



REPORT TO: MORAY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2023

SUBJECT: MORAY WINTER/SURGE ACTION PLAN 2023/24

BY: CHIEF OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 To inform the Board of the Health and Social Care Moray Winter/Surge Action Plan for 2023/24.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Moray Integration Joint Board (MIJB) considers and notes:

- i) that Health and Social Care Moray (HSCM), including GMED (the NHS out of hours service) have robust and deliverable plans in place to manage the pressures of surge at any time of the year including the festive period; and**
- ii) that the Moray Winter/Surge Action Plan 2023/24 has been submitted to NHS Grampian for inclusion in the Grampian Health and Social Care Winter (Surge) Plan.**

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Winter / surge planning is a critical part of operational business to ensure business continuity during a potentially pressured time of the year. It is anticipated that the winter period 2023/24 will bring significant pressure to the health and care system across Grampian.

3.2 Moray's Winter Plan key themes have been created from the nationally agreed Scottish Government and COSLA Winter Priorities and Actions Workshop in August 2023.

3.3 Services are requested to review their business continuity plans annually and review prioritisation of critical functions in order to respond during periods of surge winter activity.

3.4 Regular cross system meetings are held to learn from previous experience and ensure progress against the Grampian wide action plan.

4. KEY MATTERS RELEVANT TO RECOMMENDATION

4.1 There have been various debrief sessions to identify lessons learned from the previous year's winter/surge. The attached winter/surge action plan (**Appendix 1**) has been informed from lessons learned and the remobilisation plan.

4.2 GMED have a Surge Plan for Out of Hours Urgent Care and continue to review / amend as necessary throughout the year to ensure robust, effective and agreed plans for the delivery of primary care out-of-hours services during surge.

4.3 Work will continue to be developed with the Civil Contingencies teams in Moray Council and NHS Grampian, around how HSCM develop and link plans together. Sharing of plans across the three Health and Social Care Partnerships allows discussion about partner support.

4.4 The winter/surge plan is supported by The Scottish Government's Winter Preparedness Checklist which is attached at **Appendix 2**.

5. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)) and Moray Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan "Partners in Care 2022 – 2032"

In line with the strategic themes set out in MIJB Strategic Plan.

(b) Policy and Legal

None arising directly from this report.

(c) Financial implications

Additional funding is made available by Scottish Government to support additional pressures presented by the winter period. The senior management team will assess and discuss where the funds should be applied for greatest benefit and approvals will be sought as appropriate. The interim Chief Financial Officer continues to report regularly.

(d) Risk Implications and Mitigation

Any risks relating to the surge plans will be considered and recorded on the Strategic Risk Register and escalated where appropriate.

(e) Staffing Implications

None arising directly from this report, however staffing is of significant relevance throughout this period as winter ailments will also affect staff. Staff levels will be under constant review and actions taken as appropriate to mitigate risk. Staff are being offered the flu and Covid-19 vaccination to help reduce the risk of severe illness.

(f) Property

None directly arising from this report. However, HSCM is mindful of the impact of property issues over the winter period i.e. access due to weather. Contingency plans are in place to mitigate risk.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required as there are no changes to policy as a direct result of this report.

(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts

An Equality Impact Assessment is not required as there are no changes to policy arising from this report and therefore there will be no differential impact on people with protected characteristics.

(i) Directions

None directly associated with this report.

(j) Consultations

Consultation on this report has taken place with the following staff who are in agreement with the content in relation to their area of responsibility:

- Chief Financial Officer
- Heads of Service
- Service Managers
- GMED Manager

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 HSCM have worked closely with all key stakeholders under the guidance of NHS Grampian to establish local plans in line with national guidance and good practice.

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Moray

Background Papers: with author

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