



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST LOTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2021
VIA DIGITAL MEETINGS SYSTEM

Voting Members Present:

Councillor S Akhtar (Chair)
Councillor F O'Donnell
Dr P Donald
Councillor N Gilbert
Ms F Ireland
Councillor S Kempson
Mr P Murray

Non-voting Members Present:

Mr D Binnie	Ms C Flanagan
Dr R Fairclough	Ms A MacDonald
Ms M McNeill	Prof. E Reynish
Ms J Tait	Dr J Turvill
Mr P White	

Officers Present from NHS Lothian/East Lothian Council:

Mr P Currie	Ms L Kerr
Ms R Laskowski	

Clerk:

Ms F Currie

Apologies:

Dr R Williams
Mr T Miller

Declarations of Interest:

Item 1 – Councillor O'Donnell, Councillor Kempson and Councillor Akhtar declared an interest as this item dealt with their re-appointment. They would leave the meeting for this item.

Item 1 – Paul White and David Binnie also declared an interest as the Third Sector and Carer representatives. However, their interests were not such that required them to be absent during this item.

Item 2 – Peter Murray and Councillor Akhtar declared an interest as this item deal with their appointment as Chair/Vice Chair. They would leave the meeting for this item.

1. RE-NOMINATION OF VOTING MEMBERS AND CHANGES TO NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP OF THE EAST LoTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

The Chief Officer had submitted a report informing the Integration Joint Board (IJB) of the re-nomination of voting members by East Lothian Council; and seeking the IJB's agreement to changes to its non-voting membership.

Peter Murray presented the report, in the absence of the Chair, and invited members to consider the recommendations.

David Binnie queried the wording of recommendation iii. He was advised that the recommendation sought to bring the term of office for all four of the specified non-voting member roles into alignment.

Paul White asked about increasing the non-voting membership of the IJB to include a representative from the Volunteer Centre. He was advised to raise with the issue with the Chair and, if considered appropriate, a report could be brought forward to a future IJB meeting.

The vote on the recommendations was taken by roll call:

Dr Patricia Donald	Agreed
Councillor Neil Gilbert	Agreed
Ms Fiona Ireland	Agreed
Mr P Murray	Agreed

Decision

The IJB agreed:

- (i) to note the re-nomination of Fiona O'Donnell, Shamin Akhtar and Susan Kempson as voting members of the IJB for the maximum term of office (3 years);
- (ii) to appoint Prof. Emma Reynish as a non-voting member, to replace Dr Gourab Choudhury, for the maximum term of 3 years; and
- (iii) that from now non-voting member appointments (or re-appointments) for service users, independent sector, carers and third sector representatives should all be made for the maximum term of 3 years.

2. CHANGES TO CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE EAST LoTHIAN IJB

The Chief Officer had submitted a report inviting the IJB to agree the appointment of a new Chair and Vice Chair of the IJB.

Councillor Fiona O'Donnell presented the report and invited members to consider the recommendations.

Councillor O'Donnell also took the opportunity to thank officers and IJB members for their support during her tenure as Chair. She said she was pleased to be continuing as a voting member and she welcomed the appointment of both Mr Murray and Councillor Akhtar as Chair and Vice Chair.

The vote on the recommendations was taken by roll call:

Dr Patricia Donald	Agreed
Councillor Neil Gilbert	Agreed
Ms Fiona Ireland	Agreed
Councillor Susan Kempson	Agreed
Councillor Fiona O'Donnell	Agreed

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- (i) note that Councillor Fiona O'Donnell was standing down as Chair with immediate effect;
- (ii) the appointment of Councillor Shamin Akhtar as the Chair of the IJB for the period 25 February to 31 March 2021 and then as Vice Chair for two years from 1 April 2021; and
- (iii) the appointment of Peter Murray as Chair of the IJB for two years from 1 April 2021.

Mr Murray offered a vote of thanks to Councillor O'Donnell and reflected on her time as Chair and Vice Chair. He commended her steadfast commitment to doing what was best for the IJB in all circumstances. He also highlighted her efforts to help the IJB connect with the local community and to ensure that the voices of the less able or articulate were heard. Mr Murray said he was grateful for all she had done and for the support she had provided to him in his previous role as Chair. He also welcomed Councillor Akhtar noting that she would be an excellent replacement.

Councillor Akhtar echoed Mr Murray's remarks and said she was delighted to be taking up her new role and to be supporting Mr Murray and Alison MacDonald.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST LoTHIAN IJB ON 10TH DECEMBER 2020 (FOR APPROVAL)

The minutes of the meeting on 10th December 2020 were approved.

4. IJB AND AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEETING DATES – SESSION 2021/22

The Chief Officer had submitted a report setting the dates of the IJB business meetings and development sessions and the meetings of the Audit & Risk Committee during session 2021/22.

