

REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD 23 AUGUST 2023

CONSULTATIONS ON WINTER RESILIENCE OVERVIEW 2022 – 23 AND HEALTHCARE IN REMOTE AND RURAL AREAS

1 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board (IJB):

- 1.1 Acknowledge Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership's response, submitted by the Chief Officer exercising delegated authority and following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair in terms of paragraph 1.3 (z) of Section 2 of the Aberdeenshire Integration Joint Board Governance Handbook.

2 Directions

- 2.1 No direction requires to be issued to Aberdeenshire Council or NHS Grampian.

3 Risk

- 3.1 IJB 5 – Risk of not fully informing, involving and engaging with our partners/ clients, the public, staff and partners.
- 3.2 IJB 4 - Inadequate Business Continuity arrangements.
- 3.3 IJB 2 - Poor Health & Social Care Policy alignment.
- 3.4 IJB 6 - Service/ business alignment with current and future needs.

Details of the consultations were shared across the Health and Social Care Partnership (ASCHP) to collate information to form a AHSCP view.

4 Background

- 4.1 This report details Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership's responses to the following consultations:
 1. The effectiveness of last year's Winter Resilience Overview 2022-23
 2. Healthcare in Remote and Rural Areas
- 4.2 In June 2023, the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee launched a short inquiry into winter preparedness and planning within health and social care. The inquiry aims to review the effectiveness of last year's winter preparedness plan and make recommendations for the forthcoming 2023-24 winter plan.



- 4.3 Following on from previous works into primary care pathways, healthcare inequalities and NHS board scrutiny, the Scottish Government committed to the development of a National Centre for Remote and Rural Healthcare for Scotland. The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee launched a short inquiry into healthcare in remote and rural areas of Scotland. The inquiry aims to inform the role of a National Centre for Remote and Rural Healthcare to support recruitment, retention, ideal practice, evaluation, training, education, and research.
- 4.4 Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership were asked to provide a response to both consultations. Given the timescales involved it was not possible to consult with the Integration Joint Board (IJB) in the normal procedure. Following discussions, the Chief Officer of the Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted a response to the consultation.

5 Summary

Winter Resilience Planning 22-23

- 5.1 The consultation, as set out in Appendix 1, provided the opportunity to comment on last year's Winter Resilience Plan produced by the Scottish Government.
- 5.2 The consultation asked for comments on the following areas:
- The effectiveness of government actions to support winter resilience across health and social care last year
 - Priorities to support winter resilience this coming winter
 - Capacity and system flow
 - Workforce and staff wellbeing
 - Patient outcomes
- 5.3 The consultation was emailed to the Senior Management Team and the Collaboration and Leadership Forum on 15 June, with a closing date of the 30 June 2023.
- 5.4 Seven responses were received, and the Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategy Team were tasked with drafting a response, which is attached as Appendix 1 in this report.

Healthcare in Remote and Rural Areas

- 5.5 The consultation, as set out in Appendix 2, provided the opportunity to provide ideas and issues to give the committee an indication of the issues relating to healthcare in rural and remote areas that matter most to people, and support wider community engagement with people living in these areas of Scotland.
- 5.6 The consultation asked for ideas and suggestions on the following:
- What are the most important issues we should look at when we do our inquiry about healthcare in remote and rural areas of Scotland?
 - What is your postcode? This helps us find out where issues are happening in different areas of Scotland.



- 5.7 The consultation was emailed to the Senior Management Team on the 4 July, with comments required by 20 July 2023.
- 5.8 Seven responses were received, and the Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategy Team were tasked with drafting a response, which is attached as Appendix 2 in this report. This feedback includes specific insights from GP practices throughout Aberdeenshire.
- 5.9 The Chief Officer, along with the Chief Finance Officer and the Legal Monitoring Officers within Business Services of the Council have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments have been incorporated within the report.

6 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

- 6.1 Integrated Impact Assessments were completed as part of response development for both consultations. No impacts have been identified because the report relates to consultations and does not have a differential impact on any groups with protected characteristics.

Pam Milliken
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Date 21 July 2023

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Winter Resilience Overview 2022-23 – Response
Appendix 2 – Healthcare in Remote and Rural Areas – Response