

**West Lothian Integration Joint Board**

Date: 8 December 2015

Agenda Item: **14****SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION – URGENT ACTION TAKEN****REPORT BY DIRECTOR****A PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform the Board of action taken under Standing Order 16 (urgent business) in responding to a Scottish Government consultation on adding integration joint boards to the remit of the office of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman.

**B RECOMMENDATION**

1. To note the action taken on 11 November 2015 in relation to urgent business under Standing Order 16.
2. To note the response sent on behalf of the Board to the Scottish Government expressing agreement with the proposed addition of integration joint boards to the remit of the office of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman.

**C TERMS OF REPORT**

The Board's Standing Orders allow officers to make decisions and take actions which are required urgently and which cannot be delayed until the next ordinary meeting of the Board. The Director is authorised to take such action, after consulting the Chair and Vice-Chair, and subject to the action taken being reported to the Board at its next available meeting.

The Scottish Government has consulted integration joint boards, councils and health boards on a proposal to include IJBs in the list of public bodies subject to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO). The consultation period started on 14 October and ran out on 12 November. The start of the process was not notified as it should have been and was only noted by chance, after the Board met on 20 October.

The recommendation to the Board would have been that the change should be made, so that integration joint board (and committees) are subject to the same scrutiny process in relation to complaints and claims of maladministration as are other public bodies, including the health board and the council.

The Chair and Vice-Chair were consulted, and agreed with that approach. A request was made for an extension to the consultation response deadline, but no reply was received. As a result, the Board's response was sent on 11 November 2015, stating the Board's agreement to the proposal. This report completes the process set out in Standing Order 16, and ensures that Board members and the public are aware of the action taken.

## **D CONSULTATION**

Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk of the Board

## **E REFERENCES/BACKGROUND**

Board's Standing Orders

## **F APPENDICES**

None

## **G SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>Equality/Health</b>	N/A
<b>National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes</b>	N/A
<b>Strategic Plan Outcomes</b>	N/A
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	N/A
<b>Impact on other Lothian IJBs</b>	None
<b>Resource/finance</b>	None
<b>Policy/Legal</b>	None
<b>Risk</b>	None

## **H CONTACT**

James Millar, Clerk to the IJB, West Lothian Civic Centre, 01506 281613,  
james.millar@westlothian.gov.uk

8 December 2015