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**REPORT TO: MORAY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD ON 26 JANUARY 2023**

**SUBJECT: MORAY SCHEME OF INTEGRATION**

**BY: INTERIM STRATEGY AND PLANNING LEAD**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1. To inform the Board of progress in relation to updating the Scheme of Integration to reflect the decision to delegate Children and Families and Justice Social Work Services to Moray Integration Joint Board (MIJB).

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1. It is recommended that the MIJB:**

- i) consider and approve the amendments to the Integration Scheme;**
- ii) agree the submission of the Integration Scheme to the Scottish Government for final approval subject to approval by Moray Council and NHS Grampian at their meetings on 2 February 2023; and**
- iii) agree the implementation of the transition of the statutory responsibility of Children's Services from Moray Council to the MIJB following the final Scottish Government approval.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. Section 2(3) of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act (2014) requires each Local Authority and the Health Board to jointly prepare an Integration Scheme for the area of the local authority. Section 7(1) requires the Local Authority and the Health Board to jointly submit an Integration Scheme to the Scottish Ministers for approval.
- 3.2. On 6 April 2022 Moray Council agreed to progress with delegation of Children and Families and Justice Social Work Services. NHS Grampian Board approval was gained on 2 June 2022, with MIJB approval on 30 June 2022 (para 9 of the minutes refers).
- 3.3. The functions which are delegated by the Local Authority to the Integration Joint Board are set out in the Scheme of Integration; Part 2 of the Annex 2

within **Appendix 1**. These functions are delegated to the extent that the functions are exercisable in relation to the following service areas:

- Social care services provided to children and families
- Fostering and adoptions services
- Child protection
- Justice services

- 3.4. Changes to the Scheme of Integration have been overseen by Brodies Solicitors and areas of change are highlighted in **Appendix 2** for ease of viewing.

#### **4. KEY MATTERS RELEVANT TO RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 Discussions are progressing with Scottish Government (as the statutory approval body) over the formal amendments required to the Integration Scheme to enable the delegation to legally proceed and to aid ministerial approval.
- 4.2 The timeline for revision of the current scheme aims to complete approvals and publish by March 2023. Following consideration by the MIJB, the draft Scheme of Integration will also be considered by Moray Council and NHS Grampian Board, simultaneously on 2 February 2023. Thereafter it will be submitted to Scottish Ministers allowing time for their review within the required timescale.

#### **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”**

Effective governance arrangements support the development and delivery of priorities and plans.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

The Board, through its approved Standing Orders for meetings, established under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Integration Joint Boards) (Scotland) Act 2014, ensures that affairs are administered in accordance with the law, probity and proper standards.

**(c) Financial implications**

In preparation for the delegation of additional function to the MIJB, it will be necessary to closely monitor the financial resources to allow to carry of the function delegated and to assess the risks associated with this.

The MIJB Chief Financial Officer with both Council Section 95 Officer and the Health Board Director of Finance established the arrangement that financial accountability for the delegated functions remains with the Council until to 31 March 2024.

**(d) Risk Implications and Mitigation**

To continue at pace and to recognise the benefits of delegating children and families and justice social work services, workforce engagement is essential to a successful transition. Not only for opportunities for efficiencies and professional development across the Social Work

workforce, but more importantly the lost opportunity for improved workforce alignment which will offer better outcomes for our most vulnerable children and families.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

Proposals for change to team structures and lines of responsibility will be documented through a change management plans including consultation with relevant parties including our staff and unions.

**(f) Property**

No property issues identified at this point.

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

Not required at this point.

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

None arising at this point

**(i) Directions**

Formal directions will continue to be in place relating to delegated functions.

**(j) Consultations**

Chief Executive Moray Council, Chief Officer MIJB, Chief Executive NHS Grampian, Interim Chief Financial Officer HSCM, Head Governance Strategy and Performance, Chief Financial Officer Moray Council and NHS Grampian, Heads of Service Health and Social Care Moray (Sean Coady and Tracy Stephen) have been consulted.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

**6.1. Approvals from all three bodies (NHS Grampian, Moray Council and MIJB) have been gained to formally delegate Children and Families and Justice Social Work services to MIJB.**

**6.2. This paper sets out the position in relation to delegating function to MIJB and the revisions required to the Scheme of Integration**

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Background Papers:

Ref: