

# Midlothian Integration Joint Board



## Chief Officer Report

**August 2021**

**Item number:**

**Agenda number: 5.2**

### 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

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- 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

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- 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

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#### 3.1 COVID Vaccination Programme

The COVID vaccination programme remains in place in Midlothian. As of 18<sup>th</sup> August 69,407 people have received their first dose (87.2% of adult population) and over 58,694 have received both doses (73.8%). All vaccination clinics across Lothian are offering drop-in appointments alongside booked appointments. There have also been pop-up clinics setup in IKEA to improve uptake. People aged 16 or 17 are now eligible to receive a vaccination from mid-August.

The HSCP is leading on the COVID Booster and Seasonal Flu programme for Midlothian residents. The programme will have two fixed sites (one is confirmed as Gorebridge Leisure Centre) and roving teams for people living in care homes or who are housebound. Over 50,000 people in Midlothian will be eligible for a Seasonal Flu vaccination and a COVID Booster vaccination. The Scottish Government ambition is for eligible people to have received their seasonal flu vaccination by the end of November. Priority will initially be people who are Immunosuppressed, All Adults > 70, All Adults >16 who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable and Frontline Health and Social Care Workers.

People will be eligible for a Booster vaccination six-months after their second COVID vaccination. This means that some people will have two separate appointments, but the majority will receive both vaccinations at the same appointment.

#### 3.2 Additional Funding to Support Unpaid Carers

Midlothian IJB and Health and Social Care Partnership have previously acknowledged that the health and care system is very dependent upon the contribution of unpaid carers. The shift towards self-management and care at home will depend upon the ability of carers to continue in their role and they must be

supported to do so. It is vital that carers are identified; that there is recognition of what carers do and the physical, emotional and financial impact that their caring role can have on them whilst providing support, information and advice, aiming to make caring roles sustainable.

In early 2021 services were re-commissioned in line with changes in Carer's Act legislation and the carer support service review and consultation undertaken in 2020 on this foundation. The new contracts were implemented 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 with VOCAL Midlothian and British Red Cross as key agencies.

At the time that contracts were being awarded the Scottish Government announced additional funding (£427k). A collaborative process involving partners is underway to agree on the allocation of this additional funding.

### **3.3 2022-25 Strategic plan progress**

Work continues on the drafting the Strategic Plan 2022-25. This includes work on the Joint Needs Assessment. At the request of the IJB, eight workshops have been organised in October to allow IJB and Strategic Planning Group members an opportunity to discuss themed areas of the strategic plans in more detail. An email was sent to IJB members on 21<sup>st</sup> July asking IJB Members to complete a poll regarding workshops that members plan to attend. Strategic Planning Group members have been invited also.

### **3.4 Annual Report**

At the meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 the Chief Officer is requested delegated authority from the IJB to publish the Annual performance Report on 31 July in line with original publishing timelines set by the Scottish Government.

The extension of the Coronavirus Scotland Act (2020) means that IJBs are able to extend the date of publication of Annual Performance Reviews through to November this year.

While it was the preference of the HSCP that this report is completed and published in line with original timeframes this has not been possible. Midlothian HSCP has requested points of clarity on aspects of the data from Public Health Scotland. PHS has provided some further detail but analysis is expected Mid-September. In discussion with the IJB Chair it was agreed to postpone publication until this is available.

### **3.5 Chief Finance Officer cover arrangements**

Our current Chief Officer is due to go onto Maternity leave from 5th August. Following an internal recruitment process, NHS Lothian have appointed David King to this role until March 2022. Davis will be working on a part-time basis and will also cover the role for East Lothian IJB. Separate arrangements are in place to cover the Finance Business Partner role for the HSCP.

### **3.6 IJB Audit and Risk committee membership**

The IJB are asked to support Jock Encombe becoming a member of the Audit and Risk committee. If supported, Jock will replace Mike Ash to ensure a wide collective

range of experience and skills available, to ensure a comprehensive scrutiny process. David King will also replace Claire Flanagan for the period of her Maternity leave.

### **3.7 IJB Self evaluation progress**

While commitment to self-evaluation remains high, it was agreed to postpone the workshop planned for 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021 following a meeting with the Improvement Service (the [national improvement organisation for Local Government in Scotland](#)). It was agreed that further discussion is required to consider the best way to progress, and if feasible to incorporate a survey requested by External Auditors. A proposal will be shared with IJB members in due course.

### **3.8 Workforce**

The HSCP continue to experience workforce issues relating to the numbers of staff isolating after becoming a contact of a covid positive case. At the point of writing this report, both NHS Lothian and Midlothian Council were finalising processes to utilise Scottish Governance around "exemptions from self isolation" guidance issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

<https://www.gov.scot/news/self-isolation-rules/>

The HSCP staff are working hard to provide flexible cover over the school holiday period to ensure safe deliver of care across all services.

## **4 Policy Implications**

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- 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**

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

## **6 Equalities Implications**

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

## **7 Resource Implications**

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

## **8 Risk**

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- 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

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- 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:**