



Integration Joint Board

Agenda item:

Date of Meeting: 29 May 2024

Title of Report: Chief Officer Report

Presented by: Evan Beswick, Interim Chief Officer

The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

- Note the following report from the Interim Chief Officer

Introduction

Welcome to what is my first report as Interim Chief Officer. I would like to thank everyone for supporting me in my new role and I would especially like to thank our previous Chief Officer, Fiona Davies, for her hard work over the last three years and for continuing to be a source of ongoing support.

I've recently been out on site visits and met with staff, it has been a real pleasure for me to see the exceptional health and social care service that they deliver for the people of Argyll and Bute and I would also like to express my gratitude for the professional and compassionate manner in which they provide care. I'd like to extend my thanks to staff for the warm welcome and continued support they have offered.

Service updates in the report this month include our care home task force, spotlight on community nursing in Helensburgh and Lomond, welcoming our international nurses, developments in our Living Well activity and appointments to partnership and public protection committees.

I am also delighted to highlight the recent recruitment of four mental health nurses from Nigeria who have joined the team within Succoth Ward in Mid Argyll Hospital and Community Care Centre. This has been a positive experience for all concerned and highlights that we are looking at all avenues of recruitment to ensure that we can continue to provide a high standard of care for the people who use our services.

In the news section of my report I have spotlighted the Helensburgh & Lomond District Nursing Team and the amazing work that they are carrying in the community. They really have a great relationship with patients and families and are making a real positive difference for the people who need their services which

include management of long term complex care needs, palliative and end of life care.

There is also some good news around a recent investment of £1.7m in refurbishing and developing the Tigh-A-Rudha Residential Home on Tìree. This is a Council owned facility and it has been an excellent example of partnership approach in sourcing the funding for this project.

I hope you find my report interesting and informative and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any suggestions or ideas for future reports.

Service Updates

Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standards

Each Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) is required to submit annual reports to Public Health Scotland to demonstrate progress towards implementing the 10 Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standards for substance use.

The MAT Standards were developed from the recommendations of the Drug Deaths Taskforce which was set up in September 2019 and the aim is to reduce drug related deaths, other related harms and to promote recovery. The standards provide a framework to ensure that MAT is sufficiently safe, effective, acceptable, accessible

healthcare services to patients who are housebound, either living in their ou/F

Armed Forces families face regular moves across not only the UK but also the world, and with each move comes significant change. You change your GP and dentist, you may have to transition from one list to another, you may need to resume ongoing treatment with new specialists in a new hospital - it can be a challenge.

The team in Helensburgh have spent the last two years trying to make those move smoother, easier and less stressful. They have worked collaboratively with the Naval Family Federation to resolve any issues as quickly as possible and identified potential issues to mitigate them before they could occur. If you'd like to find out more about what the team were nominated for, their stories are included in the Awards Night Programme which you can view [here](#).

Argyll and Bute Child Poverty Action Group

As Interim Chief Officer I have also taken over the lead for the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG). This Group came into being in response to the 2017 Child Poverty (Scotland) Act which aimed to put in place measures that would reduce the increase in child poverty, both on a national and local level. The CPAG is a multiagency group, including key third sector partners, and is led by the Chief Officer. The group works closely with the Argyll and Bute Financial Advice and Inclusion Group which shares a remit for addressing poverty and the impacts of poverty.

The CPAG seeks to bring organisations together to share information about services and resources as well as the identified needs of people who may be living in poverty. It sets strategy around identified need and determines actions required to lift children out of poverty.

Staffing Updates

Head of Adult Services (Mental Health, Acute and Complex Care)

We would like to welcome back Julie Lusk who has taken up post as Head of Adult Services (Mental Health, Acute and Complex Care). Julie had been on a secondment with the Scottish Government, and we are delighted that she has come back to join us when her secondment came to an end.

Julie is returning to the post vacated by Jillian Torrens who has recently left the organisation to take up a new role. I would like to thank Jillian for her huge contribution to the Argyll and Bute team and to the services she led.

iMatter and Employee Engagement Surveys

Strong employee engagement remains a priority for the HSCP as it is important that the voice of our staff is heard and acted upon. This is also a focus of the local Culture and Wellbeing Group and a priority for both our NHS and Council partners.

on the information we obtain both to celebrate what we do well and to further improve where this is required. Both surveys will be followed up by focus groups and we will do these in as joined up a way as possible to gather all the relevant information across the partnership and inform our activity going forward.