

IV IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON DELIVERY OF THE STRATEGIC AND COMMISSIONING PLAN

There was submitted Agenda Note DIJB12-2021 reporting that, in December 2020, the Integration Joint Board considered and approved a report detailing the impact to date of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Partnership's ability to deliver the Strategic and Commissioning Plan 2019-2022 and on early planning for revision of the plan (Article VI of the minute of this Integration Joint Board held on 15th December 2020 refers). At that time the Chief Finance Officer was instructed to work with the Strategic Planning Advisory Group to draft a public statement summarising the impact of the pandemic on the delivery of the plan and to undertake further detailed planning for the revision of the current strategic and commissioning plan.

The recommendations approved by the Integration Joint Board in December 2020 were based on the Chief Officer's understanding of the impact of the pandemic on the delivery of the strategic plan at the time at which the report was produced, end of October 2020. The second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated escalation of operational responses began in November 2020 necessitating a decisive shift from a focus on recovery to a short-term focus on response. This context had meant that for the last four months capacity to progress the actions detailed within the strategic plan had once again been significantly diminished. In the intervening period the demand that would be placed on Partnership resources to support continued pandemic response (in areas such as care homes and vaccination) alongside recovery during 2021/2022 had also become clearer; with a direct impact on capacity available to deliver actions from the strategic plan and to catch-up on delays reported to the Integration Joint Board in December 2020 by the current end date of the plan (31st March 2022).

It was therefore apparent that the Strategic Planning Advisory Group required time to revise and update their assessment of the impact of the pandemic on the ability to deliver the strategic plan and to update their recommendations to the Integration Joint Board on this matter. The Strategic Planning Advisory Group would convene on 22nd April, 2021 to consider in detail the impact of the pandemic on the delivery of the current plan and arrangements for the statutory review and subsequent revision of the plan. This meeting would also consider the implications of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care in Scotland for the timeline and process of revising the Partnership's strategic and commissioning plan, as well as the approach being taken by the other Partnerships in Tayside. A full report and recommendations would thereafter be submitted to the Integration Joint Board on 23rd June, 2021 for consideration.

The Integration Joint Board noted accordingly.