least 2% of annual budgeted expenditure as general fund balances. It was acknowledged that the aspirational 2% contingency target may not be met this year.

The potential risk of overspend within lead partnerships in North and South Ayrshire was noted. If this were the case, the IJB could seek assurances from a recovery plan which has been done previously.

Following this meeting, there will be communications issued to Heads of Service and Managers reinforcing the importance of keeping to allocated budgets. The challenges for the next financial year will be significant and through management teams, the recovery plan will have to be put into place quickly.

Ms Cowan noted the current challenges and expressed her appreciation of the work that had gone into setting the budget. It was confirmed that if any amendments are required as a result of the integration scheme review, these will be brought to a future IJB meeting.

Mr Craig McArthur noted that while the savings to be made are substantial, they only represent 3-4% of the overall budget. This means there remains a significant budget and IJB will ensure this is targeted at the right areas.

Mr Peter Ommer and Ms Claire Straiton joined the meeting.

The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:

- i. Agree to accept the 2024/25 directly managed services budget delegated to the IJB by East Ayrshire Council £109.634m, excluding additional Scottish Government funding £5.497m to uplift contracted services Living Wage hourly rates from £10.90 to £12.00 (which will be delegated as in-year budget adjustment in 2024/25), and including ring fenced Scottish Government integration funding £8.796m routed to IJBs via NHS Boards;
- ii. Note that this budget increases to £111.755m when delegated resources £2.121m managed out with the Health and Social Care Partnership are included;
- iii. Note that the budget proposals include the uplift in charges to clients for 2024/25 which has previously been approved by East Ayrshire Council as part of the Social Care Contribution and Charging Framework report to Cabinet on 28 February 2024;
- iv. Agree to accept the initial 2024/25 managed services budget anticipated to be delegated to the IJB by NHS Ayrshire & Arran of £213.460m, including anticipated additional Agenda for Change uplift funding £1.212m, and excluding £8.796m Scottish Government integration funding;
- v. Note the indicative Set Aside resources delegated to the IJB £28.698m;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">vi. Approve the overall initial £353.913m delegated budget for 2024/25 including the underlying spending proposals, savings proposals totalling £4.194m and the non-recurring drawdown of uncommitted general reserve balances £1.408m, as outlined within the report;vii. Note that equality impact assessments have been considered and will be finalised once savings proposals have been formally approved;viii. Note that budget pressures include assumed inflationary uplifts for pay awards, the National Care Home Contract, commissioned care at home services and children's outwith authority placements (including secure accommodation) and that these uplifts remain subject to final agreement at this time;ix. Note the requirement to Direct both Parties to deliver services on behalf of the IJB within the £353.913m delegated resource in line with strategic planning priorities, following further refinement of allocations across service areas;x. Note the programme of budget transformation and service reconfiguration being taken forward through the Strategic Commissioning Board, including management action to achieve financial balance going forward;xi. Note that any further budget transformation and service reconfiguration proposals to reduce costs and deliver savings which require changes to policy or service provision will be presented to the IJB for approval over the course of 2024/25;xii. Note the pan-Ayrshire work in further developing Directions for 2024/25 with particular focus on Set Aside resources;xiii. Note the IJB Reserve position, with the updated position to be finalised as part of approval of the 2023/24 audited Annual Accounts;xiv. Note that that the balanced budget proposal for 2024/25 includes allocation of resources from general reserves £1.408m to provide greater flexibility to manage cost pressures and demand fluctuations, and to support financial planning;xv. Note the updated high level Medium Term Financial Plan 2024-30 presented within this report;xvi. Note that, following publication of the updated Scottish Government Health and Social Care Medium Term Financial Framework, a detailed Medium Term Financial Plan to 2030 will be presented to a future meeting of the IJB for approval;xvii. Note the key risks, potential consequences and opportunities underlying this initial 2024/25 budget proposal, and going forward; andxviii. Otherwise, note the content of the report.	
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<p>11.</p>	<p><u>Extension of Contract – Respite Services</u></p> <p>Mr Craig McArthur presented the report to seek approval to proceed with a contract extension with The Elms for respite services.</p> <p>The report provides an update in relation to progress relating to one contract, The Elms (respite / short breaks), and seeks an extension to allow for a detailed piece of work to be concluded, as indicated at the previous IJB meetings on 13 December 2023 and 7 February 2024.</p> <p>Usage data of The Elms was gathered from 1 January to 30 September 2023 which highlighted low usage of the six commissioned beds. During this period 1,638 bed days were available for use while only 659 were actually used, which is a 40.2% utilisation rate. The extension of contractual arrangements set out in the report was noted, along with the potential saving of £72,000 per annum, and the reassurance that services users will continue to be able to access the service in the next year. It was noted that the potential saving differs from the figure previously advised to IJB however this is purely a timing issue.</p> <p>Further engagement work is required with service users, carers and relatives to determine the future model of respite, and to consider a variety of options that would meet individuals’ needs and be available for short breaks moving forward. This piece of work will also consider a maximum budget for respite. The current contract provides for six beds operating over 305 days per annum. The HSCP wish to reduce this to three beds, while increasing operational capacity to 365 days per annum. This would continue to meet the needs of those that are currently utilising this service. The current provider has indicated this would be possible and has provided an updated cost for the service.</p> <p>Dr Das noted the loss of capacity in the interim and queried whether that capacity could be utilised by North and South IJBs and it was confirmed that additional engagement work has already commenced considering North and South Ayrshire arrangements and the possibility of aligning service delivery where possible and appropriate.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Receive the contents of the report; ii. Approve the extension of contractual arrangements set out in the report, in terms of Paragraph 21 (2) of the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts, noting the proposed saving of £72,000 per annum; iii. Issue a Direction to East Ayrshire Council in respect of the revised contractual arrangements; and, iv. Otherwise comment on the report. 	
<p>12.</p>	<p><u>Primary Urgent Care Update</u></p> <p>Ms Vicki Campbell presented the report to provide an update on the provision of primary urgent care services delivered through the Ayrshire Urgent Care Service (AUCS). The report also updates on innovative pathways developed and tested throughout 2023.</p>	

