

INVERCLYDE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD – 23 JUNE 2025

**Inverclyde Integration Joint Board**  
**Monday 23 June 2025 at 2pm**

**PRESENT:**

**Voting Members:**

Councillor Francesca Brennan (Chair)	Inverclyde Council
Dianne Foy	On behalf of David Gould, Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board
Councillor Robert Moran	Inverclyde Council
Councillor Lynne Quinn	Inverclyde Council
Dr Rebecca Metcalfe	Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board
Dr Paul Ryan	Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board

**Non-Voting Professional Advisory Members:**

Kate Rocks	Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Jonathan Hinds	Chief Social Work Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Craig Given	Chief Finance Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Dr Chris Jones	Registered Medical Practitioner
Dr Hector MacDonald	Clinical Director, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Laura Moore	Chief Nurse, Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS

**Non-Voting Stakeholder Representative Members:**

Ciorstaidh Reichle	Staff Representative, NHS Board
Charlene Elliott	Third Sector Representative, CVS Inverclyde
Donald McQuade	Service User Representative Proxy Member, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership Advisory Group
Heather Davis	Carer's Representative
Stevie McLachlan	Inverclyde Housing Association Representative, River Clyde Homes

**Also present:**

Vicky Pollock	Legal Services Manager, Inverclyde Council
Katrina Phillips	Head of Mental Health, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Margaret McIntyre	Head of Children & Families and Criminal Justice, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Angela Rainey	Service Manager, Support Services, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Scott Bryan	Service Manager, Planning Performance & Equalities, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer, Inverclyde Council
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer, Inverclyde Council
Alison Ramsay	Corporate Communications, Inverclyde Council
Karen Haldane	Executive Officer, Your Voice, Inverclyde Community Care Forum (public business only)

**Chair:** Councillor Francesca Brennan presided.

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The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Ms Foy, Ms Reichle, Dr Jones, Ms Elliott, and Mr McLachlan attending remotely.

### 45 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 45

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of:

David Gould	Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board (with Dianne Foy substituting)
Councillor Sandra Reynolds	Inverclyde Council

No declarations of interest were intimated.

### 46 Minute of Meeting of Inverclyde Integration Joint Board of 12 May 2025 46

There was submitted the Minute of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board of 12 May 2025. The Minute was presented by the Chair and checked for fact, omission, accuracy and clarity.

Referring to Minute Reference 39 (Strategic Partnership Plan – 6 Monthly Progress Update), Dr Ryan advised that he had since received a satisfactory response from Mr Bryan to the question he had asked.

Referring to Minute Reference 37 (Inverclyde ADP Strategy 2024-2029), Dr Metcalfe advised that her questions at the previous meeting had related to the governance of the strategy and not to the services.

**Decided:** that the Minute be agreed.

### 47 Voting Membership of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board 47

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership advising the Board of a change in its voting membership as Councillor Robert Moran was appointed by Inverclyde Council at its meeting on 12 June 2025 to replace Councillor Colin Jackson, with Councillor Jackson appointed as Councillor Moran's proxy. The report was presented by Ms Pollock.

The Chair welcomed Councillor Moran's return to the Board and thanked Councillor Jackson for the contributions he made during his membership.

**Decided:** that the Board notes the appointment by Inverclyde Council of Councillor Robert Moran as a voting member of the IJJB to replace Councillor Colin Jackson, with Councillor Jackson appointed as Councillor Moran's proxy.

### 48 2024/25 Draft Annual Accounts 48

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership (1) setting out the proposed approach for the Board to comply with its statutory requirements in respect of the annual accounts, and (2) presenting the draft 2024/25 Annual Accounts and Annual Governance Statement, a copy of which was appended to the report. The report was presented by Mr Given, who thanked colleagues for their assistance in preparing the Accounts.

In his absence, the Chair expressed the thanks and appreciation of Mr Gould to Mr Given and the finance team for the strong set of accounts presented.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the proposed approach to complying with the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 be noted;
- (2) that the Annual Governance Statement included with the Accounts be approved;
- (3) that it be agreed that the unaudited accounts for 2024/25 be submitted to the Auditor; and

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(4) that the transfer to Earmarked Reserves, as detailed at page 8 of the Draft Annual Accounts, be approved.

