

Midlothian Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan 2019-22

Report by Allister Short Joint Director

1 Purpose of Report

This report seeks the agreement of Council to the proposed consultation response to the draft Strategic Plan compiled by the Midlothian IJB.

2 Background

2.1 Requirement to Complete a Strategic Plan

As required by the Public Bodies (Joint Working) Scotland Act 2014, all Integration Authorities must complete a Strategic Commissioning Plan outlining how they intend addressing the health and care needs in their partnership area for a three year period.

The regulations require partnerships to produce a three year plan although there is recognition that this will be a continual process, with plans being regularly updated to reflect changing need, new evidence about service impact and availability of resources. In Midlothian this has been achieved through the publication of annual delivery plans.

2.2 Development of Midlothian Plan

The Midlothian IJB undertook a comprehensive public and staff engagement exercise, in the spirit of co-production, during the latter half of 2018 involving written submissions, and individual and group discussions. The Consultation Findings Report details the responses to this exercise including feedback from a number of public events. The response to the survey was relatively high with over 1400 members of the public and almost 200 members of staff submitting questionnaires. While access to GPs was the most common concern raised, other issues of direct relevance to the Council included access to information; the importance of investing in frontline staff; and the cost and accessibility of leisure and recreation.

A Joint Needs Assessment has been compiled detailing the current and predicted health and wellbeing needs of the population. Concerns about the growing and ageing population have been recognised in numerous reports considered by Council in the past. Alongside this, the growing prevalence of long term health conditions has been considered. For instance, with increasing longevity comes the likelihood of developing cancer with the prediction that this will affect 1 in 2 people during their lifetime. Another key set of data of direct

interest to the Council relates to mental health with 19% of the population now receiving medication for anxiety or depression rising to 26% in some areas of deprivation. Mental health has also been an increasing issue of concern in Children's Services and Scottish Govt have just allocated additional monies to IJBs for school counselling.

The draft Strategic Plan (appendix 1) outlines the plans of the IJB for the coming three years. Once finalised the IJB will then issue Directions at least annually to both the Council and NHS Lothian. These Directions give instructions as to how the Council Adult Care Service and NHS Lothian should use the resources allocated by Midlothian IJB.

A key feature of the Plan to note is the increasing emphasis being placed upon prevention and early intervention. This reflects a key tenet of the Christie Report on the future of public services and indeed mirrors the Council's and the Community Planning Partnership's commitment to a focus on prevention alongside coproduction and localities.

Services such Sport and Leisure and Libraries have a significant role to play in promoting health and wellbeing although the Council's capacity to maintain these at the current levels may come under review given the severe financial pressures it faces. The Council's housing programme undoubtedly supports the objectives of the IJB given the clear contribution which good housing makes towards health and wellbeing, particularly the provision of extra care housing.

The IJB has no capital budget instead depending on NHS Lothian and Midlothian Council for capital developments. The planned investment in the Dalkeith Recovery Hub, due for completion in 2019, will make a major contribution to services in mental health, substance misuse and criminal justice.

There are no proposals in the Strategic Plan which contradict the overall objectives of the Council and, as such, there is no reason not to confirm support for the plan. However it is important to highlight that the Council's financial position make it possible that decisions will be have to be taken which may not be consistent with the IJBs ambition to strengthen prevention.

3 Report Implications

3.1 Resource

The IJB is allocated the budget by the Council for Adult Care services of approximately £40m alongside a budget of approximately £90m by NHS Lothian. The Council must manage this budget and apply it as instructed through annual Directions. The Council also employs and manages a social care workforce of around 500+ f. t. e. employees. The Council must consider whether the resources it has at its disposal are consistent with the direction of travel outlined in the IJB Strategic Plan.

3.2 Risk

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There is a need to ensure that the IJB Strategic Plan is consistent with both the Midlothian Single Plan and the Council Service Plans. Similarly the IJB Plan must take account of NHS Lothian plans particularly those which relate to Acute Hospitals and to any wider planning initiatives such as the regional approach to diabetes.

3.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- Community safety
- Adult health, care and housing
- Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- Sustainable growth
- Business transformation and Best Value
- None of the above

3.4 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The actions which flow from the Strategic Plan will be reflected in the Adult Health and Care Service Plan and in the relevant section of the Single Plan. These actions will be monitored through the established quarterly and six monthly reporting systems.

3.5 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Prevention is a key theme of the Plan and features in each section as a list of intended actions

3.6 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The public and staff engagement programme described in Section 2.1 has ensured a high level of involvement.

3.7 Ensuring Equalities

The Plan, whilst applicable to the whole population, pays particular attention to the needs of older people and those with disability and long term health conditions. Following feedback, the plan will be amended and then subject to an integrated impact assessment.

3.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

Not applicable

3.9 IT Issues

The application of new technology is critical to the transformation of health and care services and this is highlighted in the Strategic Plan. This will require the involvement and support of Digital Services in both the Council and NHS Lothian.

4 Recommendations

A letter of full support for the Strategic Plan be issued by the Chief Executive whilst highlighting that, regrettably, the Council's own resource constraints may negatively impact on the ambitions of the IJB.

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Background Papers:

Appendix 1: Draft Strategic Plan

Consultation Findings Members Library

Joint Needs Assessment Members Library