

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

At a Hybrid Meeting of the West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Board held in the Civic Space, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton on Thursday, 28 March 2024 at 2.03 p.m.

Present: Rona Sweeney, Lesley Rousselet and Michelle Wailes, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; and Councillors Michelle McGinty, Martin Rooney and Clare Steel, West Dunbartonshire Council.

Non-Voting Beth Culshaw, Chief Officer; Julie Slavin, Chief Financial Officer; Barbara Barnes, Chair of the Locality Engagement Network – Alexandria and Dumbarton; Selina Ross, Chief Officer – West Dunbartonshire CVS; Helen Little, MSK Physiotherapy Manager; Kim McNab, Service Manager – Carers of West Dunbartonshire; Dr Saied Pourghazi, Associate Clinical Director and General Practitioner; and Val Tierney, Chief Nurse.

Attending: Alan Douglas, Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration; Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation; Sylvia Chatfield, Head of Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Addiction; Fiona Taylor, Head of Health and Community Care; Gillian Gall, Head of Human Resources; Lesley James, Head of Children's Health, Care and Criminal Justice and Chief Social Work Officer; Shirley Furie, Trade Union Representative; David Smith, Unpaid Carers Representative; Carol-Ann Burns, Senior Democratic Services Manager and Lynn Straker, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Anne MacDougall, Chair of the Locality Engagement Network – Clydebank and Diana McCrone, Staff Representative (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde)

Councillor Michelle McGinty in the Chair

STATEMENT BY CHAIR

Michelle McGinty, Chair, advised that the meeting was being audio streamed and broadcast live to the internet and would be available for playback.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Clare Steel noted her declaration of interest as she sits on the Board of the Carers Centre, she will not contribute to discussion and any decision making for Item 8 – 2024-2025 Annual Budget Setting Update and Item 9 – Local Carer Strategy 2024-2026 Improving Lives with Carers as detailed in the Agenda.

Councillor Martin Rooney noted a transparency statement in that his wife works within West Dunbartonshire Care at Home Service. The Care at Home Redesign project, although it is a major change to ways of working, applies on a much broader spectrum than the role of his wife and through legal advice, can advise that his current circumstances would not influence his decision making on this item, but wanted to clarify to Members and the public.

Councillor Michelle McGinty, Chair, noted a transparency statement in that her sister and her daughter both work within Crosslet House Care Home and although within the proposed Budget setting items there was a reduction in beds at Crosslet House Care Home, this would not affect the number of staff at the premises and as such, with appropriate legal advice, can note would not influence her decision making on this item, but wanted to clarify to Members and the public.

RECORDING OF VOTES

The Board agreed that all votes taken during the meeting would be carried out by roll call vote to ensure an accurate record.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Health and Social Care Partnership Board held on 20 February 2024 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

ROLLING ACTION LIST

The Rolling Action list for the Health and Social Care Partnership Board was submitted for information and relevant updates were noted and agreed.

VERBAL UPDATE FROM CHIEF OFFICER

Beth Culshaw, Chief Officer, provided a verbal update on the recent business of the Health and Social Care Partnership. She noted in recent weeks, the Partnership had been challenged with the scale of delayed discharges. There is a high number of patients being referred in from Mental Health and Acute Services and also due to a high level of staff sickness currently, which is affecting performance. The Senior Management team have been working together to face this challenge and work around to bring the figure down.

Over the last week, the partnership has currently had a net reduction of 12 delayed discharges so hopefully this will continue however it is worth noting the Easter Bank Holiday weekend brings another set of challenges.

Ms Culshaw noted the Budget setting report within the Agenda proposed a number of bed losses at the Crosslet House Care Home in Dumbarton however she was pleased to announce that due to a successful recruitment campaign, the outstanding 11 beds at Queens Quay Care Home in Clydebank would now be opened on 8 April 2024, bringing additional capacity to our number of beds in our local authority area.

Ms Culshaw advised since the last meeting of the HSCP Board, she had provided a separate brief to Members regarding the delivery of Home Care services, and indeed it was included as a substantive Agenda item at today's meeting for further discussion. She also advised they had received notification from GMB Trade Union of proposed planned industrial action and there was work ongoing to address this.

