

## **FC7. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION**

Council considered a report by the Chief Executive on the integration of health and social care services recommending that the Executive adopt a Body Corporate governance model for the integrated service.

The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 came into effect on 1 April 2014. The Act set out a requirement for Local Authorities and Health Boards to establish local partnerships to deliver local outcomes more effectively. The Act removed Community Health Partnerships from statute and set out the basis to create an integration authority for each Council area which will be the joint and equal responsibility of Health Boards and Local Authorities.

Four key principles underpin the reform:-

- To allow nationally agreed outcomes to apply across adult health and social care provision;
- Health Boards and local authorities will be jointly and equally accountable for the delivery of those outcomes;
- Integrated resources (budgets and employees) will apply across the spectrum of adult health and social care provision; and
- To encourage strong clinical and professional leadership, and the engagement of the third and independent sectors, in the commissioning of adult health and social care services.

The report summarised the key drivers for reform, and the work undertaken to prepare for the transition to an integrated delivery model. Guidance from the Scottish Government set out the two integration models available:-

- Lead Agency: either the Health Board or the Local Authority takes full strategic and operational accountability for all functions within the scope of integration; or
- Body Corporate: delegation by Health Board or Local Authority of all functions within the scope of integration, to a new entity governed by a Joint Board accountable for overseeing the provision of functions.

The report provided an appraisal of both options and recommended the Body Corporate model for the Falkirk Council area. NHS Forth Valley had recently indicated a preference, in principle, for this delivery model.

The integration process and timetable leading to full integration by 1 April 2015 were set out. The governance would be undertaken by an Integration Joint Board which would appoint a Chief Officer and, potentially, a Senior Finance Officer.

In this model, staff and services will not necessarily transfer to the body, but would be accountable to, and be managed by, the Body Corporate. The Scottish Government had allocated funding to each Health Board to support the transition. The funding available to the Falkirk Council area was estimated to be £170,000, and was yet to be allocated. It was proposed that, in anticipation of the funding being allocated, a project manager is appointed to support the transition.

The integration of health and social care services will impact not only on the delivery of adult health and social care services, but on the Council as a whole, in particular the remaining social work services and the role of the Chief Social Work Officer.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor Murray, moved that Council agrees:-

- (1) to note the provisions and requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Bill;
- (2) that any model and partnership arrangements requires to be based on the Falkirk Council area;
- (3) to note the scope of services to be included in the integrated arrangements;
- (1) in principle that Officers work with the Health Board to develop a Scheme of Integration based on the Body Corporate model;
- (5) to note the work plan, timescales and work streams which will require to be established and the proposals for the transitional integration funding and oversight of the transition;
- (6) that posts required to take forward integration are filled as a matter of urgency;
- (7) to note the need to develop a Strategic Delivery Plan and engagement arrangements;
- (8) that a draft Scheme of Integration is presented to Council for approval in October 2014, and
- (9) that a report on the impact of these changes on the remaining Council services is presented in early course.

Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor Jackson, moved the terms of the motion with the following in substitution for paragraphs (5) and (6):-

- (i) in principle that officers work with the Health Board to develop a Scheme of Integration based on the Body Corporate model and provide a progress report to elected members at every full Council;
- (ii) that officers carry out the necessary work to establish a shadow Integration Board as a matter of urgency in order that membership can be appointed at the June meeting of full Council at the latest and a draft work plan prepared for the Board;
- (iii) that a letter of apology along with a request for an urgent meeting to be sent to the Minister in order to discuss Falkirk Transition Plan and the funding; and
- (iv) to note the work plan timescales and work streams which will require to be established and the proposals for the transitional integrated funding which will be further clarified to members following the outcome of discussions with the Minister. Oversight of the transition will be passed to the Shadow Board once it has been constituted.

Council then adjourned at 11.00 am to allow officers to investigate a statement, made by Councillor Meiklejohn in moving her amendment, that the Minister for Public Health, Michael Matheson MSP, had advised that no bid had been received from the Council.

Council reconvened at 11.55 am with all members present as per the sederunt, with the exception of Councillor McCabe, who had earlier left the meeting, and Councillor Chalmers who joined the meeting at a later point in the debate.

The Director of Social Work Services advised that she had received an assurance from a senior civil servant at the Scottish Government that the Falkirk partnership bid had been received and that funding would be allocated to it.

Councillor Meiklejohn, with the consent of the Provost, and Councillor Jackson, as her seconder, adjusted the terms of her amendment by deleting paragraph (iii).

In terms of Standing Order 22.4(i), a vote was taken by roll call, there being 30 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (17) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Baillies Buchanan and Paterson; Councillors Black, Blackwood, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, C Martin, Dr C R Martin, Murray, Nicol and Nimmo.

For the amendment (13) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie and Turner.

## **Decision**

**Council agreed the motion.**