

Midlothian Integration Joint Board



Thursday 11th February 2021, 2.00 pm

Chief Officer Report

Item number: 5.1

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*

Chief Officer 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

3.1 Vaccination programme and plan

The Lothian COVID Vaccination programme is progressing well. We are implementing guidance from the Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisations (JCVI) based on direction from Scottish Government.

Staff vaccinations have been underway since 8th December and Care Home vaccinations started on 23rd December. By Friday 15th January all care home residents who consented have received their first-dose vaccine.

General Practices have started to receive vaccine supply and all Midlothian practices are vaccinating their patients over the age of 80. The HSCP is vaccinating people over the age of 80 who are housebound for some practice-populations. Over 3,500 people have been vaccinated in Midlothian.

The HSCP has been running a staff vaccination clinic from Midlothian Community Hospital.

From the 1st February General Practices in Midlothian will lead on vaccinating people aged 75+ and people who were Shielding. The HSCP and the Mass Vaccine Sites will focus on vaccinating people aged between 70 and 74. This collective effort will ensure that all people aged over 70 and those who are Shielding will have received the first dose of the vaccine by mid-February.

3.2 Testing

Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) testing continues to be rolled out across Midlothian HSCP teams. This augments a robust current PCR testing model and offers additional assurance of Covid positivity for staff. A weekly local Midlothian LFT huddle has been established where all Service Managers/team leaders included in the LFT roll out are invited to attend to share best practice. This meeting is the HSCP assurance route to ensure all services are reporting results on the Scot Gov online portal correctly, recording distribution of kits and results departmentally and to monitor any potential clusters of positive cases within Midlothian. All services are reporting that the system and process is working well.

LFT outbreak management has been used within 3 Midlothian Care Homes after confirmation of a positive COVID result from routine weekly surveillance staff PCR testing and/or the confirmation of a positive resident. This has allowed rapid confirmation of whole staff testing over 7 days to mitigate the risk of any further transmission within the home.

3.3 Inspections

Highbank Intermediate care facility, Newbyres Village Care Home and Midlothian HSCP Care at Home service were all recently inspected by the Care Inspectorate. All three services were inspected on standard 7 which focuses on infection control and how services have managed Covid. All three services received grade 4's which is classed as "Good" and were described as having good processes and communication in place to care for residents and support staff in their role. These grades have improved from previous inspections.

Care at Home were also inspected on additional areas for leadership and management, care and support, as there had been outstanding requirements and recommendations made from legacy inspections. These requirements were all met, as were the recommendations and improved grades of 4s. No services received any requirements.

Newbyres Care Home, Gorebridge underwent an unannounced inspection between 11 and 21 January. The Care Inspectorate is quoted in a Parliamentary Report (3/2/2021) as stating that staff were compassionate and respectful towards people experiencing care. People were supported to maintain contact with friends and family. People were supported to socially distance when moving around the home. The care home was clean and tidy. Staff changing areas were being improved to ensure appropriate space for social distancing. There was sufficient PPE and staff had appropriate training in COVID-19 procedures and infection prevention and control. Staff used PPE appropriately. Staffing levels had increased to meet people's health and wellbeing needs. There was a staffing contingency plan to help manage staff shortages. Staff were knowledgeable about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and could identify when a person's health was deteriorating. The Care Inspectorate highlighted improvements around personal planning to better reflect people's choices and wishes. As stated above, in the four areas of evaluation Newbyres was assessed as 'good'.

3.4 Chief Nurse

Following the upcoming retirement of Caroline Myles in March, Fiona Stratton has been appointed to take up the role of Chief Nurse for Midlothian HSCP. Fiona has a wealth of experience across health and social care and will commence in post on 22nd March 2021.

I would also like to thank Caroline Myles for all her work within Midlothian over the last few years and wish her a very happy retirement.

3.5 Midlothian Community Hospital

As part of the HSCP plan to open additional beds at Midlothian Community Hospital (MCH), the bed model has been reviewed. A recently vacated ward was made available, providing an opportunity to open more beds and thereby support Midlothian residents to be cared for closer to home.

The hospital ward mode/configuration has been reviewed and reconfigured to meet current need. Recruitment of Medical, Nursing, Pharmacy and AHP staff was agreed and is being progressed. The new model for MCH will provide additional rehabilitation capacity whilst still providing vital care for continuing care patients, End of Life care, and those clinically stable patients awaiting care home placement.

3.6 Care Homes

A privately owned Care home within Midlothian was subject to suspension of registration. This followed concern about standards of care raised by Midlothian company's Lothian nursing staff working within the care home 24/7 to ensure safe care for all residents.

The Care Inspectorate lodged an application to the Sheriff Court in Edinburgh in December 2020 seeking suspension of the registration under Section 65 of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010. This was not contested by the company. Midlothian HSCP worked with residents, their families and others to find alternative suitable accommodation. All residents have now been safely placed in another care home of their choice.

3.7 Scheme of Integration

There is a legislative requirement for each Local Authority and Health Board to carry out a review of the IJB Scheme of Integration every 5 years. The current Midlothian Scheme of Integration was approved by Midlothian Council and NHS Lothian on 14 May 2015.

The plan to review of the Scheme in 2020 was delayed as a result of the pandemic. It is the intention of NHS Lothian to resume the review in summer 2021. Discussion with the IJB will also be arranged prior to the review. The draft updated Scheme will be returned to the IJB for approval late autumn 2021. Members will recall that our Scheme of Integration was updated in 2019 specifically to incorporate amendments arising from the Carers (Scotland) Act.

3.8 Strategic Commissioning Plan 2022-25

Work to develop the Strategic Plan 2022-2025 is progressing. Building on from IJB agreement of the vision and values for the new plan in December 2020, work is underway with planning groups, including plans for consultation and engagement are in development. The intention is for the March IJB Development Session to focus on Strategic Plan priorities.

3.9 Palliative Care Project

This project, funded by the Scottish Government and Marie Curie, is part of a two-site project to explore ways to hear and learn from people's experiences of palliative and end of life care. In Midlothian, the project will follow Experience Based Co-design methodology and will focus on care provided by either the District Nursing service or at Midlothian Community Hospital. This involves gathering experiences from patients, carers and staff through in-depth interviewing, observations and group discussions. The approach focuses on helping people tell the story of their own experience and using these experiences to understand not just the care journey, but the emotional journey people experience when they come into contact with the service.

This approach includes:

- Offering video as a method to capture patient and family member feedback and using the video to create an impactful resource for workshops
- Holding workshops for staff and family members to come together, review the feedback, and identify opportunities for change and improvement that will offer patients a better experience of treatment and care.

The timescales for the project have been adjusted due to ongoing service pressures, however it is anticipated that the project will begin to collect data in March/April 2021 and will conclude in September 2022.

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

AUTHOR'S NAME	Morag Barrow
DESIGNATION	Chief Officer
CONTACT INFO	0131 271 3402
DATE	29/01/2021

Appendices: