



Meeting of East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Integration Joint Board
Held on	16 August 2023
Agenda Item	11
Title	Health Checks for Adults with a Learning Disability
<p>Summary</p> <p>In December 2022 the Scottish Government issued Directions to Health Boards for them to deliver annual health checks to adults with a learning disability aged sixteen and over and adults who identify as having a learning disability. Following a period of engagement with government officials, earlier Directions were revoked and new Directions issued in January 2023 along with funding confirmation.</p> <p>This report outlines the delivery model and approach we intend to take across NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (GGC). East Renfrewshire HSCP will host the service on behalf of NHS GGC and our five fellow partnerships.</p>	
Presented by	Julie Fitzpatrick, Interim Chief Nurse
<p>Action Required</p> <p>The Integration Joint Board is asked to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the intended delivery model • Note East Renfrewshire's leadership, management and strategic oversight role in delivering health checks to adults with a learning disability across NHS GGC. • Note the progress made to date in devising an action and implementation plan via a steering group to deliver a workable operational model. 	
<p>Directions</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Directions Required</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Directions to East Renfrewshire Council (ERC)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Directions to NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Directions to both ERC and NHSGGC</p>	<p>Implications</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Legal</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workforce <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Equalities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fairer Scotland Duty</p>

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

16 August 2023

Report by Chief Officer

Health Checks for Adults with a Learning Disability

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to provide IJB members with an overview of national Directions with respect of health checks for adults with a learning disability and, the progress so far in creating an operational model to deliver health checks to all adults with a learning disability and anyone who identifies as having a learning disability across NHS GGC. The report also outlines East Renfrewshire's leadership, operational and planning role in the delivery of the service.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Integration Joint Board is asked to:
 - Note the intended delivery model
 - Note the leadership, management and strategic oversight role East Renfrewshire have in delivering health checks to adults with a learning disability across NHS GGC.
 - Note the progress made to date in devising and implementing an action plan via a steering group to deliver a workable operational model.

BACKGROUND

3. In December 2022 the Scottish Government issued a Direction to all Scottish Health Boards stipulating that they must offer annual health checks to adults (sixteen plus) who have a learning disability or identify as having a learning disability. There was a further Direction provided in May 2022 informing of the financial allocation for this work to each Health Board. The funding amounts to £2million for Scotland. For NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde HSCPs this totals £444k for 22/23 divided by the NRAC formula and distributed to all six HSCPs. The Scottish Government have stated that health checks must be offered to everyone eligible by 31st March 2024, whilst accepting that a phased approach will be required. The health checks must be delivered by registered nurses or medical staff and the Scottish Government has provided a twenty-page assessment for the health checks with a pre-assessment questionnaire to be sent to people in advance of a health check appointment.
4. Initially Scottish Government requested that Primary Care should be responsible for the delivery of health checks via a Local Enhanced Service (LES) However, this had not been agreed at a national level with primary care and after discussion with the Deputy Medical Director for Primary Care it was evident that GP practices did not have the capacity to deliver this service as envisaged.

5. The delivery of health checks to all adults across Scotland on an annual basis within the available resource will be challenging. East Renfrewshire, via our Chief Officer and Head of Service for Learning Disability and Recovery have been actively involved with other NHS Boards / HSCPs and government officials in illustrating the challenges. As a result of these discussions an agreement has been reached with government that alternative models could be developed and funded using the resources available. Alongside this a national Implementation Group has been created to support all areas in taking forward delivery.
6. An alternative operational model was proposed by East Renfrewshire HSCP and agreed by chief officers in NHS GGC. It was also agreed that East Renfrewshire HSCP would provide leadership and host a team to deliver health checks across NHS GGC.

