



Meeting of East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Integration Joint Board									
Held on	17 March 2021									
Agenda Item	12									
Title	East Renfrewshire HSCP Response to Covid-19									
Summary										
<p>This report provides the Integration Joint Board with an update on the current position of HSCP services in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.</p>										
Presented by	Julie Murray, Chief Officer									
Action Required										
<p>The Integration Joint Board is asked to note and comment on the report.</p>										
Directions	Implications									
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Directions Required <input type="checkbox"/> Directions to East Renfrewshire Council (ERC) <input type="checkbox"/> Directions to NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) <input type="checkbox"/> Directions to both ERC and NHSGGC	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Policy</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Legal</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workforce</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Equalities</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Fairer Scotland Duty</td> </tr> </table>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Equalities	<input type="checkbox"/> Fairer Scotland Duty
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EAST RENFREWSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

17 MARCH 2021

Report by Chief Officer

EAST RENFREWSHIRE HSCP RESPONSE TO COVID-19

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To provide the Integration Joint Board with an update in relation to the HSCP's response to the current Covid-19 pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Integration Joint Board is asked to note the update

BACKGROUND

3. The Integration Joint Board have previously received updates in relation to the HSCP response to Covid-19 and the associated recovery programme. The recovery programme has been paused since January when we moved firmly back to response mode.
4. At the last IJB meeting on 3rd February, the Board received a report on key areas of work in relation to the HSCP's response and this report provides a further update.

REPORT

Vaccination Programme

5. A programme to deliver second doses of vaccine to Care Home patients and staff was undertaken between 16th and 27th February 2021. 365 residents were given their second dose during this phase by our team of vaccinators drawn from HSCP teams including health visiting, rehabilitation, mental health and school nursing, many of whom who volunteered to do additional hours to support this important work.
6. Vaccinations for eligible health and social care staff have continued with staff now being called for their second appointment.
7. GP have completed their vaccination of programme and are planning to commence second doses at the end of the month. Our HSCP housebound vaccination team (mostly district nursing staff) have vaccinated over 950 local people who could not get to their GP or local vaccination centre, of whom 620 were people aged over 80.
8. The community mass vaccination programme (which in East Renfrewshire is being led by the Council in partnership with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde) is operating two vaccination centres; one in Carmichael Hall and another in the Barrhead Foundry. They are working through the priority groups identified at a national level.

Adult Health and Social Localities

9. Our adult social work teams are seeing increased referrals for assessment as a result of significant mental and physical deterioration, carer stress/breakdown and adult support and protection issues. During the period mid-January 2021 to early March, adult locality social work teams have carried out 61 outcome assessments and 105 outcome assessment reviews as compared to 44 assessments and 57 reviews over the same period last year. As reported previously unlike children and families social work we have seen the rescinding of the powers to undertake partial assessments, which we used positively locally to put services rapidly in place and both locality and initial contact team have waiting lists for assessment.
10. We are beginning the implementation of the new Greater Glasgow Discharge to Assess Policy, which hopefully will see earlier referral to our hospital to home team. Our delayed discharge figures have remained below 10 but we are seeing rising numbers of adults with incapacity which is increasing our delay figures.
11. Pressures on our rehabilitation teams continue to rise in the absence of a number of specialist rehabilitation services and earlier discharges from hospital. Although medically fit, people are being discharged much earlier in their rehab journey and have extensive rehabilitation requirements to regain function/ mobility. There have been 493 referrals into the Rehab Teams in the 8 weeks leading up to the 5th March and they are actively working with 380 people requiring specialist intervention. The teams are managing to respond to urgent referrals to prevent admission within 24 hours (weekdays) but are seeing an impact on waits for routine physiotherapy (65 people waiting) or occupational therapy (79 people waiting).
12. Older Adults Mental Health Services continue to provide support within the limitations of current restrictions. In response to increased carer stress and deterioration of older people's dementia and mental health, the team are undertaking outreach visits to support people in their own homes. Medical outpatients' clinics are being offered in the health and care centre, with telephone or virtual consultations as an alternative if requested. Memory clinics and post diagnostic support have not been fully recovered.

