

IJB31. Review of Integration Scheme (first stage consultation)

The Integration Joint Board considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer which provided an update on progress on the review of the Integration Scheme, in line with the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the 2014 Act), following on from the last report to the Board on 4 June 2021.

Work had commenced on the review of the Scheme. At its last meeting, the Board agreed to the first stage consultation on the review. Three main areas were suggested for review:-

- Governance - the Council sought an increase in the number of voting members from 3 to 4.
- Operational delivery arrangements and the role of the Chief Officer - the aim was to better describe the position in the scheme and reflect progress made in this area.
- Finance - the focus in this section would be on risk sharing but the opportunity would also be taken to provide more clarity in general.

The first stage consultation ran from 15 to 30 June 2021 and was conducted by way of an online survey issued to statutory consultees under the 2014 Act. There were 12 responses. Eight of the responses agreed that the 3 proposed areas for review were suitable, with 2 responses having no view, and 2 disagreeing. A summary of responses was appended to the report.

In view of the broad agreement on the areas for review, focus would remain on the 3 main areas identified (with the opportunity for some general “tidying up” – for example, a valid point was raised in the consultation about updating the complaints and information sharing sections to reflect current legislation).

Once the scheme had been reviewed, it would be presented to the Council and the Health Board for approval. Before submission to the Scottish Ministers for final approval, there would be a second stage consultation with the statutory consultees, in line with the 2014 Act.

There may be consequential changes in the Board’s standing orders in relation to the membership of the Board arising from discussions pursued within the scheme review. In particular, there was consensus that it was not necessary to retain the Council and Health Board chief executives as non-voting members.

Decision

The Integration Joint Board noted the content of the report.