The Clerk presented the report and invited members to consider the recommendations.

The vote on the recommendations was taken by roll call:

Councillor Shamin Akhtar	Agreed
Dr Patricia Donald	Agreed
Councillor Neil Gilbert	Agreed
Ms Fiona Ireland	Agreed
Councillor Susan Kempson	Agreed
Mr P Murray	Agreed
Councillor Fiona O'Donnell	Agreed

Decision

The IJB agreed:

- i. the dates for IJB business meetings during session 2021/22;
- ii. the dates for IJB development sessions during session 2021/22; and
- iii. the dates for the Audit & Risk Committee meetings during session 2021/22.

5. INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

The Chief Officer had submitted a report advising the IJB of the publication of the Independent review of Adult Social Care (ASC) to summarise the recommendations of the review and follow up actions.

Paul Currie presented the report outlining the background to the Review, the three aspects of change needed to improve delivery and the recommendations specifically concerning IJBs. He noted that there were a further 45 recommendations directed at the partners and there would be a need to scrutinise all of the recommendations from the Review more closely and to assess the implications for the East Lothian IJB.

Mr Murray acknowledged that some areas would be out with the gift of the IJB but he suggested that those, non-contentious matters within their remit could be accelerated. He said the IJB would have an important role to play delivering elements of the Review and it should also take the opportunity to question itself against the report and its findings.

Fiona Ireland said she had not had a chance to read the full report but based on Mr Currie's summary she felt that East Lothian had already taken considerable steps towards new thinking, especially in areas such as shifting the balance of care. She suggested that a development session on the Review findings and the role of the IJB would be of benefit. In the meantime, she proposed an amendment to recommendation 2.1 in Mr Currie's report suggesting that rather than *accepting* the report at this stage, the IJB should for the moment only be required to *note* it.

Marilyn McNeill said it was opportune to have the direction from the report in terms of services for the elderly and she welcomed the proposed rights and needs based approach.

Mr Binnie said it was important to view the report in its political context and to note that the anticipated costs did not take into account the impact of the pandemic. Nevertheless, he said carers universally welcomed the report as it contained everything they could wish for. He agreed with Ms Ireland's proposed amendment and suggestion of a development session.

Patricia Donald noted that a lot of teams would already have made some of the progress proposed under the 'Shift the Paradigm' heading. She emphasised the end to be sensitive to this and not patronise staff. She said there was merit in mapping where the IJB currently sits in relation to the recommendations as east Lothian was already far ahead in some areas.

Judith Tait welcomed the report, in her role as Chief Social Work Officer, and said that her social work colleagues would likely be supportive of many aspects. She thought it did well in highlighting what was not working as well as it needed to be but she

cautioned that some of the solutions proposed may have unintended consequences. There would be a need to consider and understand the implications of the recommendations.

Mr White welcomed the report and said he hoped it might encourage organisations in the social care sector to think more about themselves and the relationships they have with clients and others. He agreed that a lot of good work had happened already and that this should not be disregarded. He said that a development session would be very welcome.

Councillor O'Donnell said there was a lot to welcome in the Review and the recommendations. The prominence of carers in the review was especially welcome and also the recommendation regarding the workforce. She had some concerns about the proposal for a National Care Service as she felt decision-making would be better done locally rather than centrally. She looked forward to further clarity from Government regarding funding and local accountability.

Alison MacDonald said that it was important to bring this report to the IJB as it would be influencing the direction of travel for several years to come. She acknowledged that progress had already been made in many areas and the importance of maintaining a clear focus on the people at the centre of these services. She also agreed with the suggestion of a development session.

Councillor Akhtar said it was a really powerful report but that they should not lose sight of people at the centre of these services. She welcomed the human rights based approach and agreed on the need for local decision-making and accountability.

Ms Ireland proposed an amendment to the recommendation 2.1 of the report: that the word 'accept' be replaced by 'note'. This motion was seconded by Dr Donald.

The vote on the amendment was taken by roll call:

Councillor Shamin Akhtar	Agreed
Dr Patricia Donald	Agreed
Councillor Neil Gilbert	Agreed
Ms Fiona Ireland	Agreed
Councillor Susan Kempson	Agreed
Mr P Murray	Agreed
Councillor Fiona O'Donnell	Agreed

The vote on the recommendations, as amended, was taken by roll call:

Councillor Shamin Akhtar	Agreed
Dr Patricia Donald	Agreed
Councillor Neil Gilbert	Agreed
Ms Fiona Ireland	Agreed
Councillor Susan Kempson	Agreed
Mr P Murray	Agreed
Councillor Fiona O'Donnell	Agreed

Decision

The IJB agreed:

- i. to note the report of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care;

- ii. how to assess formally the implications for East Lothian IJB of the recommendations within the Review and the timetable for this work, particularly in view of the forthcoming Scottish Government elections; and
- iii. that following a formal assessment of the Review a report will be provided to the IJB to present the next steps.

