



Meeting: Highland Health & Social Care Committee

Meeting date: 06 November 2024

Title: Chief Officer Assurance Report

Responsible Executive/Non-Executive: Pamela Stott, Chief Officer

Report Author: Pamela Stott, Chief Officer

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>To provide assurance and updates on key areas of Adult Health and Social Care in Highland.</p>
<p>2. Service Redesign</p> <p>A meeting of the Sir Lewis Ritchie Steering Group took place on 30th October. The Steering Group will continue to focus on Urgent Care going forward and the work to conclude the 15 Recommendations will be delivered going forward in line with organisation structures and community engagement with Skye Lochalsh and West Ross citizens via the District Planning Group Process that will deliver the ongoing redesign and the local implementation of the Joint Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Service Improvement</p> <p>Work has now been completed in the Specialist Dementia Unit (Ruthven) in New Craigs. The team, led by Estates and supported by Endowments, have worked together to design and deliver an environment that meets the challenging brief of being both dementia friendly and meets ligature compliance requirements. Highly specialised furniture and fittings have been sourced and the ward design has been changed to enable better lighting and improved sight lines.</p> <p>The decorative improvements provide the biggest impact and the unit now boasts fantastic murals depicting local scenes and a colour scheme that is both low arousal and homely.</p> <p>The team are very proud of their achievements and look forward to welcoming patients into their new environment from the beginning of November.</p>

3. Staff awards and recognition / retirements

Gavin Sell, Area Manager for Skye Lochalsh and West Ross retired on 30th September. Gavin held a number of posts in Highland HSCP and made a significant contribution to Care Homes and ongoing service delivery during the Covid 19 Pandemic and remobilisation of services.

Anne MacLeod, Integrated Team Lead for Skye Lochalsh and West Ross also celebrates her retirement.

Chelsey Main, Support Worker in the Forensic Team within Mental Health services has been shortlisted in in the Support Worker category at the forthcoming Scotland's Health Awards being held on 7th November.

4. Enhanced Services

9 new contracts for Enhanced Services were agreed by NHS Highland and Highland LMC. These were subsequently issued to Practices in North Highland with the majority choosing to sign up to the new contracts. There is a process ongoing between 1st October to 1st December 2024 where Practices will begin to deliver services as per the new contract.

Work is also near completion which will refresh the Enhanced Service for Diabetes Care in North Highland. This has been a collaborative process with Specialist colleagues in Secondary Care, GP Sub Committee, Public Health and the Primary Care Team via a Short Life Working Group (SLWG) The outputs of the SLWG were then taken into discussions between Highland LMC and NHS Highland in preparation for final negotiations in November 2024.

The Care Home Enhanced Service is the final one to be reviewed and refreshed in the New Year. The current contract being 'rolled over' to April 2025 for now.

5. National Care Service (NCS)

There has been significant political change since the previous Chief Officer's update.

The position is that, after the call for views in relation to Stage 2 of the NCS Bill, a number of key agencies, trade unions and Political parties have withdrawn their support of the proposed National Care Service.

Scottish Government are keen to progress elements of the Bill, for example Anne's Law.

The key issue in relation to the National Care Service model for the HSCP remains regarding the uniformity of the integration model in relation to its unique Lead Agency Model. Further advice will be made available in due course, once this position becomes clearer.