

Minute of a virtual meeting of the **Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee**
on **Wednesday 9 June 2021 at 10.00**

- Present** Steven Johnston, Non-Executive Board Member (Chair)
David Drever, Non-Executive Board Member
Joanna Kenny, Non- Executive Board Member
Rachael King, Integration Joint Board (IJB) Vice Chair
Heather Woodbridge, Integration Joint Board Member
Heather Tait, Public Representative
- In Attendance** Stephen Brown, IJB Chief Officer (Executive Care Governance Lead)
Louise Wilson, Director of Public Health and Acting Medical Director
(Executive Clinical Governance Lead)
Michael Dickson, Interim NHS Orkney Chief Executive
Jim Lyon, Interim Chief Social Work Officer, Head of Children, Families
and Criminal Justice
David McArthur, Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health
Professionals
Mary McFarlane, Interim Director of Pharmacy
Dawn Moody, Associate Medical Director Primary Care
Maureen Swannie, Interim Head of Children's Health Services
Kim Wilson, Interim Director of Acute Services
Heidi Walls, Committee Support

C37 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed S Brown to his first meeting and M Swannie in attendance to present the Local Child Poverty Action Report agenda item.

Further to the message circulated to members, he confirmed the decision to withdraw the Orkney's Children Services Plan 2021-2023 item from the meeting agenda in order that the findings of the Review of the Joint Inspection of Services for Children and Young People in Need of Care & Protection, which was being led by the Care Inspectorate, could be incorporated. It was noted that this would mean there would be short delay in the final submission to Scottish Government but given the importance of the inspection, it was deemed a necessary course of action and the item would be added to the action log for review at a future meeting.

Apologies had been received from C Bichan, S Sankey and J Richards

C38 Declarations of Interest – Agenda Items

No interests were declared in relation to agenda items.

C39 Minute of meetings held 27 April 2021

The minute of the Clinical and Care Governance Committee meeting held on 27 April 2021 was accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and approved on the motion of D McArthur and seconded by D Drever

The Interim Chief Executive referred back to the last meeting noting that he had robustly challenged issues raised during the discussion of Orkney's Children Services Plan 2021-2023 item, but his comments had not been directed at any particular individual and he was sorry if any upset had been caused. He invited anyone with outstanding concerns to contact him directly for further discussion.

Strategy

C40 Local Child Poverty Action Report 2020-21– JCCGC 2122-23

The Interim Head of Children's Health Services introduced the Local Child Poverty Action Report 2020 -21 which had been drafted by the Child Poverty Task Force and was in circulation for consideration by partner agencies prior to submission to the Scottish Government by the 30 June 2021 deadline.

The Child Poverty Task Force, a multi-agency group supported by the Northern Alliance was adopted by the Orkney Partnership Board in June 2020 as a short life working group reporting to the Living Well Delivery Group.

The Interim Head of Children's Health Services noted that the report provided a retrospective look back at the activities and challenges of the past year and provided insights into anticipated local impacts of the pandemic.

The Chief Officer noted that being new to his role, it provided a helpful overview of emerging themes and the challenges at a local level which would be a useful guide for future work on a Child Poverty Strategy and action plan

A query as to whether the report could be made more integrated, accessible and person centred so that the challenges faced and support available were the focus rather than individually defined services.

A concern regarding the stark difference in the take up of free school meals shown in the report and the possible link with the stigma attached to poverty was raised.

The Chief Officer confirmed low uptake as a perennial issue across the country with many individuals not wishing to be seen accepting support and anticipated that the future strategy work would identify proposals to address both issues and ensure individuals feel confident to access the available help.

Examples of local measures currently in place to tackle these issues were given along with an aspiration to achieve less bureaucratic and more anonymised, non-stigmatising processes.

It was also noted that community feedback had highlighted use of the term poverty as contributing to these issues and the challenge of finding a balance of meeting Scottish Government requirements and listening to user feedback was acknowledged.

A concern that there was lack of corporate acknowledgement of poverty in Orkney was highlighted and it was felt that work was required to ensure there was transparency on local issues and challenges alongside the positive images regularly promoted for visitors.

The importance of an underpinning Child Poverty Strategy against which future reports would be produced was highlighted as a priority going forward and it was agreed that the work had identified gaps around integration and that there were lessons to be learnt on how to achieve a more cohesive and holistic approach to best meet the needs of the communities served.

The challenges of meeting Scottish Government reporting requirements whilst ensuring key themes and messages were communicated clearly and accessibly for communities and staff were acknowledged and it was agreed that finding alternative and smarter methods of communicating strategic plans and information was a future priority.

The issues faced by ferry linked isles was highlighted and the requirement to fulfil the statutory responsibility to ensure that no child or community is left behind by ensuring the right balance of partnership services were in place was acknowledged. It was acknowledged that the report outlines two priorities for the year ahead, in addition to those set nationally: care experienced children and children in the ferry-linked isles.

The importance of ensuring the inclusion of the additional impacts of wider infrastructure challenges faced by ferry linked isles in future work was also highlighted.

A concern that the issues raised by the report were often seen as a children's services challenge rather than a wider partnership remit was raised and it was noted that the opportunity to co-opt additional Orkney partnership voices to the working group would be helpful going forward.

The chair sought assurance that the Child Poverty Taskforce had the right representation to take this work forward and was advised by the Interim Head of Children's Health Services that the group had adequate representation although would welcome further membership from staff with expertise in the area.

The chair welcomed the intended use of a *SMART* approach to the action plan going forward noting that the approach could help provide a clearer vision of work planned which should be reflected in future Child Poverty Action Reports.

It was noted that a timeline for a draft strategy could be anticipated as meetings were planned over the next few weeks.

Decision / Conclusion

Members agreed subject to limited amendments as discussed to recommend the report for board approval

Risk

C41 **Agree any risks to be escalated to Audit and Risk Committee**

No risks for escalation to the Audit and Risk Committee were noted

C42 **Emerging Issues**

No emerging issues were noted

C43 **Any other competent business**

Members agreed the recommendation of Joanna Kenny as NHS Orkney Vice Chair of JCCGC to the NHS Orkney Board

C44 **Agree items to be brought to Board or Governance Committees attention**

It was agreed that the key points and decision from the discussion of the Local Child Poverty Action Report 2020-21 would be highlighted to the board through the Chair's Report

Items for Information and Noting only

C45 **Schedule of Meetings 2021/22**

Members noted that the next meeting would be held virtually at 13:00 on Tuesday, 13 July 2021.

C46 **Record of Attendance**

Members noted the record of attendance.