

Agenda Item	4
Report No	HCW/01/20

## HIGHLAND COUNCIL

**Committee:** Health, Social Care and Wellbeing

**Date:** 12 February 2020

**Report Title:** Role and Remit of the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Committee

**Report By:** Executive Chief Officer - Performance and Governance

### 1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 In December 2019 the Council approved the establishment of a new strategic committee structure and associated changes to the Scheme of Delegation. This is the first meeting of the newly established Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Committee and the following report details the role and remit of the committee for Members' consideration.
- 1.2 Whilst this report sets out what every strategic committee will consider as standard, the first meetings of the new committees will be slightly different and are primarily establishing meetings: considering and agreeing the membership, roles and remit of each Committee and the sub-committee structure. In addition, each committee will consider items that require Member decisions that cannot wait until the next cycle of meetings. The full remit of the committees, including scrutiny of budgets, service plans and performance will come forward once the new organisational structure has come fully into effect from April 2020.

### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Members are asked to consider the following report.

### 3. Implications

- 3.1 There are no resource, legal, community, climate, risk or Gaelic implications arising from this report.

## **4. Summary**

4.1 The following list summarises the areas that every Strategic Committee will consider as a matter of course at each committee cycle:

- Budget monitoring and scrutiny
- Service performance/quarterly reporting and statutory reporting requirements
- Review of external audits and inspections
- Policy Development and Service Planning
- Specific committee functions as set out in the Scheme of Delegation
- Responses to external consultations
- Responses to Legislative/Regulatory changes

## **5. Budget Monitoring and Scrutiny**

5.1 As was the case previously, one of the key roles of the Strategic Committees will be to monitor the budgets for the Council services that fall under their remit. In the case of this committee, this will comprise the Health and Social Care Service. The revenue budgets for the new Services are in the process of being established under the 8 Executive Chief Officers and will come into effect at the beginning of the 2020/21 financial year. Quarter 1 reporting will come to the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Committee for consideration in August 2020. Quarter 3 & 4 monitoring of the 2019/20 Service revenue budgets will be reported to the Corporate Resources Committee.

5.2 The committee will also consider financial performance both from Health and Social Care within the council and across the commission with NHS Highland.

## **6. Scrutiny of Performance**

6.1 Another critical role of Strategic Committees is to scrutinise performance. Every Committee will have a number of common measures of performance that will come to each committee cycle. These are: staff absence; payment of invoices; complaints handling and Freedom of Information Requests (FOI). In addition, each Service will report their Service Plan performance which will include Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs); national benchmarking data; Corporate Plan measures and service-specific performance measures relevant to their functional remits. The Health and Social Care Service Plan will come to Committee for approval in May 2020.

6.2 The Committee will also have the opportunity to consider on an ad hoc basis all external audits and inspections relevant to its remit and to monitor progress against the implementation of any recommendations arising.

6.3 Discussions are currently underway with 3<sup>rd</sup> sector representatives to consider representation at Strategic Committee level and also to develop enhanced partnership working to provide greater opportunity for 3<sup>rd</sup> sector involvement in pre-committee policy development activity.

## **7. Specific committee functions as set out in the Scheme of Delegation**

7.1 The Scheme of Delegation, approved by the Council in December 2019, set out the remits for all of the new strategic committees and the powers delegated to officers. The following section details the specific remit for the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Committee.

- 7.2 Functions of the Council as the statutory authority:  
Adult Social Care (Lead Agency Model); Allied Health (Children); Chief Social Work Officer; Child Protection; Children's Services Social Care; Corporate Parenting; Criminal Justice Social Work; Fostering and Adoption; Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC); Health Visiting; Children's Rights; Kinship Care; Looked after Children; Mental Health Officers; NHS Commissioned Services; Out-of-hours Social Work; Residential Care; Scrutiny of Adult Social Care Services; Self Directed Support; Throughcare and Aftercare; Violence Against Women; Transitions; and Young Carers.
- 7.3 Functions of the Council in delivering services: Prevention and early intervention services for children; public protection arrangements; school nursing; Third Sector Interface; provision of Criminal Justice Social Work Services in accordance with the National outcomes and standards.
- 7.4 Function of the Committee: to set service standards and approve policy and overall priorities for the delivery of service functions to comply with the Council's legal, regulatory and financial responsibilities.
- 7.5 Health, Social Care and Wellbeing – Specific Duties:
- Make recommendations to the Council on the outcomes of statutory consultation on Children's Services;
  - Undertake consultation with relevant agencies and organisations, including the voluntary sector, to achieve a co-ordinated approach to the provision of services within the Committee's remit;
  - Contribute to the development and delivery of the strategic plan relating to Highland's provision of Community Justice Services, including appointing a member to the Highland Community Justice Partnership;
  - Contribute to the development and delivery of the strategic plan relating to Highland's provision of Mental Health Officers;
  - Scrutinise and provide oversight of local area Children's Plans developed by Community Partnerships;
  - Oversee the scrutiny of Adult Social Care services delegated to NHS Highland, including to appoint to the requisite governance sub-committee(s), and to consider any recommendations from it.

## **8. Sub Committees and Working Groups**

- 8.1 As agreed at Council in December 2019, any formal working groups or boards that report to Strategic Committees or to the Council must have an agreed purpose, remit, and terms of reference as well as a proposed duration. In addition to submitting minutes to the parent committee, all formal sub groups must submit an annual report to Council.
- 8.2 The new governance arrangements approved in December 2019 included the creation of a Wellbeing Joint Sub-Committee comprising members of this Committee as well as members of the Education Committee, the Housing and Property Committee and the People and Place Committee. Membership of the Wellbeing Joint-Committee will be agreed at the meeting of the Council on 13 February 2020.
- 8.3 At this present time the NHS Partnership Agreement is also under review. Governance arrangements are being considered as part of the review process and, once determined, the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Committee will be asked to approve

membership of any sub-committee/scrutiny groups subsequently established. These will report to the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Committee and to the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC). The NHS will continue to have the opportunity to nominate 3 representatives on the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Committee.

## **9. Amendments to the role and remit of Strategic Committees**

- 9.1 As the Strategic Committees are newly established, there will be an opportunity to submit changes to Council's Scheme of Delegation to Council in March 2020 and also in June 2020, to provide Members and officers time to reflect on the operation of the new Committees and make any adjustments deemed appropriate.

**Designation:** Executive Chief Officer - Performance and Governance

**Date:** 3 February 2020

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