6. FINANCIAL UPDATE 2020/21

The Chief Finance Officer had submitted a report providing an update to the IJB on its projected year end out-turn, undertaken by both the IJB partners at Quarter 3 and Month 9, with the positions yet to be formally concluded and reported by the partners.

This forecast from both IJB partners has taken into account Covid-19 additional funding that has been confirmed. The report also acknowledged the headline content of the recent Scottish Government (SG) budget announcement and the consequences for the IJB.

Ms Flanagan presented the report summarising the position in the health and social care budgets and confirming that regular dialogue continued with the partners. She referred to continuing challenge with reporting due to changing circumstances but advised members that these forecasts now included additional Covid-19 funding made available by SG. She was able to offer good assurance that the IJB would breakeven for 2020/21 and the current projected overspend was simply an issue of timing related to funding flowing through the system.

Ms Flanagan advised members that the recent SG budget announcement had confirmed further additional funding in 2021/22 of which the East Lothian IJB could expect a share amounting to £1.3m. This money is to be passed in full to the IJB via the local authority. She said she was aware of East Lothian Council's draft budget proposals which would be voted on next month and that NHS Lothian was currently finalising its proposals for 2021/22. She would provide a further report to the IJB once she had indicative figures and final proposals from both partners.

Responding to questions from members, Ms Flanagan provided further detail on when the IJB could expect indicative figures and final offers from both partners. She said that budgets automatically roll over each year which meant that she did have some idea of what to expect although the formal offers may adjust this slightly. She reminded members that the IJB had a 5 year rolling financial plan so the annual budget agreement process should not hinder progress against Directions. Ms Flanagan confirmed that the local demographic was factored into the budget process which adopted a bottom-up approach. She added that as NHS Lothian was below NRAC parity it would receive additional funding.

The Chair welcomed the report and in particular the announcement of increased investment in mental health and primary care services.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. Note the financial forecasts provided by the partners;
- ii. Note that additional COVID-19 funding was confirmed in November and, although not included in these reported Month 6 positions, will start to be allocated to the partners to cover backdated costs;

- iii. Note ongoing uncertainties of COVID-19 and the remobilisation of services for both partners and the financial impact; and
- iv. Note the Scottish Government budget timetable for 2021/22 and the consequences for both partners.

7. COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME – SBAR REPORT

The Chief Officer tabled a SBAR report informing the IJB of progress with the Covid-19 vaccination programme in East Lothian.

Ms MacDonald presented the report outlining progress in key areas: at the vaccination centres at Queen Margaret University and the Community Hospital; the staff vaccination programme, the over 80s, 75-79 year olds and the clinically vulnerable; and the housebound over 80s. She said that the programme represented an outstanding collaboration across all sectors and she offered her thanks to all of those involved, particularly Council staff and volunteers working in the vaccination centres. She advised that vaccinations were being rolled out as supplies were received but there was capacity to increase the pace of roll-out as supply allowed.

Ms MacDonald responded to questions from members regarding the possibility of a formal acknowledgement for volunteers once the process was over, whether particular vaccines were targeted at particular age groups, if reasons for refusal of the vaccine were recorded, and whether further work was required on 'myth busting' to encourage take up.

Both Dr Donald and Dr Turvill welcomed the figures but acknowledged that there had been teething problems and bumps in the road. On the issue of formal recognition for volunteer vaccinators, they maintained that it was an enormous privilege to be involved in such important work and that this was sufficient reward for many volunteers.

Richard Fairclough said it was a good collaborative effort and he and his colleagues were pleased to play a small part in the programme. He noted that supply had sometimes been a concern but that this had been overcome. He said that additional national messaging around where people should go and who they should contact would be welcome.

Referring to earlier questions, Dr Turvill said that it was often hard for people to understand those who would refuse the vaccine but there were campaigns of disinformation and those arguments had to be refuted where they existed.

Ms Ireland commented on messaging noting that there was information provided centrally through NHS Inform and the national helpline. Enquiries to the national helpline were forwarded to local helplines and more infrastructure was being put in place to support the local helpline in Lothian. A FAQs document had also been produced and they were looking at how best to share this with the general public.

Ms MacDonald thanked members for their contributions and questions. She said it was important that the IJB was sighted on this programme as it would be going on for some time to come.

The Chair also thanked members and offered her thanks to all those involved in the roll out of the programme.

Decision

The IJB agreed to:

- i. note the progress made in establishing and making good progress in delivering the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme in East Lothian, in line with Scottish Government policy; and
- ii acknowledge the important support to the vaccination programme provided by HSCP staff, East Lothian Council staff, volunteers and partners and their role in maintaining safe and effective vaccine service provision.

Signed

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Councillor Shamin Akhtar
Chair of the East Lothian Integration Joint Board