



REPORT TO: MORAY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD AUDIT, PERFORMANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE ON 29 FEBRUARY 2024

SUBJECT: DIRECTIONS UPDATE

BY: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 To inform the Committee of the issued Directions of the Moray Integration Joint Board (MIJB) for the period 1 April to 30 November 2023.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee consider and note the Directions issued in the period April to November of 2023/24.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the Act) established the legal framework for integrating health and social care in Scotland. The Act required Integration Authorities to develop a Strategic Plan for the integrated functions and budgets delegated by the health board and local authority.

3.2 In accordance with Sections 26-28 of the Act, MIJB has in place a mechanism to action its Strategic Plan which takes the form of binding Directions to one or both of the Partners. Directions are the means by which the MIJB informs NHS Grampian and Moray Council of what is to be delivered using the integrated budget in order to achieve the strategic aims outlined in its Strategic Plan. A Direction must be issued in respect of every function that has been delegated to the MIJB. Directions are an obligatory legal mechanism.

4. KEY MATTERS RELEVANT TO RECOMMENDATION

4.1 At the MIJB meeting on 31 March 2022, the Directions policy and procedures were approved (para 17 of the minute refers). This was to enhance governance, transparency and accountability between the MIJB and its Partner organisations, NHS Grampian and Moray Council, through a clear framework for the setting and reviewing of Directions and to confirm adequate governance arrangements.

- 4.2 As part of the approved procedures, the Audit, Performance and Risk (APR) Committee are to review all live Directions on a six monthly basis for assurance of delivery and compliance through an update report. With any resulting concerns being escalated to the MIJB at the first available opportunity. The first report on the first six months for 2022/23 was noted by this Committee on 24 November 2022 (para 8 of the minute refers), with the next six months reported to 29 June 2023 (para 10 of the minute refers)
- 4.3 **APPENDIX 1** details the Directions approved during the period 1 April to 30 November 2023, for consideration.

5. **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

(a) **Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)) and Moray Integration Joint Board Strategic Commissioning Plan 2022-2032 'Partners in Care'**

This report is consistent with the objectives of the Strategic Plan and includes Directions detailed to the partners of the MIJB.

(b) **Policy and Legal**

The MIJB is, in terms of Section 26 to 28 of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 required to direct NHS Grampian and Moray Council to deliver services to support the delivery of the Strategic Plan is as far as the functions that have been formally delegated.

(c) **Financial implications**

None arising directly from this report.

(d) **Risk Implications and Mitigation**

The delivery of the Strategic Plan is put at risk should appropriate Directions not be issued. The quality of the Directions are also a factor in ensuring implementation as intended. Close monitoring of Directions and scrutiny by Committee provides reasonable assurance that Directions are being carried out as intended.

(e) **Staffing Implications**

None arising directly from this report.

(f) **Property**

None arising directly from this report.

(g) **Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

None arising directly from this report.

(h) **Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts**

None arising directly from this report.

(i) **Directions**

None arising directly from this report.

(j) **Consultations**

The Chief Officer and Corporate Manager of the MIJB have been consulted for comment where appropriate.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 The Committee are asked to consider and note the report content and Directions included in APPENDIX 1.

Author of Report: Deborah O'Shea, Interim Chief Financial Officer

Background Papers: with author

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