Ms Culshaw stated there were some key Agenda items which would be discussed at today's meeting which were pivotal to moving forward the work of the HSCP Board as a whole and the financial challenges which the partnership currently faces is front and centre of the Agenda today. Many of the savings proposed provide non-recurring savings for this year only, so it is also important to focus on our several redesign projects, some of which will be discussed at the meeting today, to maximise our financial longer-term stability.

Lastly, Ms Culshaw asked Members to note that budget setting was predicated on a number of packages for different client groups and we need to ensure that when our population has a requirement for any of our services, be it health or social care, that they have a clear pathway to access this. We must assess and deliver that need to the best suitability for the individual. Cost containment would be a key element to the partnerships approach to the budget this year, ensuring that budget management is the focus across all of our levels of service.

2023/24 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AS AT PERIOD 10 (31 JANUARY 2024)

A report was submitted by Julie Slavin, Chief Financial Officer, providing an update on the financial performance as at period 10 to 31 January 2024 and a projected outturn position to the 31 March 2024.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Financial Officer in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Board agreed:-

- (1) to note the updated position in relation to budget movements on the 2023/24 allocation by West Dunbartonshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board and approve the direction for 2023/24 back to our partners to deliver services to meet the HSCP Board's strategic priorities;

- (2) to note the reported revenue position for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 January 2024 is reporting an adverse (overspend) position of £1.349m (0.82%);
- (3) to note the projected outturn position of £1.607m overspend (0.80%) for 2023/24 including all planned transfers to/from earmarked reserves and the implementation of the recovery plan as approved at the November HSCP Board;
- (4) to note the update on the monitoring of savings agreed for 2023/24;
- (5) to note the current reserves balances;
- (6) to note the update on the capital position and projected completion timelines; and
- (7) to note that the progress to date on the budget planning process for 2024/25 to 2026/27 is detailed in a separate report within the agenda for this HSCP Board meeting.

Note: Councillor Clare Steel left the meeting after discussion of this report.

2024/25 BUDGET SETTING UPDATE (REVENUE ESTIMATES)

A report was submitted by Julie Slavin, Chief Financial Officer, setting out the financial allocations from West Dunbartonshire Council (WDC) and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board (NHSGGC), the main cost pressures and key financial risks for the HSCP Board in 2024/25 and to seek members' approval to set an indicative 2024/25 revenue budget.

Members first heard from Ms Kim McNab, Service Manager – Carers of West Dunbartonshire, in her deputation to the HSCP Board regarding the potential impact the proposed savings detailed within the report would have on Carers with West Dunbartonshire. Members then heard from Ms Gillian Kirkwood, Chief Executive – Y-Sort It provide her deputation and concern of the significant impact the proposed savings would have on their current work with the community. Lastly, Members heard from Ms Alison McCurley, Board Representative from Ben View, who noted again the significant impact the proposed cuts would have on the important work they do in the community.

ADJOURNMENT

Councillor Michelle McGinty, Chair, adjourned the meeting for a short recess. The meeting reconvened at 4.18 p.m. with the following voting members in attendance: Councillors Michelle McGinty, Martin Rooney and Clare Steel and Lesley Rousselet, Rona Sweeney and Michelle Wailes.

Councillor McGinty moved the following Motion which was unanimously agreed by Members:-

'The Board thanks the Chief Officer and all of her staff for all the work they have done over many months in bringing forward these proposals for a balanced budget for 2024/25.

The Board agrees the recommendations at 2.1 of the report as follows:

- a) Accept the flat cash offer from West Dunbartonshire Council;
- b) Accept the total 2024/25 allocation from WDC;
- c) Approve the required increase to the Scottish Living Wage;
- d) Note the analysis of the reserves position;
- e) Accept the indicative 2024/25 budget allocation from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board;
- f) Approve an overall indicative funding allocation to the Partnership;
- g) Note the range of management adjustments;
- j) Note that 2024/25 budget allocations for Housing Aids and Adaptations;
- k) Note the update to the WDC's 10 Year Capital Plan;
- l) Note that the updated Medium-Term Financial Plan; and
- h) Approve:
 - The 3 year smoothing of the pension value review of £3.700m, and
 - The drawdown of a range of reserves to the value of £1.802m. All contained within Table 7.

