



<b>Meeting of East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership</b>	Integration Joint Board
<b>Held on</b>	18 March 2020
<b>Agenda Item</b>	10
<b>Title</b>	Statutory Guidance on Directions from Integration Authorities to Health Boards and Local Authorities
<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>The Scottish Government issued Statutory Guidance on Directions from Integration Authorities to Health Boards and Local Authorities in December 2020. This report identifies the key actions from the guidance and our proposals for implementation.</p>	
<b>Presented by</b>	Lesley Bairden, Head of Finance and Resources (Chief Financial Officer)
<p><b>Action Required</b></p> <p>Members of the Integration Joint Board are asked to note the content of this report and approve the implementation actions identified.</p>	
<p><b>Implications checklist – check box if applicable and include detail in report</b></p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Finance                      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy                      <input type="checkbox"/> Legal                      <input type="checkbox"/> Equalities  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk                              <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing                      <input type="checkbox"/> Directions                      <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure </p>	

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**EAST RENFREWSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD****18 March 2020****Report by Chief Financial Officer****STATUTORY GUIDANCE on DIRECTIONS FROM INTEGRATION AUTHORITIES TO HEALTH BOARDS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. This report provides the Integration Joint Board with proposals to address the key actions identified in the recently issued Statutory Guidance on Directions from Integration Authorities to Health Boards and Local Authorities in December 2020.

**RECOMMENDATION**

2. Members of the Integration Joint Board are asked to note the content of this report and approve the implementation actions identified.

**BACKGROUND**

3. The statutory guidance succinctly summarises directions as the means by which an IJB tells the Health Board and Local Authority what is to be delivered using the integrated budget and for the IJB to improve the quality and sustainability of care, as outlined in its strategic commissioning plan.
4. Directions are a key aspect of governance and accountability between partners. This guidance has been published as one of the proposals from the Ministerial Strategic Group for Health and Community Care (MSG) report on the review of progress with integration (February 2019).

**REPORT**

5. The key actions identified in the guidance are set out in the improving practice and summary of key actions section of the publication:
  - i. A standard covering report format, which includes a brief section requiring the report author to decide and record if the report requires a direction to be issued to the Health Board, the Local Authority or both, or that no direction is required.
  - ii. Directions should include detail on the required delivery of the function and financial resources.
  - iii. The content of a direction should be informed by the content of a report on the function(s) approved by the IJB and should be contained in the same report, using a standard format.
  - iv. Directions should be issued as soon as practicable following approval by the IJB, usually by the IJB Chief Officer to the Chief Executive of either the Health Board or the Local Authority, or both. Each in the role as accountable officers to the relevant statutory body.
  - v. A log of all directions issued, revised, revoked and completed should be maintained. This log should be periodically reviewed by the IJB and used as part of the performance management processes, including audit and scrutiny.

6. The proposed actions for our IJB are:
  - i. We will introduce a specific directions section in the report, rather than inclusion in the implications section of the report as now.
  - ii. Our revenue monitoring report is referenced as a running budget directions reconciliation – however in future the financial implications will be shown with specific directions.
  - iii. We have a standard format report which we will revise for clearer directions detail. The IJB may wish to take this opportunity to suggest any other format changes to the report format.
  - iv. We have agreed with the Democratic Services Manager, who supports the IJB, the process for reporting and recording directions in the IJB minutes and actions. A letter specifying directions will be issued to either or both partners following each meeting of the IJB.
  - v. We will maintain a directions log, along the same principles as our action log for the IJB. Given that directions are likely to support strategic decisions, service redesign and medium-term actions it is proposed that the IJB review this log twice a year.

## **CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

7. Consultation took place as described earlier in the report.
8. The revised policy and strategy was shared with the Performance and Audit Committee in November 2019 who agreed to remit to the IJB for approval.

## **IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS**

9. There are no finance, staffing, risk, policy, infrastructure, equalities or legal implications.
10. There are no directions as a result of this paper, however the identification and treatment of directions within all future reports will reflect the changes outlined, subject to IJB approval.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

11. Whilst the IJB issues directions as part of the financial reports and on a few specific occasions, directions have not been issued as a matter of course.
12. The proposed actions set out for local implementation will ensure we are compliant with the practice set out in the strategic guidance.
13. The implementation of the guidance should be given consideration as future audit activity for the IJB to provide assurance and transparency.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

14. The Integration Joint Board are asked to note the content of this report and approve the implementation actions identified.

**REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT**

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The link to the statutory guidance is included here for further information if required.  
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/statutory-guidance-directions-integration-authorities-health-boards-local-authorities/>

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