

Date	10 January 2023
Agenda Item	12



Report to West Lothian Integration Joint Board

Report Title: IJB Public Consultation – Modernising Adult Social Care

Report By: Project Officer

Summary of Report and Implications	
Purpose	This report: (tick any that apply).
	- seeks a decision <input type="checkbox"/>
	- is to provide assurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	- is for information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	- is for discussion <input type="checkbox"/>
	The purpose of this report is to inform the Integration Joint Board (IJB) of the high-level findings of the recent IJB public consultation, Modernising Adult Social Care.
Recommendations	It is recommended that the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the contents of this report.
Directions to NHS Lothian and/or West Lothian Council	A direction(s) is not required.
Resource/ Finance/ Staffing	As set out in the Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023
Policy/Legal	Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014
Risk	Risks in relation to non-delivery of the IJB's Strategic Plan are set out in the risk register.
Equality, Health Inequalities, Environmental and Sustainability Issues	An Integrated Impact Assessment was carried out during development of the Strategic Plan.

Strategic Planning and Commissioning	The report relates directly to the IJB's strategic plan and care group strategic commissioning plans.
Locality Planning	Meeting the needs of localities is incorporated is reflected in the strategic plan and strategic commissioning plans.
Engagement	Engagement with a range of stakeholders, SPG and IJB members prior to the consultation. Further engagement with stakeholders, staff and the public of West Lothian through the consultation period. A report was taken to the SPG in December 2022.

Terms of Report	
1.	Background
1.1	Over the three-year period, from 2023/24 to 2025/26, it is expected that the IJB will have to make substantial savings as the funding available will be insufficient to meet the increasing cost of service delivery. Based on financial planning assumptions, a budget gap of £13.2 million is currently forecast over the three-year period for IJB services.
1.2	An initial range of proposals totalling £9.69 million have been identified for relevant social care and health services, through a public consultation the IJB has sought the views of people in West Lothian on these proposals and associated changes to service delivery. It should be noted that further work will be undertaken to identify further measures to address the remaining funding gap of £3.51 million.
1.3	The IJB's public consultation was launched on Friday 7 th October 2022 and closed on Sunday 20 th November 2022.
2.	Public Consultation
2.1	The consultation was focused on the following three areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service Redesign, Efficiency and Modernisation 2. Community Building Based Supports 3. Digitalisation and Technology
2.2	Members of the public were invited to consider the proposals of the consultation, provide feedback on the proposals and suggest any other ways that may help to make our services more efficient.
2.3	Throughout the period of public consultation, several methods of engagement were undertaken to ensure that a wide range of stakeholders were able to contribute to the consultation. Linkages were made with West Lothian Corporate Communications to ensure that the consultation was promoted through West Lothian Council's media channels. The consultation was also promoted via the WLHSCP website as well as social media channels. We engaged with our partners in the Voluntary Sector Gateway and Carers of West Lothian to ensure that the survey was promoted to Third Sector Organisations and to unpaid carers. A presentation was delivered to the West Lothian Senior People's Forum and linkages were made to the Community Connections Hubs to promote engagement. Paper copies were also made available to people without internet access.

3. The Response

3.1 The consultation received a total of 176 responses from a range of respondents throughout West Lothian.

3.2 The survey was constructed in such a way as to ensure that respondents only needs to complete the questions that they felt were most relevant to them and were required to complete all questions, therefore the response rate varies from question to question.

3.3 Service Redesign, Efficiency and Modernisation

The key themes that were identified from the analysis of the responses to the section of the consultation focused on Service Redesign, Efficiency and Modernisation were that:

- there was general support for the Home First Programme
- change would be welcomed along with modernisation
- respondents were supportive of helping people within their own homes
- while respondents were supportive of the proposed approach there were concerns about availability of resources, workforce capacity and the possibility of increased workload for existing staff.

3.4 Respondents were generally in favour of people being supported within their own homes where possible, however it was also noted that this approach may not work for everyone. The main concern highlighted by respondents was the staffing levels that would be required and the availability of community-based support services.

3.5 Community Building Based Supports

The key themes that were identified from the analysis of the responses to the section of the consultation focused on Community Building Based Supports were that:

- respondents were supportive of a review of social care settings
- there was further support for the principles of the Home First Programme
- current building-based services are greatly valued by many people who access these services
- respondents noted some concerns that the proposal could mean reduced hospital beds
- respondents noted concerns over the length of time it could take for a care package to be put in place.

3.6 Overall respondents were generally supportive of a review of social care settings and agreed that there were many benefits to ensuring that people can be supported at home or as close to home as possible rather than within a clinical setting. Respondents highlighted that they would like more detail on how the proposed financial efficiency could be achieved and how this would impact on the number of care beds available in West Lothian. It was also highlighted that these measures would need to be balanced with the expected increase in the demand for services as a result of the growing and ageing population in West Lothian.

3.7 Digitalisation and Technology

The key themes that were identified from the analysis of the responses to the section of the consultation focused on Digitalisation and Technology were that:

- respondents were positive about the proposed expansion in the use of technology, they noted that it is a helpful tool and that modern technology should be seen as an opportunity to drive efficiency in the care sector
- respondents did highlight some concerns over the current energy crisis and the possibility of power cuts

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> older people may not have access to the internet or have specific needs which impact their ability to use technology.
3.8	The majority of respondents were supportive of use of technology to support the delivery of care and support. Respondents noted that the use of technology could help with staff retention as it allows flexible and remote working and that the use of modern digital technology could be seen as an opportunity to improve efficiency within the care sector. The main concerns raised were linked to the current energy and cost of living crisis and the ability of all care groups to access the internet.
4.	<p>Conclusion</p> <p>The Integration Joint Board is presented with information regarding the public consultation, Modernising Adult Social Care.</p> <p>The IJB consulted on a range of proposals to deliver the efficiencies noted in the report. The information gathered from the consultation will be used to inform the development of the strategic plan and associated delivery plans.</p>

Appendices	none
References	none
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