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### Rolling Action List

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There was submitted a Rolling Action List of items arising from previous decisions of the IJJB. The List was presented by Ms Rocks.

With reference to the entry 'Arrange Development Session on ADP Strategy' it was agreed after discussion that this will be included in a Development Session which will also cover other topics.

With reference to the entry 'Provide update reports on the ADP Strategy 2024-2029 on a semi-regular basis' it was agreed that this will be discussed at the Development Session.

With reference to the entry 'Provide update reports on progress with the decommissioning of the Inverclyde Centre when there are significant developments' Ms Rocks advised that a report will be presented to the September meeting of the Board.

**Decided:** that the Rolling Action List be noted.

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### Inverclyde Integration Joint Board (IJJB) and IJJB Audit Committee – Proposed Dates of Future Meetings

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership seeking approval of a timetable of meetings for the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board (IJJB) and the IJJB Audit Committee for 2025/26. The report was presented by Ms Pollock.

The meeting dates were noted in the report as follows:

IJJB Audit Committee	8 September 2025 at 12 noon (Committee members and External Auditors only)
IJJB Audit Committee	8 September 2025 at 1pm (usual meeting)
IJJB	8 September 2025 at 2pm
IJJB	17 November 2025 at 2pm
IJJB	12 January 2026 at 2pm
IJJB Audit Committee	23 March 2026 at 1pm
IJJB	23 March 2026 at 2pm
IJJB	11 May 2026 at 2pm
IJJB Audit Committee	22 June 2026 at 1pm
IJJB	22 June 2026 at 2pm

**Decided:** that the timetable of meetings for the IJJB and IJJB Audit Committee for 2025/26 be approved.

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### Savings 2024/26 Update

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership (1) advising the Board of the updated position of the 2024/26 savings exercise and the progress of the work in each of the Savings Programme Board workstreams, and (2) providing an update on the Voluntary Redundancy / Voluntary Early Retirement process. The report was presented by Mr Given.

Mr Given responded to questions and comments regarding (1) the progress of the review of senior staff structure and Voluntary Redundancy / Voluntary Early Retirement process, and (2) areas impacted by both VR/VER trawls and savings, and committed to providing an update report to the September meeting on the progress of this. Ms Rocks provided reassurance that care had been taken not to subject individual services to both VR/VER trawls and savings exercises at the same time.

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**Decided:**

- (1) that the updated progress of each of the savings workstreams be noted; and
- (2) that the progress of the Voluntary Redundancy / Voluntary Early Retirement process be noted.

**52 Health Care Scotland Act 2019****52**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the work undertaken within Inverclyde to date to meet the requirements of the Health Care Staffing (Scotland) Act 2019, which had been enacted from 1 April 2024. The report was presented by Ms Moore.

Officers responded to questions concerning (1) the timescales for implementing the Act, and (2) the learning curve of implementing new legislation.

**Decided:** that the content of the report be noted.

**53 HSCP Workforce Action Plan 2022-2025 – Progress Update****53**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing the Board with the annual update on the HSCP Workforce Action Plan 2022-2025. The report was presented by Ms Rainey.

Officers responded to questions and comments concerning (1) the GG&C Workforce Strategy, which was due to be approved by GG&C Board on 24 June 2025, and how it aligned with the IJJB Workforce Strategy, (2) workload pressures, (3) local reporting on the Renal Unit at Inverclyde Royal Hospital, with it being noted that the HSCP is not responsible for the management of the hospital, (4) positive impacts from successful projects, and (5) reassurances that officers were content that all potential Care Service providers aligned with the HSCPs commitment to fair work and Ethical Care Charter practices.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the progress made since the last update be noted; and
- (2) that the Board acknowledges that (a) the HSCP Workforce Planning Group is currently developing a refreshed Workforce Plan, and (b) the intention that the final version of that Plan will be presented to the IJJB for final approval early next year.

