

Midlothian Integration Joint Board



27th August 2020

Chief Officer Report

Item number: 5.3

Executive summary

The paper sets out the key service pressures and service developments happening across Midlothian IJB over the previous month and looks ahead to the following 8 weeks.

Board members are asked to:

- *Note the issues and updates raised in the report*

Report

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The paper sets out the key service pressures and service developments happening across Midlothian IJB over the previous month and looks ahead to the following 8 weeks.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 As a result of this report Members are asked to:
- Note the issues and updates raised in the report.

3 Background and main report

Health Visiting

Midlothian Health Visitors have continued to provide a service to Midlothian families during the Covid pandemic. A particular focus has been placed on those “at risk” and families with babies under one year old.

New ways of working have been introduced, including use of technology. Health Visiting staff have embraced these new ways of working which have allowed them to work from home when possible, reducing risk to themselves and our families.

The most recent activity report shows that Midlothian HV teams have been achieving high standards of care (in relation to the Universal pathway) despite the challenges Covid has brought.

Children’s Services Joint Inspection

The 2020 Midlothian Joint inspection of services for children and young people in need of care and protection. The inspection focussed on 5 questions:

- How good is the partnership at recognising and responding when children and young people need protection?
- How good is the partnership at helping children and young people who have experienced abuse and neglect stay safe, healthy and recover from their experiences?
- How good is the partnership at maximising the wellbeing of children and young people who are looked after?
- How good is the partnership at enabling care experienced young people to succeed in their transition to adulthood?
- How good is collaborative leadership?

The draft Inspection report issued on the 6th July 2020, reported all areas evaluated as **GOOD** (Important strengths and some areas for improvement).

Two sub- grades are being appealed (20th July) due to agreement that evidence produced should warrant a higher grade of **VERY GOOD**.

The final report is due 1st September 2020.

Midlothian Community Hospital: Glenlee ward

As Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh services have begun remobilisation, staff temporarily deployed to work in the temporary Covid ward at Midlothian Community Hospital (Glenlee), were returned to their substantive roles. This has resulted in the inability to continue to staff the ward at safe levels.

Currently both temporary and substantive funding is being sourced to re-open Glenlee as a step-up/step-down facility, to complement the development of older peoples' service in the local hospital.

There may also be implications relating to Red/Amber/Green Covid pathway flows for winter that will need to be considered to support patient flow from acute services to home.

The Chief Finance Officer and Chief Officer are pursuing avenues of funding and will report back to IJB once options clear for a decision on future usage.

Frailty Population Health Management Programme

This programme uses data to identify people with frailty, understand service utilisation and identify improvements across the frailty system of care. The programme initially focussed on General Practice and the interface with community services.

During the COVID19 phase1 response the key new development in the programme was the Red Cross Welfare Call service, where over 2700 people estimated to have moderate or severe frailty were contacted and supported (issues identified including hearing aid battery replacements, social isolation, shopping, prescriptions). The Red Cross are now making a second round of calls, as the support needs of people with frailty are changing as Scotland moves out of the national lockdown.

Since COVID phase 1, a new development has seen the Penicuik Frailty Multidisciplinary meeting move to meeting online and the practice using Near-Me (video consultation) for extended appointments. Initial assessment of this has shown an increased level of attendance as the meeting requires less time commitment from staff without the need to travel.

The General Practice Learning Collaborative has also started meeting online with the first meeting focussing on the Red Cross service. The work in the programme over the rest of 2020 is to continue the substantive pilots in the programme, consolidate the learning and focus on how the analytics produced from this work can support improvements in other parts of the frailty system of care.

Finance

The Chief Finance Officer and Finance teams in NHS Lothian and Midlothian Council, are currently in the process of finalising the Quarter 1 review. This forecasts the projected outturn position of the IJB for 2020/21. This has been a challenging process given the additional expenditure incurred/loss of income in response to phase 1 of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Midlothian Council will be reporting their Quarter 1 forecast to Council on the 25th August 2020, and the NHS Lothian Quarter 1 forecast will be reported to their Finance & Resources Committee on the 23rd September 2020.

It is anticipated that this review will show a projected deficit for the IJB, as additional costs have been incurred to support Covid phase1, as well as identified savings plans slipping. Finance teams routinely track all the financial implications associated with the response to the pandemic and report these through the Local Mobilisation Plan reporting arrangements set up by Scottish Government for the monitoring of the financial impact.

To date the IJB has been allocated £820k, a share of the initial funding of £50m released by Scottish Government, and more recently a further share of £25m, £410k. This funding is welcome but still does not cover the projection of the likely costs being incurred during 2020/21, and the financial support for the sustainability principles for external providers.

This is being managed by the Chief Finance Officer through the Scottish Government remobilisation process, and the IJB will be updated on progress at future meetings.

Developing volunteering after Covid-19

Work is progressing on the Volunteer Co-ordinator role agreed by the IJB.

The benefits of volunteering are well known in terms of improved mental and physical health, and reduced social isolation. Volunteers add value, rather than save money, but investing in volunteering does provide a return on investment.

There are a significant number of people who volunteered during the Covid pandemic who are keen to volunteer longer term, and it is recognised that increased volunteer input can contribute to key outcomes identified in the Strategic Plan and Covid Recovery Plan, including outcomes related to prevention, improving health, reducing isolation, increasing self-management and building resilience.

The new Midlothian Volunteer Coordinator role will be recruited via the NHS Lothian Volunteer Programme, so will not be an isolated post, but will benefit from the governance and development support provided by that team. However, the post-holder will be based in Midlothian and their work-plan directed by Midlothian HSCP. Midlothian Volunteer Centre and Midlothian Voluntary Action are very supportive of the role and the post-holder will work in partnership with colleagues there. The recruitment process is underway.

2020/21 Directions

After discussion at Midlothian Strategic Planning Group (18/08/20), it was suggested that a review of the current Directions take place, given the implications from Covid. It is proposed that the group review these, and a formal paper presented to next IJB meeting to recommend any changes required. It was noted that no reply had been received from NHS Lothian or Midlothian Council to date.

4 Policy Implications

- 4.1 The issues outlined in this report relate to the integration of health and social care services and the delivery of policy objectives within the IJBs Strategic Plan.

5 Directions

- 5.1 The report reflects the ongoing work in support of the delivery of the current Directions issued by Midlothian IJB.

6 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 There are no specific equalities issues arising from this update report.

7 Resource Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

8 Risk

- 8.1 The key risks associated with the delivery of services and programmes of work are articulated and monitored by managers and, where appropriate, reflected in the risk register.

9 Involving people

- 9.1 There continues to be ongoing engagement and involvement with key stakeholders across the Partnership to support development and delivery of services.

10 Background Papers

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Appendices: