

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL – 11 JUNE 2001

REPORT ON: ESTABLISHMENT OF NHS TAYSIDE BOARD – LOCAL AUTHORITY APPOINTMENT

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT NO 377-2001

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To recommend to the Minister for Health and Community Care a Dundee City Council elected member for membership of the new NHS Tayside Board.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee's instructions are requested.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

None.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

None.

6 BACKGROUND

As a direct outcome of the Scottish Health Plan "**Our National Health : A Plan for Action, A Plan for Change**" the Scottish Executive Health Department has produced a change programme "Rebuilding Our National Health Service" which outlines guidance for the detailed implementation of the Scottish Health Plan recommendations. Part of the commitment within the Scottish Health Plan was the establishment of 15 new NHS Boards across Scotland. These new single unified NHS Boards will replace the separate Board structures of the existing NHS Health Boards and NHS Trusts.

All members of the NHS Board will be expected to bring an impartial judgement to bear on issues of strategy, performance management, key appointments and accountability, upwards to the Scottish Ministers and outwards to the local community. Members will provide independence of thought and action reflecting the public interest. These Boards will be strategic bodies accountable to the Scottish Executive Health Department and to Ministers for the designated functions of the NHS Board; and the performances of the local NHS system.

There is a recognition within the Implementation Plan that health improvement cannot be delivered by NHS Scotland in isolation and that NHS Boards and Local Authorities must work closely together across a range of health and community planning issues. It is intended to reinforce this partnership by further promoting greater integration of planning and decision making between Local Government and the NHS and other partners.

Although some Health Boards already have members who are also elected local authority members, it is intended that in future this will be the norm across NHS Scotland with the presence of elected representatives on the new Boards intending to improve communications between the NHS and Local Authorities and support closer partnership working, consistent with the principles of community planning.

These members will play a vital role in helping to strengthen collaboration between the NHS Scotland and Local Authorities across a range of activities, including service delivery and community care. However, it will not be the Local Authority member's function to provide the primary link to the community planning process as senior representatives of the NHS Board will be members of the community planning partnerships in their own right.

As full members of the NHS Boards, Local Authority members will be bound by the need for collective responsibility and the specific responsibilities outlined in the attached Annex. They will also be expected to participate fully in the committee structures of the local NHS system.

7 APPOINTMENT

Within the guidance it is deemed vital that Local Authority members of NHS Boards enjoy the full confidence of their authorities, and they are able to commit to decisions on health and health service matters which could affect their local communities. Local Authorities are therefore invited to nominate either:

- their Leader; or
- their Depute Leader; or
- the senior member of the Local Authority with designated responsibility for public health-related issues

Each Local Authority will have 1 seat on its principal NHS Board and the successful nominee will be appointed by the Minister as a member of the principal NHS Board.

It is desirable that the appropriate member be recommended at an early date as this would be extremely helpful to the project management team within Tayside working on the establishment of the NHS Tayside Board.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Rebuilding Our National Health Service – Guidance to NHS Chairs and Chief Executives for Implementing **Our National Health** A Plan for Action, A Plan for Change, May 2001, Scottish Executive Health Department

Chief Executive

Date

Annex : Role of members of NHS Boards

* As a member of an NHS Board, you will be expected to:

- participate fully in the governance of the local NHS system;
- contribute to strategic leadership and planning within the local NHS system;
- work with the Chair and other members of the NHS Board to discharge the functions of the NHS Board, which will comprise:
 - strategy development – to develop a single Local Health Plan which addresses the health priorities and health care needs of the resident population;
 - resource allocation to address local priorities – funds will flow to the NHS Board, which will be responsible for deciding how these resources are deployed locally to meet its strategic objectives;
 - implementation of the Local Health Plan; and
 - performance management of the local NHS system;
- accept collective responsibility, with the Chair and other members of the NHS Board, for decisions of the Board.
- work with and fully represent the Board's activities, in an honest and positive way, to:
 - the local community;
 - local authorities;
 - elected community representatives;
 - all other interested parties;
- actively work with other NHS Boards, Acute and University NHS Trusts, Primary Care NHS Trusts, Local Health Care Co-operatives and other local service providers to ensure an integrated approach to providing health and community care services, and health improvement schemes;
- put into action the Scottish Executive's policies and priorities as set out in the Programme for Government, for example, as they relate to health and healthcare, social inclusion and community development. In particular, you will work with all stakeholders in the local NHS system and nationally to implement the actions set out in *Our National Health: A plan for action, a plan for change* – the Scottish Health Plan (SEHD, December 2000);

- work with all health organisations and the Scottish Executive Health Department to make sure there is a corporate approach to implementing government health policy;
- develop an effective working relationship with other NHS Board members and staff within the local NHS system to implement the decisions of the Board;
- participate in training and development opportunities designed to help you perform effectively as a member of the NHS Board;
- adhere to the Standards of Conduct, Accountability and Openness of NHSScotland
- help ensure that organisational values and aims are clearly explained, understood and applied throughout the whole organisation;
- participate in, and potentially chair, committees of the NHS Board and the local NHS system, such as audit and clinical governance;
- be accountable to Scottish Ministers, through the Minister for Health and Community Care, for the decisions of the NHS Board and the overall performance of the local NHS system.

Your opportunities

As a member, you will:

- be able to contribute to the development of Scotland's health service, which people depend on 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and which is one of the best in the world;
- be able to help improve the health of the people in your community;
- be able to plan and deliver high quality healthcare for the people in your community;
- get support and training from both the Scottish Executive and the organisation to help you in your role;
- have the opportunity to contribute to the development of health policy at a national level by working with the Scottish Executive Health Department and the Minister for Health and Community Care.

Time commitment

As a member, you will probably need to spend around 8 hours a week on Board business, sometimes this may be in the evenings or at weekends."