



REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD 11 OCTOBER 2023

DEESIDE STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

1 Recommendation

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

- 1.1 Acknowledge the Deeside Strategic Needs Assessment Project Progress Report (Appendix 1).
- 1.2 Agree handover of the Project Business to Operational Location Manager for Aboyne & Banchory.

2 Directions

- 2.1 No direction requires to be issued to Aberdeenshire Council or NHS Grampian as a result of this report.

3 Risk

- 3.1 IJB Risk 3: Workforce capacity, recruitment, training, development, and staff empowerment – staff have been kept informed of the process via regular email briefing during staff engagement phase. Staff who live in Deeside were encouraged to take part in public engagement phase. There remains an underlying risk that the next phase of the project will not improve workforce capacity.
- 3.2 IJB Risk 5: Risk of not adequately involving and engaging with our patients/service users, the public, staff and partners – the project board includes representatives from Healthcare Improvement Scotland. Known community groups and community councils consulted on survey prior to publication. Members of the community consulted on focus group content. Staff and public will be involved in ongoing workstreams where possible. All public communications now refer to “Deeside and Upper Donside” to reflect the identity of all those in the geographical area covered by the SNA following community feedback. Paper copies of the survey were made available in community locations to allow those who were not able to access the online survey to take part. Additional focus groups were set up with groups who had not been represented in the survey and focus groups.
- 3.3 IJB Risk 8: Risk of failure to deliver standards of care expected by the people of Aberdeenshire in the right place at the right time – the improvements planned as an output of this review will follow the correct standards of care.



4 Background

- 4.1 The Aberdeenshire Integration Joint Board (IJB) agreed in May 2021 to conduct a 'Strategic Needs Assessment' of health & social care provision and services along the Deeside corridor including Upper Donside. The process brings together health & social care service providers, third sector, and the Community to look at what service provision there is now and how it can be improved and adapted to meet the current and future needs of the area population.
- 4.2 A wide range of Health & Social Care services are currently provided in Deeside. By assessing Health & Social Care service needs, with a post-Covid lens, this has provided current information and evidence to base decisions about which services should be delivered and how in Deeside. There have been changes in how care and support has been delivered and how people want to receive their care, particularly in the last year, coupled with an increase in demand and complexity.
- 4.3 The staff working in the area as well as members of the community have been engaged with throughout. All stakeholders were kept informed and encouraged to participate about what is important to them.
- 4.4 A Project Board was established to implement the considerations resulting from the Strategic Needs Assessment undertaken in 2021-2022. There were three Workstreams created looking at Communication, Staffing and Service Provision.
- 4.5 Community members were invited to register interest to represent their community on the Project Board or Communication Workstream or to attend an information session looking at replicating Braemar Care model of Community Led Care Provision.
- 4.6 A document containing useful links to information relating to health and social care was developed and shared with GP practices and Community Councils. It was decided that the Engagement HQ page is useful to provide information updates and to receive feedback from community members. The mailing list was updated.
- 4.7 A workshop took place to discuss recruitment and retention challenges across health and social care services across Deeside and Upper Donside. A resulting action plan was developed within the Staffing workstream and has been implemented by team managers.
- 4.8 Two information sessions were designed by a group of community members to provide information to people interested in exploring Community Led Care Provision models. Representatives from Braemar Care and Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action provided information and answered questions. All information shared will be developed into an information booklet to be shared with attendees as well as Community Councils and Organisations who may receive queries in the future.



5 Summary

- 5.1 A progress report for the Deeside and Upper Donside Project Board and Workstreams have been prepared outlining the work undertaken by the work groups.
- 5.2 The Project Board has been consulted in the preparation of the Progress report and their comments have been incorporated into the report.
- 5.3 The Progress Report has been added to Engagement HQ to allow community members to view and comment on the report.
- 5.4 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 There are no changes to the Integrated Impact Assessment since it was previously presented in December 2022.

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Date 12/09/2023

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Deeside Strategic Needs Assessment Project Progress Report