

**Minute of Meeting of the
East Renfrewshire
Integration Joint Board
held at 10.30 am on 18 March 2020 in the
Eastwood Health and Care Centre, Drumby
Crescent, Clarkston**

PRESENT

Anne-Marie Monaghan	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Board (Chair)(by teleconference)
Lesley Bairden	Head of Finance and Resources (Chief Financial Officer)(by teleconference)
Councillor Caroline Bamforth	East Renfrewshire Council (Vice-Chair)
Susan Brimelow	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Board (by teleconference)
Councillor Tony Buchanan	East Renfrewshire Council
Julie Murray	Chief Officer – HSCP
Councillor Paul O’Kane	East Renfrewshire Council
Kate Rocks	Head of Public Protection and Children’s Services (Chief Social Work Officer)
Flavia Tudoreanu	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Board (by teleconference)

IN ATTENDANCE

Eamonn Daly	Democratic Services Manager, East Renfrewshire Council
Pamela Gomes	Governance and Compliance Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Dr Angela Campbell	Consultant Physician in Medicine for the Elderly
Anne Marie Kennedy	Third Sector representative
Heather Malloy	Scottish Care representative
John Matthews	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Board
Dr Deirdre McCormick	Chief Nurse
Andrew McCready	Staff Side representative (NHS)
Geoff Mohamed	Carers’ representative
Ian Smith	Staff Side representative (ERC)
Councillor Jim Swift	East Renfrewshire Council

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

BUDGET 2020/21

2. The Board took up consideration of a report by the Chief Financial Officer proposing a budget for the 2020/21 financial year subject to agreement with and directions to East Renfrewshire Council and NHS GGC.

The report explained that the announcement of the Scottish Government draft budget had been made on 6 February 2020, and set out the main messages for the IJB from the announcement. These were that £100M nationally was being transferred from the health to the local government portfolio for in-year investment in health and social care and mental health services that were delegated to IJBs; the funding should be additional to and not substitutional to each council's 2019/20 recurring budget; and that in 2020/21 NHS payments to IJBs must deliver an uplift of at least 3% over 2019/20. Details of the services across which the £100M were to be apportioned and the corresponding local share of funding were outlined.

Further core revenue funding of £95M was provided to councils on 27 February 2020 and on 28 February the Scottish Government had issued a further letter in which it was clarified that as in the previous year local authorities were permitted to offset their adult social care allocations to Integration Authorities by up to 2% and a maximum of £50M based on local needs; that the Scottish Government and COSLA were working jointly to support plans to manage the deficit position in a small number of IJBs and their partner authorities and health boards; and that both the Scottish Government and COSLA had agreed joint political oversight to drive improved performance in health and social care delivery.

The report then explained that the Council had set its budget on 27 February, at that time recognising the additional £100M from the Scottish Government draft budget announcement. However it was noted that the Council budget may be subject to further variation as a result of the final confirmation of budgets of both the Scottish and UK Governments.

Thereafter, the report clarified that the proposed budget offer for the IJB was compliant with the Scottish Government conditions and that based on the information available the total revenue budget, excluding set aside and housing aids and adaptations was expected to be £124.054M, of which £0.6M would be funded by specific grant .

It was explained that within each partner contribution there were a number of cost pressures totalling £6.065M these being summarised. Also outlined was the funding of £3.633M available to meet the pressures and the proposals to close the £2.432M funding gap. Savings of £0.768M had been identified leaving a remaining funding gap of £1.664M to be met from care packages, and revised individual budgets to reflect prioritisation based on national criteria.

Further detailed information on pay and inflation cost pressures was provided, in addition to which the local demographic and demand pressures, as well as prescribing cost pressures and proposals to address these, were outlined.

The timing of the delivery of savings was explained, it being noted that whilst some savings could be delivered early in the year, others would take some time to achieve. This in turn may lead to the need for earmarked reserves to be released and the use of the general reserve if savings were not being delivered in time.

Thereafter, the report confirmed that in the view of the Chief Financial Officer, subject to caveats in relation to the UK Budget, Brexit, and the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic, the budget for 2020/21 was deliverable. However, it was explained that it would be extremely challenging and leave little in reserve for unforeseen circumstances or forward investment opportunity to develop the next Strategic Plan.

The Chief Financial Officer having been heard further on the proposed budget, full discussion took place in the course of which Ms Monaghan welcomed the proposals to pay in full the increase in the Living Wage, highlighting that the people most affected by this were female and part-time staff.

In response to Ms Tudoreanu, the Chief Financial Officer also clarified the uplift figures from the previous year.

Councillor O’Kane questioned whether there was any sense at this stage in relation to the financial impact of tackling the COVID 19 pandemic. In reply, the Chief Officer explained that the financial impact was unclear and this had been one of the main reasons why the Scottish Government had been keen for IJBs to set their budgets as this would enable IJBs to establish a financial baseline. In addition the Chief Financial Officer explained that mechanisms for capturing costs attributable to dealing with the pandemic had now been agreed between NHSGGC and the IJBs within the NHSGGC area. However at this stage, mechanisms in relation to reimbursement required to be developed.

Councillor Buchanan having been heard further on the budget in the course of which he referred to the lack of a multi-year settlement; the additional work that would be required to tackle the pandemic; the additional government funding that was being made available; and also having thanked the Chief Financial Officer for her efforts in preparing the budget in very challenging circumstances, the Board:-

- (a) accepted the budget contribution of £51.313 million for 2019/20 from East Renfrewshire Council;
- (b) accepted the £0.606 million for Community Justice expenditure funded by grant via East Renfrewshire Council;
- (c) accepted the delegated budget for aids and adaptations of £0.550 million;
- (d) accepted the indicative budget contribution of £72.135 million from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde;
- (e) accepted the indicative set aside budget contribution of £31.674 million from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; and
- (f) agreed that directions are issued to East Renfrewshire Council and NHSGGC confirming the acceptance of the budget, caveated for amendment following the outcome of the UK budget announcement

DELEGATED AUTHORITY FOR THE CHIEF OFFICER

3. The Board took up consideration of a report by the Chief Officer seeking delegated authority for the Chief Officer for the foreseeable future to take operational decisions that would normally require Board approval.

The report referred to the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic and explained that investigations had been taking place into the Board’s business continuity arrangements, including how decisions that required Board approval could be made if the Board was unable to meet.

To address this, the report proposed that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Officer to take any operational decisions that in normal circumstances would require Board approval. This would be subject to consultation taking place with the Chair and Vice-Chair. It was noted that whilst this arrangement would be for the foreseeable future it would be the subject of

ongoing review and normal board meeting arrangements would be reintroduced as soon as practicable.

The proposals having been supported, Ms Tudoreanu questioned whether there were any mechanisms in place to keep Board members up to date with developments. In reply the Chief Officer explained that regular situation reports were already being provided regularly to both internal and external groups and a similar arrangement could be introduced for the Board.

Board members having paid tribute to the efforts being made by all staff during the current situation, the Board agreed that:-

- (a) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Officer to take operational decisions in respect of matters that would normally require Board approval, subject to consultation taking place with the Chair and Vice-Chair; and
- (b) a weekly situation report be provided to members of the Board

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

4. It was noted that the next meeting of the Integration Joint Board was scheduled to be held on Wednesday 29 April 2020 at 10.00 am in the Council Offices, Main Street, Barrhead. However, in light of the decision in relation to delegated powers the meeting may not be necessary. Information regarding the need for the meeting to take place would be circulated to members as soon as possible.

CHAIR