AUCS operates 7 days per week 24 hours a day as a GP led Flow Navigation Centre (FNC). Further information on this unique joint approach and the development and growth of pathways are outlined in the report.

The report provides an overview of the activity of the service, including new innovative pathways in operation to support an improved patient journey, with continued focus on community based services. The data presented demonstrates the effectiveness of the service avoiding hospital attendances or avoidable admission to hospital which has better outcomes for patients.

It was noted that the success of the new pathways and ways of working, is a result of good working relationships across Ayrshire and Arran and wider system partners including NHS 24, Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS), Police Scotland, as well as strengthened connections with GP practices and Community Pharmacy. All new service developments are created in partnership across clinical and managerial leadership teams from relevant stakeholders.

The number of different improvements that are being progressed was highlighted and the impact at the end of 2023 was noted, with quality of care and better outcomes for patients being realised.

Dr Das asked for clarity on the service improvement plans and performance, and queried who audits this? It was confirmed that this sits with East Ayrshire as lead partnership, with reporting mainly through the NHS Performance Government Committee.

There was discussion on Call before Convey and Care and Nursing Home pathways, and the importance of these for people in the last days of their life. It was acknowledged that people should be able to die at home or as close to home as possible. The impact and evidence was commended.

Councillor Claire Maitland highlighted the Palliative End of Life Support Line and Rapid Respiratory Response Service mentioned in the report. It was confirmed that the Palliative Care Line was created to facilitate a single point of contact for palliative patients in their last 30 days of life, through the FNC, enabling timely management of unscheduled care episodes for these patients in the community. Work is ongoing to scope out a potential 24 hour telephone support service.

Ayrshire and Arran has the second highest Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) rate in Scotland with emergency COPD admissions 34% longer than other emergency admissions. The aim of the Rapid Respiratory Response Service is to: provide specialist respiratory support during exacerbations; improve patient's ability and confidence to self-manage symptoms; and, support earlier discharge from hospital.

An initial cohort of 17 GP practices able to refer to the pathway identified a reduction of COPD related attendances to hospital of 50%. Recent recurring funding will support the service to expand to a pan-Ayrshire model collaborating with all 53 GP practices making it available to all 11,835 patients currently diagnosed with COPD.