REPORT

7. East Renfrewshire have assumed responsibility on behalf of all partnerships to lead on the development of a model to deliver health checks to adults with a learning disability and anyone who identifies as having a learning disability living in NHS GGC. In order to progress this work, a steering group with expertise and experience in learning disability practice has been created with strategic oversight from the Head of Service, Learning Disability and Recovery. The steering group has membership including Interim Chief Nurse, Service Manager for Learning Disability Community Services, Head of Health Information, Clinical Director for Learning Disability Services, Equality and Diversity Manager, the Deputy Medical Director for Primary Care and Public Health, 'The Life I Want' group who have lived experience and provide advocacy provision are working closely with us to support the development and provide expertise in ensuring our processes are fully accessible.
8. The local steering group will oversee the planning and implementation of health checks with an aim of having a fully functional service in place and commencing health checks prior to March 2024.
9. The steering group has regular meetings scheduled on a six weekly basis and the Interim Chief Nurse has constructed an action log to identify areas of work which will be regularly added to and updated with progress. The subsections of the action plan include steering group members, staffing required, patient registers, communication and co-production, performance and KPIs.
10. East Renfrewshire have consulted and shared the detail of our proposed model with the Scottish Government and other Chief Officers across Scotland. The Head of Service has joined a Scottish wide implementation group and he will be able to feedback and inform the steering group of any further Scottish Government updates. It will also allow NHS GGC to update on local activity and progress.
11. Members of the steering group have been providing updates to all six HSCPs at a variety of meetings and by email.
12. The Scottish government has provided a financial allocation for 22/23 consisting of £444k. Our modelling illustrates this is insufficient to provide an annual health check to all adults

with LD however, we have agreed with government that we will move forward and will report progress via monitoring and the implementation group.

13. The steering group will therefore look to develop a priority list to ensure people who would benefit most from a health check will be contacted and offered a health check first.
14. The recruitment of staff for the health check team has commenced. The Scottish Government stated that the health checks must be delivered by registered nurses or medical staff. We have therefore begun to recruit nursing staff with a skill mix of band 7, band 6 and band 5 registered nurses (7 wte). Through the newly Qualified Nurse Central Recruitment Process, we have already been able to secure five band 5 nurses, who will start in September/October 2023, and have organised for band 6 and 7 to progress to recruitment. We will also look to recruit to an administrative support post. We will require GP sessions for review of Health Check outcomes and advice on any follow up actions. The service will be operationally managed by the Learning Disability Service Manager.
15. The service will be set up and operationally managed with strategic oversight by East Renfrewshire HSCP on behalf of all HSCPs. The service manager will report to clinical and care governance structures with reports to all HSCPs about activity and overall performance and progress.
16. As noted above the service model will not be able to deliver health checks to every eligible adult on an annual basis. This is related to the funding allocation and the population size in NHS GGC, combined with the time it will take to offer and undertake health checks. However, the service when operational, will prioritise individuals who will most benefit from a health check and who are most at risk of poor health outcomes without intervention.
17. The ability to deliver health checks is reliant on having an effective data base register in place with details of all eligible people with learning disabilities. Work is being progressed to understand how a single register can be created and how this can be best achieved from current systems, but there is a high possibility this will be a complex process.
18. The service will have a focus on adults with a learning disability who are known to be vulnerable to suffering inequalities and poor health. A key aim of delivering health checks is to prevent people having poor health outcomes. The health check team will capture data to make sure all efforts are in place to support individuals from all backgrounds and ages to take up the offer and benefit of a health check
19. There is Scottish Government policy on the Health Check assessment to be utilised, we will follow this, and develop local systems and processes for effective delivery of health checks.
20. NHS GGC has significant and long experience in delivering health checks for people with learning disability, being the first board in Scotland to develop a specific service. The service was retired with the creation of the new GP contract and whilst we awaited further plans.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

21. We are working closely with Government and all other HSCPs

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

Finance

22. As part of our hosting role East Renfrewshire will manage the totality of the resources allocated to the Greater Glasgow and Clyde HSCPs.

Workforce

23. Recruitment for the health check team is underway as noted above.

Risk

24. The funding allocation means the service model will not be able to deliver health checks to every eligible adult on an annual basis. We will prioritise individuals who will most benefit from a health check and who are most at risk of poor health outcomes without intervention. We do not believe this increases or presents risk to people with a learning disability.

Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty

25. The delivery of health checks will include considerations of how to actively reduce any inequalities caused by socio economic disadvantage.

26. There are no infrastructure, policy or legal implications.

DIRECTIONS

27. The Integration Joint Board will implement the Direction from the Scottish Government to deliver this programme on behalf of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

CONCLUSIONS

28. East Renfrewshire HSCP are continuing to make progress with the development of a health check delivery model that will operate across all NHS GGC. The service will be managed and located within East Renfrewshire. The service is expected to be operational in October 2023. A steering group has been formed which will monitor, track and report on progress.

RECOMMENDATIONS

29. The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

- Note the intended delivery model
- Note the leadership, management and strategic oversight role East Renfrewshire have in delivering health checks to adults with a learning disability across NHS GGC.
- Note the progress made to date in devising and implementing an action plan via a steering group to deliver a workable operational model.

REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT

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27 July 2023

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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