

The Head of Operations provided an overview of the report and highlighted the themes which demonstrated the complexity of adult services within the Health and Social Care Partnership.

The Committee agreed that progress should be monitored and reported back to the Committee and that similar issues arising in future were also reported to provide assurance that they were dealt with appropriately.

Members discussed the whistleblowing procedures and governance arrangements in place and requested a report to the next meeting to assure the Committee these were effective. It was noted that other groups such as NHS Lothian Healthcare Governance Group and the IJB Professional Advisory Group could consider reports relating to these issues and if it was felt necessary or relevant, they could be escalated for consideration by the Committee.

Decision

- 1) To agree that a report should be submitted to the next meeting providing assurance that appropriate and effective whistleblowing policies were in place and were being implemented.
- 2) To request that updates on the action plan for Trinity Lodge and timescales for each action were included in the report.
- 3) To agree that reports on whistleblowing and other governance issues such as health and safety would be presented to future meetings of the Committee when considered appropriate by relevant groups.

(Reference – report by Head of Operations, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, submitted.)

3. Themed Integrated Assurance Session – Governance Framework NHS Lothian and City of Edinburgh Council

The Committee discussed a range of issues relating to the governance framework and arrangements between the IJB, NHS Lothian and the Council. Several discussion documents relating to governance had been circulated.

The Chief Officer provided an update and it was noted that work was ongoing, led by the Scottish Government, to revise the national framework and that the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership was participating in the engagement and stakeholder conversations.

The importance of consistency of approach and clear lines of responsibility for each partner and committee was highlighted. It was hoped that the IJB would be able to take assurances from its committees that appropriate arrangements were in place and that a reliance for oversight could be placed on the Committee in future.

Discussion took place regarding the relationship between the IJB and its committees and the relevant governance groups within the Council and health board.

Members commented that there was not currently a citizen representative on the committee membership and the Chief Officer undertook to look at what other IJBs were doing to engage with citizens.

It was also noted that the Professional Advisory Group required to be refreshed to add value and take advantage of the range of experience and expertise its members could provide. Members agreed that this refresh should include a review of the membership, its responsibilities and structure and how it could support the IJB Committees' work.

Some concerns were raised that groups such as the Professional Advisory Group may be keen to undertake work or projects to report to the IJB on particular issues but did not have the resource available to do so. The Committee requested a report on options for providing resource to assist groups to carry out this work.

Decision

- 1) To note the verbal update by the Chief Officer.
- 2) To note that the Chairs of the IJB and Committees would meet to discuss governance and reporting arrangements to ensure a consistent approach.
- 3) To note that the Chief Officer would look at other IJBs and how they engaged with communities and citizen representatives.
- 4) To agree to receive a report by the Head of Operations to the next meeting on the resource which could be made available to assist group members to carry out work on behalf of the group.

4. Minutes of Other Meetings

The minutes of the IJB Professional Advisory Group held on 23 July 2019 and the NHS Lothian Healthcare Governance Committee held on 10 September 2019 were submitted for noting.

Decision

To note the minutes.

5. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 23 April 2020, however the Chair advised that another meeting would be arranged before this date and members would be advised in due course.