	<p>It was confirmed that as part of the review of the Strategic Plan it was agreed to change the Starting Well and Living Well priority to Starting Well, Living Well and Dying Well. There has been learning through Covid and it has been noted that more people now want to be at home for the last days of their life. Community Nursing are dealing with many more people and more complexity of needs. This requires a different working approach including the use of tech, homecare and engaging and working alongside families.</p> <p>Dr Laura McGarrity left the meeting after consideration of this item.</p> <p>Members noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Note the progress of the Urgent Care agenda across Ayrshire and Arran ii. Note the increased activity within AUCS as a result of the new pathways introduced to ensure patient care is delivered as close to home as possible. 	
13.	<p><u>General Medical Services Update</u></p> <p>Ms Claire McCamon presented the annual update on the provision of General Medical Services (GMS) across Ayrshire and Arran. The report also details the current position with implementation of the 2018 GMS contract and wider development work across general practice.</p> <p>General practices continue to face challenges with increased demand. Ongoing review of data and feedback has demonstrated that patients are presenting to General Practice with more advanced health concerns than they would have pre-pandemic. This in part can be attributed to this cohort of patients having more complex conditions and being managed longer by their GP whilst awaiting appointments in other parts of the system. Many of these patients require an extended (sometimes double) appointment time and clinicians may need to do a greater degree of follow up with the patient which again increases workload and appointment capacity.</p> <p>A survey of all practices was carried out to inform a deep dive review of General Practice in Ayrshire and Arran in December 2023, with questions based on regular feedback or themes reported through various forums, including patient feedback. Questions covered: practice staffing levels; consultation capacity per professional; patient access; and, feedback on areas that cause increased activity and pressure.</p> <p>The findings highlighted areas of variance in service delivery models, with key areas such as consultation numbers and gaps in workforce that need explored further at an individual practice level. The data also confirms that patient demand is exceeding capacity. The findings will be shared with the practices and taken through local forums to inform next steps in response to the areas that have been reported on. This will also include how we engage with the public.</p> <p>Dr Das welcomed the report and queried the concerns of patient population not being able to access the online platform due to non-digital access and/or not being popular with patients. He noted the need to manage patient expectation and strike the balance of the service we can provide as they are used to physically seeing someone, either a GP or a Nurse.</p>	

	<p>Members noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Note the current position of Primary Care GMS ii. Note the progress of implementation of the 2018 GMS contract as well as the wider areas of development work across General Practice. 	
<p>14.</p>	<p><u>Dental Services Update</u></p> <p>Ms Clare McCamon presented the report to update on the current position of access to dental services. The report outlines the actions and measures taken forward in the last six months to further sustain service delivery as well as the current status with the ongoing review for the vision of dentistry across Ayrshire and Arran.</p> <p>There has been an overall improvement with patient registration however there are still some challenges with waiting lists. The Public Dental Service (PDS) continues to be a safety net service for those patients who cannot access their own GDP in an emergency, or are not registered.</p> <p>Three workshops were held between December 2023 and February 2024 with the aim of understanding the population needs, the current status of all services within dental, and determining a future delivery model for dental services in Ayrshire and Arran.</p> <p>Since the last update in August 2023, 13 of the 19 GDPs listed with the Health Board who are committed to providing NHS care within East Ayrshire, are accepting new NHS registrations. 12 of these are accepting both NHS adult and children with one practice only accepting children.</p> <p>Key priorities for 2024/25 were noted and it was confirmed that the purpose of this report is to highlight to the board the content and developments since last August.</p> <p>Dr Das queried whether the plan was achievable and was advised that the report for the health assessment recently carried out is being finalised before being taken through the Governance groups for approval.</p> <p>Mr Neil McAleese noted that the frequency of access seems to be changing and that people may be attending A&E as emergency appointments. It was confirmed that, when the last report was presented in August 2023, it had been anticipated to significantly increase the number of patients registered however, given the numbers involved, this proved to be unachievable at that point. Some of the work done through the workshops is leading to options to consider for 2024/25 to reduce some of the burden.</p> <p>It was confirmed that moving to annual check-ups was a national decision and this will be monitored regularly. This could be more varied depending on the disease rate. It was noted that around 40% of patients have not been to see a dentist in the past two years.</p> <p>Members noted the report.</p> <p>Mr Peter Ommer and Ms Claire Straiton left the meeting after consideration of this item.</p>	

<p>15.</p>	<p><u>Affiliations To Outside Organisations</u></p> <p>Ms Catherine Adair 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>Affiliations to outside organisations provide additional information, learning, guidance and expertise to Social Work services in areas of specialism, for example adoption and fostering. In addition professional social work organisations including Social Work Scotland provide learning and training opportunities.</p> <p>As an annual process, East Ayrshire IJB is required to give due consideration to all Service affiliations. A previous report was presented and approved by the IJB on the 29th March 2023.</p> <p>It was highlighted that there are 5 affiliations which are the same as last year, and previous years, which total £13,621.36.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Consider and approve the affiliations, as detailed in Appendix 1; ii. Agree that the appropriate Partnership section make payment of the affiliation fees to those approved organisations; and iii. Otherwise, note the content of the report. 	
<p>16.</p>	<p><u>Housing Need and Demand Assessment</u></p> <p>Mr Jim Murdoch presented the report to provide the Board with further detail on the development of East Ayrshire Council's Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA).</p> <p>Work on developing the new HNDA began in September 2023 and is due for completion in summer 2024. A specific aspect of the evidence assembled for the HNDA focuses on specialist housing provision. The specialist housing analysis considers evidence regarding property needs (permanent and non-permanent) and the care and support needs of people who use health and social care services. Separate stakeholder engagement is required to be held on specialist housing provision.</p> <p>The report also contained the housing statement which was considered and approved in October last year and the overview of the care and support for people to live in their own homes in the community independently. The specific services delegated to the IJB being the adaptations and care services and telecare.</p> <p>There was discussion on the statutory requirement under housing legislation and the scoping of housing demand for housing market areas which provides estimates for long term housing need and demand, precise projections and required additional housing estimates based on an analysis of demographics, population and wider economic trends which drive the housing markets.</p>	

