

Health and Social Care Board Plan

Purpose

To present members with an updated Health and Social Care Board Plan which reflects recent progress towards the Board's priorities. To provide the basis for verbal updates from staff, intended to highlight key developments over the current period which do not merit a stand-alone report, but are nonetheless worthy of drawing to the Board's attention.

Summary and Recommendations

This report presents an updated Board Plan (Annex A) which reflects the current status of the main workstreams supporting the Board's priorities. The Board is invited to receive written and/or verbal updates on developments which do not merit a stand-alone report but are worth drawing to the Board's attention, including:

- Living wage (including sleepovers)
- Digital Health and Care Strategy and TEC (Technology Enabled Care)
- Public Health Reform
- EU Settlement Scheme
- Keys to Life Learning Disability Strategy update

The Board is invited to note the progress to date and discuss any emerging issues.

References

- Health and Social Care Board Plan, HSC Board April 2018
- Health and Social Care Board Priorities and Plan, HSC Board October 2017

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Health and Social Care Board Plan

Policy Proposal

1. To present members with an updated Health and Social Care Board Plan which reflects recent progress towards the Board's priorities. To provide the basis for verbal updates from staff, intended to highlight key developments over the current period which do not merit a stand-alone report, but are nonetheless worthy of drawing to the Board's attention.

Board Priorities

2. At the October meeting, Board members agreed a set of strategic priorities and associated Board Plan, designed to support the principles from COSLA's constitution:

- Focusing on Communities
- Strengthening Local Democracy
- Delivering Outcomes
- Working Together Locally, and
- Defending Local Choices

The priorities and plan also respond to two of the COSLA Strategic priorities which have been agreed by Leaders:

- Democracy and Reform

3. It was recognised that the Board Plan is not intended to reflect the entirety of the work undertaken by the Health and Social Care Team on behalf of the Board, but rather those areas the Board wishes to prioritise and take a close interest in. As such the Board agreed the following priorities of focus:

- Charging Policies for Social Care
- Integration of Health and Social Care
- Older People's Care and Support/ NCHC and Care Home Provision
- Public Health and Health Inequalities
- Reform of Adult Social Care
- Social Care Workforce
- Self Directed Support
- Digital and Technology
- Mental Health
- Carers Policy

4. The supporting workplan, provided at Annex A to this report, sets out the activities underway to support delivery of these priorities, the intended outcomes, key milestones and whether delivery is currently on track. Where there have been changes to the envisioned timescales, or risks have emerged, these are reflected

within the status descriptor and explanatory notes are provided – including any mitigating action taken or planned.

5. Areas where there have been significant developments within a workstream that require political consideration and/or a decision, are the subject of a dedicated report and agenda item. There is also value in highlighting developments which do not merit a stand-alone report, but are nonetheless worth drawing to the Board's attention. To that end, the Board is asked to receive a written and/or verbal update in relation to the following key areas:

- Living wage (including sleepovers)
- Digital Health and Care Strategy and TEC (Technology Enabled Care)
- Public Health Reform
- EU Settlement Scheme
- Keys to Life Learning Disability Strategy update

Living Wage (including sleepovers)

6. In October 2017 the Scottish Government and COSLA issued a joint letter committing to moving, over the course of 2018/19, to paying the Living Wage (currently £8.75) to adult social care workers carrying out sleepover duty. Additional resources of £10m were secured in the recent local government settlement for councils to cover these additional costs for commissioned services.
7. No additional money was made directly available to pay local government employees the Living Wage for sleepovers. Current arrangements for paying local government employees are governed by an SJC agreement from 2015. This ensures that councils comply with statutory minimum pay legislation but the rate of pay will be less than an hourly rate of £8.75, and varies across councils.
8. In response to the October 2017 commitment, COSLA officers – with partners – have been working to ascertain the impact on member councils. It was established that at least twenty use sleepover duty, to a greater or lesser extent, as a component of their social care provision. Some councils are reporting that they are experiencing difficulties in fulfilling sleepover service commitments duty because employees can now earn more by doing sleepovers as agency workers.
9. Some councils have reported employee relations issues arising out of the national commitment to pay the LW for sleepovers. These issues are discussed at the Living Wage Implementation Group on which COSLA sits. The joint SG/COSLA letter committed only to paying the LW *during* 2018/19. The expectation is that providers will implement as quickly as they can without disrupting service provision, and by the end of the financial year at the very latest. A similar approach could therefore be taken in councils, although national TUs may expect local authorities to commit to a nationally-agreed implementation date. COSLA Leaders are likely to consider the Living Wage at a future meeting and will consider – through agreement with the Trade Unions – how the Scottish Joint Council's terms and conditions may synchronise with this policy.