**54 Scottish Government Alcohol Drug Partnership Annual Reporting Survey 2024-2025****54**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership (1) presenting the proposed Inverclyde Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) submission of the Scottish Government Alcohol and Drug Partnership Annual Reporting Survey 2024-2025, a copy of which was appended to the report, and (2) advising that the ADP had approved the document on 19 May 2025 and a draft version had been submitted to the Scottish Government on 13 June 2025 with an explanation of the IJJB meetings timetable. The report was presented by Ms Phillips.

Ms Phillips advised of errors in the report:

Paragraph 3.5 – (1) 'pending approval' should read 'pending sign-off', and provided an explanation of the process that should be followed, and (2) clarification that the governance of the ADP sits with the Community Planning Partnership/Alliance Board and not the IJJB.

Officers responded to questions and comments concerning (1) the specific requirement not to provide numerical data in the Survey return, but that this information will be captured in the ADP Annual Report which will detail the number of individuals and families supported by various services. Ms Rocks committed to (a) provide feedback to the Scottish Government on comments made by the Board on the Survey, and (b)

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discuss what numerical data the Board would find relevant at the planned Development Session, (2) the role of the Alliance Board in the governance process, and (3) when the ADP Annual Report will be presented to the IJJB for noting.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the ADP submission of the Scottish Government Alcohol and Drug Partnership Annual Reporting Survey 2024-2025 be noted; and
- (2) that the intention of the ADP to remit the Scottish Government Alcohol and Drug Partnership Annual Reporting Survey 2024-2025 to the Inverclyde Alliance Board be noted.

### 55 Children & Families Redesign: Foster Carer Fees

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the redesign of Children and Families Services and detailing (1) the measures proposed to increase and retain the number of local fostering placements for children and young people, (2) the pressures within the service, and (3) the improved outcomes for children and young people from providing foster care within Inverclyde. The report was presented by Ms McIntyre.

The Board broadly welcomed the report and proposals, and officers responded to questions and comments concerning (1) the reasons for the decrease in the number of foster carers in the past few years, (2) how the recruitment of new foster carers will be advertised, (3) whether there was an alternative strategy should the HSCP fail to recruit new foster carers, (4) praise of the existing foster carers and acknowledgement of their professionalism and commitment, and (5) whether the fee will be reviewed on an annual basis, with Ms Rocks advising that the fee will be increased in line with other staff uplifts.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the outcome from the analysis of the benchmarking foster carer fees against comparative local authorities be noted;
- (2) that it be agreed that foster carer fees to existing foster carer households be increased to £350 per child per week effective from 23 June 2025, as detailed in option 3 at paragraph 3.13 of the report; and
- (3) that the intention to increase the number of fostering households by five, at an annual additional cost of £350,000, be noted.

### 56 Chief Officer's Report

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on developments which are not the subject of reports on this agenda. The report was presented by Ms Rocks and provided updates on (1) Delayed Discharge, (2) Mental Welfare Commission (MWC) End of Year Review, (3) Housing Contribution Statement, (4) celebrations for International Nurses Day and the Launch of NHS GGC Nursing and Midwifery Strategy – Leading the Way.

Ms Rocks advised of a typographical error in the report, and accordingly at paragraph 3.2 'Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland (MWC) End of Year Review', the acronym SCR refers to Social Circumstances Reports and not Significant Case Reviews.

**Decided:** that the updates provided within the report be noted and that future papers may be brought to the IJJB as substantive agenda items.

**It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7(A).**

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**57      Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations      57**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership on matters relating to the HSCP Governance process for externally commissioned Social Care Services for the reporting period 17 April to 21 May 2025.

The report was presented by Mr Hinds and provided updates on establishments and services within Older People Services, Adult Services and Children's Services, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the governance report for the period 17 April to 21 May 2025 be noted; and
- (2) that members acknowledge that officers regard the control mechanisms in place through the governance meetings and managing poorly performing services guidance within the Contract Management Framework as sufficiently robust to ensure ongoing quality and safety and the fostering of a commissioning culture of continuous improvement.