In relation to the range of Health savings the Board agrees all the health savings totalling £96,000.

In terms of the Social Care savings, the Board, after hearing the concerns from the impacted groups, agrees the following:-

ST01: A 5% saving of **£20,000** rather than the proposed £40,000. In doing so it is noted that the Carers Centre has been proactive and have already decided to relocate to smaller premises saving of £13,000 in their running costs.

The net impact on the Carers of West Dunbartonshire would be a reduction of £7,000 out of a circa £500,000 budget.

ST02: A 5% saving of **£10,000** to be applied rather than the proposed £20,000.

This takes account of the fact that the HSCP has agreed a funding allocation for Y-Sort it over the coming years which means that its service will remain sustainable and with minimal impact on the organisation and the outcomes for young people.

We would encourage both organisations to put in applications to the new Cost Of Living Transitional Fund to ensure that there is no impact on the services they provide whilst discussion with the HSCP take place.

CH02 Agree the savings related to Crosslet House, noting that the overall number of care beds in West Dunbartonshire will be available as the bed capacity in Queens Quay would see a corresponding increase.

This makes best use of available resources, it addresses current and future demand, and there are no job losses as the staff posts to support the 14 beds at crosslet are already vacant positions.

BC01 In terms of the Reduction in Block Funded Contracts, these are agreed with the exception of the £62,000 of savings proposals for Ben View.

The service provides two HSCP Social Care Services, namely the Lunch Club and the Bathing service for eligible social care clients.

The HSCP will fully fund the current and future social care clients a framework model of care, rather than the current Block Funding model.

However, it is recognised that the removal of £62,000 from Ben View budget could put the charity into immediate hardship and they may not be able to maintain the vital social care elements that they do on behalf of the HSCP.

Therefore, the intention is to reduce that savings proposal from £62,000 down to **£31,000**, in order to give them time to redesign their services and to seek funding from other providers.

It is noted that West Dunbartonshire Council has agreed to provide additional support to Ben View and has encouraged them to work with Council officers so that they can submit funding applications to the Dumbarton Common Good Fund, the Cost of Living Fund, and to the newly established funds set up on 6 March 2024 by the Council Administration.

The effect of this is that even with the proposed £31,000 reduction, they will still be able to provide the same level of services over the next two years or so while they explore external funding opportunities.

The effect of the above measures means that the Social Care Savings reduce from £629,000 to £568,000, which would need to be covered from the range of reserves.

The Chief Financial Officer is requested to utilise £61,000 from a combination of the residual balance within the Carers earmarked reserve of **£30,000** and the remaining **£31,000** from the Unachieved Savings earmarked reserves to balance the 2024/25 budget.

If the organisations secure additional funding through the other available routes the application of reserves will be reconsidered accordingly.

Agree that if all options set out in (h) above are approved, this delivers a balanced budget of £199.602m for 2024/25 consisting of:

- Partners financial allocation of £197.512m
- Total application of reserves of £2.151m.'

