

2. COMMISSIONING PLAN FOR OLDER PEOPLE - REPORT BY DIRECTOR

A report had been circulated by the Director in respect of the strategic commissioning plan for older people.

The report recalled that at the meeting on 24 March 2016 the Integration Joint Board (IJB) approved its strategic plan which included details of how high level outcomes were to be achieved through a process of strategic commissioning. The Strategic Plan also included a commitment to develop a series of care group based commissioning plans.

A short-life working group had been established to develop the three year commissioning plan for Older People. A draft plan had now been prepared for the approval of the IJB. As with all commissioning plans it followed a specific structure which was as follows :-

- Section 1 – Provided an overview
- Section 2 – Detailed the main recommendations
- Section 3 – Detailed the specific commissioning commitments; and
- Section 4 – The next steps

The report then explained that Section 4 would not normally form a significant part of a commissioning plan however it was felt that this was necessary at this stage because the IJB budget was not yet developed to the level appropriate to commissioning plans. This in turn limited the extent which commissioning commitments could be detailed. In addition, organisational arrangements within the scope of the IJB were undergoing considerable change and this was likely to have an impact on commissioning commitments.

The programme of change covered areas such as Dementia, Carers, Telecare, Community Support, End of Life Care, Community Capacity Building, Care in the Community and Service Integration and the report provided a narrative on these areas. It was further noted that the some elements of the plan were complex and would be difficult to implement.

In relation to the effect, of the plan, on carers and particularly on the back of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 coming into being, it was agreed that a separate discussion would be undertaken with Mary-Denise McKernan on this very subject.

Complimentary to the plan was details of the Frail Elderly Programme which was targeting and identifying a particular group to design a whole system model of care that would improve outcomes, individual experience and deliver value for money. There were four projects within Phase 1 and each project would be developing recommendations for change and gathering data to support the recommendations made. The projects were as follows :-

- ❖ St John's Hospital In-Patient Re-Design – to design a more streamlined pathway for frail elderly patients who were admitted into hospital with an in-patient stay through to discharge;
- ❖ Family Hub and Templar Rapid Access Clinic – to provide patients, families and GP's with one point of contact to refer frail elderly patients, before they reached an acute stage, for appropriate assessment and care;
- ❖ Intermediate Care Review – would explore the contribution that intermediate care provision could make to whole system review and redesign, including community hospital provision; and
- ❖ Older People's Mental Health Project - would focus on key initiatives to improve the dementia care pathway and enhance community provision around the OPACT service, the Memory Assessment and Treatment Service.

It was anticipated that a programme of change would be in place by the start of 2017 with some elements being implemented by the start of the new financial year.

There was a general discussion about the current position with care for the elderly, noting that demand across West Lothian for elderly care services was on the increase particularly with an ever aging population. Requests for nursing home places was also on the rise and concerns with contractual arrangements with both private and public providers of care home place were just a number of issues impacting on service delivery today and into the future.

The Group were being asked to comment on the commissioning plan which had not been circulated so it was agreed that this would be circulated after the meeting and that any feedback was to be submitted direct to Alan Bell by 4.00pm on Monday 21 November 2016.

Decision

- 1) Noted the contents of the report;
- 2) Agreed that the plan itself would be circulated to all SPG members and that any feedback was to be submitted to Alan Bell by 4.00pm on Monday 21 November 2016;
- 3) Agreed that a separate discussion would be undertaken with Mary-Denise McKernan with regards to the impact on carers;
- 4) Noted the work of the Elderly Frail Programme;
- 5) Noted the concerns around service provision at some care homes; and
- 6) Noted the concerns with regards to the rise in demand for nursing home care places; and

- 7) Noted the many challenges ahead due to an aging population and that efforts continued amongst partners to address needs in both the present day and into the future.