IJB24. Finance Report

The Integration Joint Board considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer which provided a summary on the financial position for the four month period ending 31 July 2021, including consideration of the potential forecast outturn for the year. A net overspend of £0.972m was reported at 31 July 2021, primarily due to pressure within set aside and primary care services. Early indications were that an overspend of £3.926m may be incurred at 31 March 2022 (excluding additional costs associated with Covid-19 which continued to be monitored separately).

Key issues in terms of year to date performance were:-

- Large hospital services;
- Primary Healthcare Services;
- Community Healthcare Services;
- Social Care Services.

The forecast net overspend against the integrated budget (£1.524m) mirrored the trend reported in previous years in terms of Primary Care prescribing. The projection assumed a breakeven for Falkirk Community Hospital on the basis that any underspend would be transferred to reserves and ring fenced for investment in new models of care and support in the community.

A recovery plan in respect of Primary Care Prescribing was required to address the £1.799m forecast overspend. Whilst breakeven was currently forecast in relation to social care services, this was being reviewed in light of the potential financial risk associated with the significant operational pressures currently being experienced across a number of key service areas (particularly home care). Separate discussions on risk sharing arrangements may be required with Partners, depending on progress to complete the review of the Integration Scheme.

Decision

The Integration Joint Board:-

- (1) noted the year to date overspend of £0.972m reported as at 31 July 2021;
- (2) noted the projected year end overspend of £3.926m and the requirement to develop a recovery plan in respect of Primary Care prescribing in order to deliver a breakeven position by 31 March 2022;
- (3) agreed to ring fence the projected underspend against Falkirk Community Hospital (currently estimated at £0.828m) for reinvestment to test new models of community care and support, including AHP led community services, and

(4) approved the breakdown of the payments to Falkirk Council and NHS Forth Valley as per the Directions summary provided at appendix 1 to the report.