

Agenda Item	20.
Report No	CLH 18/18

## HIGHLAND COUNCIL

**Committee:** Care, Learning and Housing

**Date:** 30 May 2018

**Report Title:** **Joint Transition Service**

**Report By:** Director of Care and Learning

### **1. Purpose/Executive Summary**

- 1.1 The report provides an update on the establishment of the Joint Transition Service for young people aged 14 to 25 years.

### **2. Recommendations**

2.1 Members are asked to note:

- i. the progress of the implementation of the Joint Transitions Team.
- ii. the move of Deaf Services from Kenneth Street Inverness.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 Under the Partnership Agreement within Highland to deliver integrated Health and Social Care Services through a Lead Agency model, Highland Council commission NHS Highland to deliver Adult Services. Similarly NHS Highland commission Highland Council to deliver Children's Services. The development of a Joint Transitions Team serving 14–25 year olds, builds on these principles in developing a model with a single management and governance structure. This new transitions model bridges both Children's and Adult Services. Statutory responsibilities to provide assessment, support, care and protection under relevant legislation for Children and Young Adults will continue to be met under this new model, which is also supported and underpinned by the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 3.2 The development of the Joint Transitions Team was approved by the Highland Council People Committee in August 2017 and at the NHS Highland Health and Social Care Committee in September 2017. The initial aim in the implementation planning was for the team to be operational by April 2018. This date has now moved to early June 2018, which is on target.
- 3.3 The delay was largely due to sourcing availability of a suitable office base. An options appraisal was presented to the Project Board in January 2018. This highlighted that there was limited office availability in both NHS Highland and Highland Council; and 16 Kenneth Street Inverness being the recommendation that was supported by the Project Board.
- 3.4 Deaf Services which has occupied Kenneth Street for some time, has been supported to move into the Sight Action premises in Beechwood Inverness. This is the progression of a planned piece of work to create a "one stop hub" for service users with sight and hearing loss, and to provide specialist support, advice and equipment for those with sensory impairment.
- 3.5 The Transitions project has worked closely with Deaf Services and Sight Action to plan and prepare this move, which has involved consultation with the Deaf social club, Deaf support specialist workers and Sight Action to ensure the move has minimal impact on services. The Deaf service is now scheduled to vacate Kenneth Street by 11 May and all service users who use the drop in service at Kenneth Street have been advised of this.
- 3.6 This move will allow the full use of Kenneth Street for the Transitions team. Work is progressing on target to make the necessary changes for the team to be operational by early June.
- 3.7 It is intended that service budgets will remain with the respective organisations. The focus is on producing a better service for young people, with minimal organisational change. There is still some work to be done to align decision-making processes and there will continue to be a Transition Board to oversee further work and to assess the effectiveness of the new arrangements.
- 3.8 The Joint Transitions Team will have a full complement of staff from both Highland Council and NHS Highland, to reflect the necessary skills required to safely and effectively meet the needs of young people aged 14-25. The breakdown of the staffing is as follows: Social Workers - 6.5 fte; Community Learning Disability Nurses – 2 fte; Family Keyworker - 1 fte; Autism Practitioner - 0.5 fte; Community Children's Worker – 1 fte; and Children's Service Worker - 1.4 fte.

- 3.9 The team will be jointly managed by a Practice Lead from The Highland Council and a Team Manager from NHS Highland. These two team leads, both with a Social Work background, will ensure that effective leadership, support and line management is provided to staff from both organisations. They will also provide the required statutory nominated and designated officer role in both Child Protection and Adult Support and Protection.
- 3.10 The team will sit under the organisational leadership of NHS Highland, through the Learning Disability and Autism Service Manager. This recognises the transition journey of young people moving into the care and support of Adult Services. There will also be a close link and line management of the Practice Lead from a South Area Children's Services Manager, ensuring the team retains a management link and relationship with The Highland Council Care and Learning Service.

## **4. Implications**

### **4.1 Resource**

The implementation of the Joint Transitions Team is being delivered from existing resources within The Highland Council and NHS Highland. Staffing of the team has been achieved through existing children's disability and adult workers noting interest to join the team. This followed the mapping of skill sets, and confirmation of the staffing levels required to meet the needs of the team, whilst also ensuring there remains sufficient staffing and skills within existing children's service and adult community teams. It has been positive that the required staffing has been achieved through the notes of interest, resulting in a team of staff who have chosen to be part of the new team. There are no changes to the terms and conditions of employment for staff.

The resource for the office base at Kenneth Street has been achieved by linking into current projects within NHS Highland, i.e to install the NHS Highland network into council buildings where NHS staff are located, and also by linking into the refresh of the Highland Council network and refresh of Highland Council telephone systems.

To date, the total cost of the team implementation has been £8,080. This has been a cost of £1,080 to install additional network points to enable the full potential of desk space within Kenneth Street, which has been paid for by NHS Highland, and work to be completed by NHS Highland estates. A further cost of £7,000 has been identified to provide new laptops for the NHS Highland staff. Highland Council staff will use laptops from existing stock, and receive new hardware from the forthcoming planned Highland Council refresh.

### **4.2 Legal**

The project manager has been working with the data protection officers in Highland Council and NHS Highland to ensure that the function, model and systems of the Joint Transitions Team comply with the new General Data Protection Regulations which came into force on 25 May. An Information Sharing Agreement and Privacy Impact Statement are being drafted for approval by the NHS Highland Information Sharing Governance Group. The Director of Care and Learning will approve on behalf of Highland Council.

4.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural)

No impact.

4.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever

No impact.

4.5 Risk

No impact.

4.6 Gaelic

No impact

Designation: Director of Care and Learning

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Author: Claire Watt, Project Manager, Adult Social Care

Background Papers: None