Members also agreed to:-

- (1) to accept the flat cash offer from West Dunbartonshire Council of the roll forward of the 2023/24 recurring base allocation of £84.995m and the full pass through of the allocated share of the £241.5m related to Scottish Living Wage and Free Personal and Nursing Care of £4.025m;
- (2) to accept the total 2024/25 allocation from WDC based on (a) above and other minor adjustments of £88.947m;
- (3) to approve the required increase to the Scottish Living Wage for adult commissioned services as per the letter in Appendix 1;
- (4) to note the analysis of the reserves position and the projected balances as at 31 March 2024;
- (5) to accept the indicative 2024/25 budget allocation from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board of £108.565m, subject to confirmation of the final month 12 recurring base (£108.381m), MDT funding (£0.184m) and indicative set aside budget of £40.596m;
- (6) to approve an overall indicative funding allocation to the Partnership of £197.512m, excluding set aside for delegated health and social care services for 2024/25;
- (7) to note the range of management adjustments to the value of £3.447m contained within Table 7;
- (8) to approve:
 - the range of savings options to the value of £0.725m;
 - the 3 year smoothing of the pension value review of £3.700m; and
 - the drawdown of a range of reserves to the value of £1.802m. All contained within Table 7.
- (9) that if all options set out in (h) above are approved, this delivers a balanced budget of £199.602m for 2024/25 consisting of:
 - Partners financial allocation of £197.512m; and
 - Total application of reserves of £2.090m
- (10) to note that 2024/25 budget allocations for Housing Aids and Adaptations of £0.100m and the Care of Gardens budget of £0.229m;
- (11) to note the update to the WDC's 10 Year Capital Plan from 2024/25 to 2033/34; and

- (12) to note that the updated Medium-Term Financial Plan covering 2024/25 to 2033/34 will be presented to the August HSCP Board.

LOCAL CARER STRATEGY: 2024-2026 IMPROVING LIVES WITH CARERS

A report was submitted by Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation, seeking approval for the Local Carers Strategy 2024-2026 “Improving Lives with Carers” and to update the Board on how the plan will be implemented.

After discussion and having heard the Head of Strategy and Transformation and the Head of Children’s Health, Care and Justice and Chief Social Work Officer in further explanation and in answer to Members’ questions, the Board agreed:-

- (1) to approve “Improving Lives with Carers” the HSCP Local Carer Strategy;
- (2) to approve the Delivery Plan which is the means of implementing the Local Carer Strategy; and
- (3) to approve the use of financial resources as outlined in Table 2, Section 4 of the report.

Note: Councillor Clare Steel returned to the meeting after discussion of this report.

CHILDRENS HEALTH AND CARE SERVICES STRATEGY IMPROVING LIVES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

A report was submitted by Lesley James, Head of Children’s Health, Care and Justice and Chief Social Work Officer, presenting the Children’s Health and Care Services Strategy, “Improving Lives with Children and Young People in West Dunbartonshire, What Would It Take? 2024 – 2029” to the HSCP Board for its approval.

After discussion and having heard the Head of Children's Health, Care and Justice and Chief Social Work Officer in further explanation, the Board agreed:-

- (1) to note the content of this report;
- (2) to approve the Children’s Health and Care Services Strategy “Improving Lives with Children and Young People in West Dunbartonshire, What Would It Take? 2024 - 2029”;
- (3) to approve the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) aligned to the strategy; and
- (4) the MTFP will be subject to annual scrutiny and review by the HSCP Board.

CARE AT HOME REDESIGN UPDATE

A report was submitted by Fiona Taylor, Head of Health and Community Care, providing an update on the progress of the Care at Home redesign including the outcome of recent consultations which have informed the final proposal for implementation.

After discussion and having heard the Head of Community Health and Care in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Board agreed:-

- (1) to note the content of this report; and
- (2) the following proposed changes which were being recommended as part of the consultation feedback, in order to deliver the review of Care at Home services.

RISK APPETITE STATEMENT

A report was submitted by Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation, seeking the agreement of the HSCP Board in respect of the amount of risk that the Partnership is prepared to accept, tolerate, or be exposed to at any point in time.

After discussion and having heard the Head of Strategy and Transformation in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Board agreed:-

- (1) the risk appetite statement as shown in Appendix 1; and
- (2) that the risk appetite statement be reviewed annually, when the HSCP Boards strategic plan is reviewed, or more frequently if required.

REVIEW OF HSCP BOARD FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

A report was submitted by Julie Slavin, Chief Financial Officer, present for review and approval, amendments to the current Financial Regulations of the West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Board.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Financial Officer in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Board agreed to approve the revised IJB Financial Regulations.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next meeting of West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Board would be held on Tuesday, 25 June 2024 at 3.00 p.m. as a Hybrid Meeting in the Civic Space, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton G82 1QL.

The meeting closed at 4.50 p.m.