	<p>The report highlighted that the Council has commissioned housing consultants to undertake the new HNDA from 2024. It was confirmed that the responsibility for housing rests with EAC housing services and that the IJB are key strategic partners, as set out in the housing contribution statement.</p> <p>There is an interest in a special provision for particular care groups, older people, people with physical and learning disabilities, mental health and vulnerable young people, working both at a strategic and operational level.</p> <p>The HNDA will form part of the longer term planning for housing provision in East Ayrshire and will inform the next local housing strategy and will have implications for our own strategic commissioning plan.</p> <p>Members noted the report.</p>	
17.	<p><u>United Nations Convention On the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024</u></p> <p>Ms Marion MacAulay presented the report to update the Integration Joint Board on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 (the Act), which passed into Scottish law on 16th January 2024.</p> <p>The Act incorporates the UNCRC into Scottish law and marks a significant step towards ensuring that the rights of every child and young person across Scotland are respected, realised and protected. This report summarises the main provisions within the Act, and notes that further statutory guidance will be published following a consultation process.</p> <p>The Bill received royal assent on the 16th of January 2024, and will become live on the 16th July 2024 and that act means that public authorities, including Scottish Ministers, will be legally obliged to respect children’s rights, by acting in a way that is compatible with UNCRC requirements.</p> <p>This report summarises the main provisions within the Act, and notes that further statutory guidance will be published following a consultation process.</p> <p>This is a rarely significant step for children and young people and although subject to challenge, it applies to legislation past Scottish government, reviews legislation which applies to children and can appeal and introduce new acts, and over time it will become much more challenging.</p> <p>The report highlighted the Act incorporates the UNCRC into Scottish Law and contains several proactive measures of implementation to ensure the full realisation of children’s rights which it is believed that we do not need legislation to promote and we can take it forward through the IJB.</p> <p>There is a framework of compatibility which is included in that and will be followed over the course of the first year.</p> <p>Councillor Claire Maitland expressed how she welcomed this act, however noted the limitations which were a shame, but will be imbedded in legislation going forward.</p> <p>Members noted the report.</p>	

<p>18.</p>	<p><u>NHS in Scotland 2023 – Audit Scotland Report</u></p> <p>Mr Erik Sutherland presented the report of the findings of the Audit Scotland report on the NHS in Scotland 2023 which was published on 22 February 2024. This report outlines the main findings and recommendations from this key document.</p> <p>The report reflects the need for short, medium and long-term investment and reform to ensure the future sustainability of the NHS in Scotland. It provides an update on the implementation of longer-term reforms, such as the Sustainability and Value Programme and the Care and Wellbeing Portfolio approach, alongside reporting on how recovery has progressed. This includes an increased focus on funding and financial performance, position and sustainability; analysis of service performance and patient safety; and progress on wider reforms aimed to ensure services are sustainable into the future.</p> <p>The key recommendations in the report were highlighted which include: develop and publish a national NHS capital investment strategy in 2024, stating how spending is being prioritised and the overall estate is being managed; confirm which indicators will be used to measure year-on-year reductions in waiting times; and, Revisit its NHS Recovery Plan commitments and use its annual progress updates to report clearly and transparently on what progress has been made and whether those commitments, or the targets and delivery timeframes related to them, need to change and why.</p> <p>Improvement areas of care and wellbeing need to be a wider engagement framework of statutory intervention.</p> <p>Dr Das noted the many challenges, including financial, and confirmed that the report is being presented to Parliament on 21 March 2024.</p> <p>Members noted the report.</p>	
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19.	<p><u>Governance Papers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUDIT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE – 30 JANUARY 2024 • HEALTH, CARE & GOVERNANCE GROUP – 07 NOVEMBER 2023 • HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING GROUP – 09 NOVEMBER 2023 • PARTNERSHIP FORUM – 17 AUGUST 2023 • RESILIENCE GROUP – 16 JANUARY 2024 • RISK MANAGEMENT – 6 DECEMBER 2023 	
20.	<p><u>AOCB</u></p> <p>None</p>	
21.	<p><u>Date Of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Development Session – 08 May 2024 at 2pm, visit to HMP Kilmarnock Meeting – 26 June 2024 at 2pm, Council Chambers/ MS Teams</p>	