Digital Health and Care Strategy and TEC (Technology Enabled Care)

10. Following agreement at the COSLA Health and Social Care Board in April, the Digital Health and Care Strategy has now been published. Governance for the

implementation of the strategy will be finalised over the summer but COSLA and Scottish Government have committed to developing a programme board with reporting lines to the MSG. The Board will include senior representation from COSLA, SOLACE and the Local Government Digital Office.

11. Work progresses on the delivery of TEC and an evaluation report on the programme was published on 24th May: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2018/05/2046>. It is recognised that TEC has been a very successful programme to date and officers will aim to spread the learning and impact of TEC to other areas such as the Digital Health and Care Strategy and the Reform of Adult Social Care.

Public Health Reform

12. Following COSLA Leaders' agreement of the Public Health Priorities and sign off by the COSLA Spokesperson and Cabinet Secretary, they will be published this June. This marks a significant step in the Public Health Reform agenda and the Reform team have been progressing work to gain 'endorsement' from a range of public authorities and third sector organisations.
13. In June, officers from the Reform of Public Health Oversight Board will hold a special meeting to consider the potential legislative footing / legal status of the new body 'Public Health Scotland'. This meeting will ultimately provide recommendations to the Cabinet Secretary and COSLA for final approval and COSLA will be seeking an arrangement that maximises the potential of the new body to be innovative, radical and builds in accountability at the local level. Members will receive a full report on this subject when information is available (including Scottish Government legal advice) but are invited to provide a steer to COSLA officers ahead of that discussion.

EU Settlement Scheme

14. While the Home Office are striving to make the EU Settlement Scheme as straightforward for applicants as possible, there are implications for local authorities in identifying, communicating with and supporting EU citizens who might struggle to engage with the scheme. COSLA is working with the Home Office and Scottish Government to identify and address as many barriers to applying as possible.
15. There are a number of vulnerable groups that local authorities interact with who may require support to access and apply to the scheme such as those in care, those with diminished capacity, those who have experienced homelessness. Many of these people may not be able to either prove their nationality or their residency for various reasons.
16. The Health and Social Care Board is asked to note that COSLA is establishing an officer group to identify and discuss the needs of these people and local authorities are able and will be expect to support them. The Board is invited to comment on any issues they may wish to raise in relation to people/communities who might wish to apply for settled status and contact COSLA officers if they would like to know more about the officer group.

Keys to Life Learning Disability Strategy Update

17. The Keys to Life is Scotland's Learning Disability strategy and runs from 2013 until 2023. In 2015 an implementation framework was published which centred on four

strategic outcomes: a healthy life, choice and control, independence and active citizenship.

18. Scottish Government are looking to develop a delivery approach for the next phase of The Keys to Life and a policy reference group has been established to produce proposals for the next phase, for the period 2018 – 2021. The Keys to Life is very much focused on improving health outcomes and Ministers wish to widen the approach and see more focus on early intervention and on education and employment, which do not figure prominently. Ministers would also like to align the Keys to Life with their “A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People - Our Delivery Plan to 2021 for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”.

19. Scottish Ministers would like to concentrate on 5 ambitions rather than the 52 recommendations in the Keys to Life”. These ambitions are:

Caring – health, complex needs

Enabling – social care, self-directed support and social security

Living – housing, communities, justice

Working – skills, training and employability

Learning – early years, schools, further and higher education

20. The original intention had been to present a report for Members at this Board Meeting to consider the output of the policy reference group, however the final meeting of that group has been postponed. Therefore, COSLA Officers will bring a full report on the process of updating the Keys to Life to a future meeting.

Summary and Recommendations

21. This report presents an updated Board Plan (Annex A) which reflects the current status of the main workstreams supporting the Board’s priorities. COSLA officers will provide verbal updates at the meeting as appropriate and in relation to any developments which do not merit a stand-alone report but are worth drawing to the Board’s attention.

22. The Board is invited to note the progress to date and discuss any emerging issues.

COSLA Health and Social Care Team
June 2018