

Falkirk Council

Title: Amendment to Integration Scheme for Health and Social Care

Meeting: Falkirk Council

Date: 7 March 2018

Submitted By: Director of Corporate and Housing Services

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 Council considered a report on 6 December 2017 on a proposal to amend the Integration Scheme for Health and Social Care to meet the requirements of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 (the Act). This report updates Council on the Health Board's view on the delegation of its function and seeks approval for the amendment to the Scheme.

2. Recommendation

2.1 Council is asked to agree that the Integration Scheme be amended to reflect the agreed delegation of functions under the Carers Act.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Integration Scheme which was agreed between the Council and the Health Board and subsequently approved by the Scottish Ministers is the core document that establishes the Integration Joint Board (IJB). Importantly, it governs the range of functions that are delegated to the IJB by the Council and the Health Board.
- 3.2. Regulations made under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 set out a minimum level of functions that require to be delegated to an IJB. Since the Integration Scheme was agreed, a significant new piece of legislation, the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016, has been enacted and will come into force in April 2018. This, in turn, requires consideration of which of the functions under the 2016 Act should be delegated to the IJB.
- 3.3 The group of functions that requires to be delegated to an IJB are set out in the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions) (Scotland) Regulations 2014. The expansion of the mandatory lists to include functions under the Carers' Act left only one function in relation to the Act where there was a decision to be made in relation to delegation. At the December meeting, Council agreed that it was not appropriate to delegate the function in relation to young carers' statements as it would not be helpful to isolate one strand of provision within Children and Social Work Services and delegate it to the IJB.

3.4 At its meeting on 30 January, the Health Board took a similar view in relation to young carers' statements. It decided, however, that it would be appropriate to delegate the function in relation to the preparation of the local carers' strategy to the IJB in the same way as the Council had done.

4. Considerations

4.1 Following the decision by the Health Board, it was necessary that consultation be undertaken with prescribed categories of stakeholders. This has been done by way of consultation with the Strategic Planning Group established by the Integration Joint Board as this encompasses all of the prescribed stakeholder groups. The consultation period closes on 2 March 2018 and Council will be provided with a summary of any consultation response in the presentation of this report. Given the limited nature of the proposed change and the fact that most of it is mandatory, however, it is not anticipated that the comments will be extensive.

5. Implications

5.1 Financial

Any budget associated with functions to be delegated for part of the payment by Council to the IJB.

Resources

5.2 The resource implications arise primarily from the implementation of the functions and the delegation of these from the Council to the IJB.

Legal

The proposed amendment gives effect to a legal requirement of the Council.

Risk

5.3 The IJB is a well established body and it is not anticipated that risk will arise from a delegation of functions.

Equality

5.4 No Equality issue arises from the subject matter of the report.

Sustainability/Environmental Impact

5.5 A sustainability assessment was not required.

6. Conclusions

6.1 The report seeks Council's approval to give effect to the legislative requirement to made changes to the Integration Scheme.

Director of Corporate and Housing Services

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Appendices

None

List of Background Papers:

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:

None