Recovery and Intensive Services

Care at Home

13. Our Care at Home service continues to ensure best use of resources and ongoing liaison with external market providers to ensure that there are no waiting lists for service provision from either hospital or community based referrals.
14. The majority of care at home staff have received their follow up vaccination and routine weekly PCR testing is now established, with 92% of the staff team participating. Most positively, the rate of staff being identified as asymptomatic remains low. To date on average just under 1% of frontline staff on a week by week basis are returning a positive test result. This level of absence is having no impact on our ability to maintain service delivery. An overview of the weekly absence levels for the service will continue to be monitored.
15. We continue to have only a very small number of service users being supported who are Covid positive.

Bonnyton

16. The residents and service users have settled back to their refurbished home. Over the past few weeks three residents from Wellmeadow have moved to Bonnyton. Admissions to our intermediate care beds have recommenced and we anticipate that there may be an increase in use of these due to the implementation of the Discharge to Assess policy.
17. The Scottish Government have adapted the guidance to allow for care home visiting and this news has been most welcome to our Bonnyton residents, their families and the staff.
18. Visiting is being introduced on a phased approach and for the first two weeks residents can have a 30 minute visit with one loved one. From week commencing 22 March the home will offer two 30 minute visits per week for two nominated visitors (one person per visit). All visitors are taking a lateral flow test prior to entering the home and are wearing appropriate PPE and visits are taking place in residents' rooms.
19. It's been emotional to welcome visitors back and wonderful for morale and mental wellbeing of residents and staff.

Recovery Services

20. As reported in February, all teams within recovery services have continued to provide support within the current restrictions and staff within Mental Health and Addictions teams continue to work on a rota system minimising the number of staff in the buildings.
21. There is an emerging growth in number of adults affected by poor mental health due to the impact of the pandemic. We anticipate this will continue to rise in terms of numbers and complexity with restrictions and community supports that often provide a level of support which is currently restricted.
22. The Primary Care Mental Health Team and the Adult Autism Team are continuing to work from home using Attend Anywhere and Telephone to provide interventions.
23. Current issues include vacancies and we are seeing some difficulties recruiting staff. Meeting the psychological therapies waiting times are a challenge at present particularly in the Adult Mental Health Team and the Older People's Mental Health Team. We are working with professional leads across the system to see if there are staff available who can work after hours and at the weekend.
24. With regard to achievements we have managed to roll out a peer support service across Adult Mental Health and Addictions Services. This service is being delivered by a third sector organisation and is going well in spite of the restrictions. A report on progress is included on the March IJB agenda.

Public Protection

Adult Support and Protection

25. The Adult Support and Protection Team continue to take the lead role in completing statutory interventions under the ASP Act. On average we have received 14 AP1 referrals per week since the turn of the year.
26. This period has seen a slight increase in referrals from our local care home sector and an increase in referrals in relation to people experiencing mental health difficulties.
27. The main type of harm reported is Physical Harm which ranges from physical injury and bruising to errors in administering medication.
28. The ASP Team continue to work with all specialisms across the HSCP and partner agencies including Police Scotland, Advocacy and commissioned services to ensure that there is a coordinated approach to supporting the most vulnerable people in our communities. This multi-agency approach ensures that vulnerable adults receive the right help from the right resource at the right time.

Child Protection and Domestic Abuse

29. There are currently 8 children on the Child Protection register from a total of 5 families. All children who are on the Child Protection Register or subject to child protection investigations have continued to be seen a minimum of once a week.
30. 41 children were referred in relation to domestic abuse concerns. 35 of these children where there was no current Social Work involvement. In the same period the previous year there were 51 children referred of which 35 were not known.
31. Update from 14th Jan 2021 to 8th March 2021:
 - There were 13 Initial Referral Discussions (IRD) carried out in this time period involving 20 children 12 of which were families.
 - There were 9 children subject to CP Investigation from 5 individual families; 2 children (1 family) have been subject to ICPC and no further action was taken in respect of another child. 6 children remain subject to investigation.
 - Of the 9 CP investigations undertaken, 6 were Joint investigations – with 1 JII completed.
 - 1 child became looked after and accommodated over this period in comparison to 4 children over the same period in 2020.

MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference)

32. MARAC has continued to take place on a monthly basis under the same format albeit moved to virtual MS Teams conference. This ensures all survivors assessed to be high risk are discussed at the earliest opportunity of referral made.

North Strathclyde Pilot

33. Between the 14th January 2021 and 5th March 2021, a total of 51 referrals have been received from the pilot site. 41 joint interviews were completed and in 73% children disclosed concerns. 6 months data has been shared with all involved Local Authority leads and Police and the report will be compiled and presented to Strategic Oversight Group on the 1st April 2021.

34. A review was undertaken and necessary changes made in line with COVID-19 guidance to ensure the needs of the service can still be met and responded to, with the pilot team in its entirety supported to work exclusively from one site from 8th March 2021.

Children's Services and Criminal Justice

35. Face to face contact, where this is necessary for support and protection, has continued to be prioritised. Staff augment direct contact with telephone and digital platform contact in order to maintain relationships and support assessment, planning and intervention.
36. Throughout the lockdown period, children's and justice services have maintained a community presence via our Barrhead site to ensure that we remain responsive to the needs of people who require our support. In compliance with COVID-19 guidance, this has necessitated the use of a rota, with all staff having periods working from home. In order to prepare for the wider support needs of children and young people returning to school, from the 15th March children's services will return to providing support across both Barrhead and Eastwood sites. The additional capacity will ease pressures for staff as well as better support activity planning for the spring holiday period.
37. At times, despite best efforts, the current restrictions have acted as a barrier to assessment and planning. In order to avoid any delay in the provision of support, powers under the Coronavirus Act 2020 (s16 and s17) have been used to undertake partial assessments. We continue to keep the use of these powers under review.
38. Social work and education services continue to work closely together to ensure that children and young people are supported to return to school and make use of education hubs where appropriate.
39. A multi-agency Healthier Minds service has been established to address the increase in levels of emotional distress experienced by our children and young people. Jointly led by HSCP children's services and education, this is augmenting the current capacity in our targeted and intensive services with a view to avoiding or de-escalating crisis situations, minimising the need for further statutory interventions.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

40. The HSCP continues to link to the Council's Resilience Management Team (CRMT) and Greater Glasgow and Clyde tactical group in addition to regular Greater Glasgow and Clyde and National Chief Officer meetings. Both Chief Social Work Officer and Chief Financial Officer meetings continue to take place.
41. The Local Resilience Management Team (LRMT) includes staff side representatives and continues to meet regularly. From 12th March meetings will reduce from weekly to fortnightly. The LRMT can also meet additionally on an ad-hoc basis as required.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

Finance

42. The HSCP finance team continue to monitor all costs associated with the HSCP Covid-19 response.

Risk

43. The HSCP continues to monitor the risk implications from the Covid-19 response.

DIRECTIONS

44. There are no directions arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

45. The Integration Joint Board is asked to note the report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

IJB Paper – 3 February 2021: HSCP Response to Covid-19

IJB Paper - 24 June 2020: East Renfrewshire HSCP Response to Covid-19

https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/1398/Integration-Joint-Board-Item-04-24-June-2020/pdf/Integration_Joint_Board_Item_04_-_24_June_2020.pdf?m=63728422771440000

IJB Paper – March 2020: Delegated Authority for Chief Officer

https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/1423/Integration-Joint-Board-supplementary-papers-2-18-March-2020/pdf/Integration_Joint_Board_Supplementary_Papers_2_-_18_March_2020.pdf?m=637347399888670000