

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION SCHEME
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 24 June 2015
Author: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At its meeting on 31st March 2015, the Council agreed the Integration Scheme for submission to the Scottish Ministers with the exception of some aspects of the finance section of the scheme which had not been agreed between the Council and the Health Board (“the parties”) at that stage. This report provides an update on the agreement which has been reached between parties on this issue, some changes made to the scheme in light of comments received from officials in the Government and an opportunity for the Council to appoint its members and the first Chairperson of the Integration Joint Board.

2. THE FINANCE ISSUE

- 2.1 The issue which had led to parties failing to agree the terms of the finance section of the scheme has been resolved to the extent that both parties’ officers and the transitional board are able to recommend the revised Section 8. The issue related to the definition of the set aside budget of the Integration Joint Board(IJB). The set aside budget is a portion of the IJB's budget which the Health Board is entitled to retain for use by the IJB in relation to large hospital services. An earlier version of finance guidance from the Government had indicated that it was not the intention that community hospitals be included within this part of the budget. The Government has now indicated that it will revise the guidance to the extent of indicating that large hospital services would not ordinarily encompass community hospitals but may do so where a material proportion of the care provided is for the population of more than one local authority. The wording of the proposed revised guidance now forms the basis of the definition of the set aside budget in the scheme.

3. COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT

- 3.1 Following submission, a list of comments on the scheme was provided by officials in the Government to the parties. The list of comments had initially seemed lengthy but following a helpful meeting attended by the lead official in the Scottish Government, the programme managers for the Stirling and Clackmannanshire and Falkirk partnerships and officers from Falkirk and Stirling Councils, some of the comments were withdrawn or alternatively narrowed in their scope. Others remained valid, however, and some changes have been proposed which are marked in yellow in the attached scheme. These vary in their significance but, in large part, amount to providing some additional wording in amplification or, alternatively, changing the emphasis within a particular provision.

- 3.2 One change of significance is that the scheme requires to identify which of the parties will nominate the first chairperson for the Integration Joint Board. At the meeting of the Transitional Board on 5th June 2015, it was agreed that the Council would nominate the first chairperson, who will hold office until April 2017. The Transitional Board further agreed that among the members of the Transitional Board, Councillor Allyson Black would be the Chairperson designate for the Integration Joint Board.
- 3.3 The other change of significance relates to the extent of delegation by the Health Board. The Health Board had previously taken the same approach as the Council which is to delegate the statutory minimum of its functions. In light of comments from the Government, the extent of their delegation has been expanded to include services for under 18s in relation to some primary care services.

4. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS AND CHAIRPERSON

- 4.1 At its meeting on 12th November 2014, the Council appointed Councillor Allyson Black, Councillor Dennis Goldie and Councillor Linda Gow as its members on the Transitional Board. As the Integration Joint Board is likely to be established formally over the summer, the Council now requires to appoint its members to it. It is suggested that the term of office be until 30th April 2017 to allow the Council to further consider appointments to the Board following the ordinary election at the beginning of May 2017 and to reflect the term of office of the first chairperson. As noted above, the integration scheme provides for the Council to appoint the first chairperson. The Council has an opportunity to do so from the three members appointed to the Board.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 It is recommended that the Council:-

- 1. agrees the integration scheme for submission to the Scottish Ministers;**
- 2. appoints three members to the Integration Joint Board; and**
- 3. from those members appoints the first chairperson of the Board.**

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Chief Executive

Date: 10 June 2015

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL