



PERTH AND KINROSS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

Integration Joint Board

28 September 2018

Perth and Kinross Joint Strategy to Support Independent Living & Quality of Life for Adults with a Physical Disability and/or Sensory Impairment 2014 – 2017 and associated implementation of the national See Hear Sensory Impairment Framework 2015 – 2018

Robert Packham, Chief Officer (Report No. G/18/142)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Integration Joint Board on the implementation of the Joint Strategy to Support Independent Living and Quality of Life for Adults with a Physical Disability and/or Sensory Impairment.

To update the Integration Joint Board on the future development of actions to support independent living and quality of life for adults with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment and the proposed development of the strategy into a commissioning plan which will form part of the Older People and Unscheduled Care programme.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:

- 1.1 Notes the delivery of the final actions contained within the Perth and Kinross Joint Strategy to Support Independent Living and Quality of Life for Adults living with a Physical Disability and/or Sensory Impairment 2014 – 2017, and associated implementation of the national See Hear Sensory Impairment Framework 2015 – 2018.
- 1.2 Notes that a Commissioning Plan to support Independent Living and Quality of Life for Adults with a Physical Disability and/or Sensory Impairment will be included within the evolving 'Older People and Unscheduled Care' programme during 2018/19 (although Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment will sit in this programme there will be numerous themes and actions which will cut across the other Programmes. Therefore mechanisms will need to be put in place which will ensure good communication across the programmes of care).

- 1.3 Instructs the Chief Officer to provide a progress report to the Integrated Joint Board in twelve months time.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Social Model of Disability states that disability is caused by the way society is organised, rather than a person's physical (or mental) impairment, illness or difficulty. It highlights ways of removing barriers that restrict life choices for disabled people. The aspiration in Scotland is that when these barriers are removed people who live with disabilities can be independent and equal in society and have choice and control over their own lives.
- 2.2 A shared definition of 'independent living'¹ is used to mean "disabled people of all ages having the same freedom, choice, dignity and control as other citizens at home, at work and in the community. It does not mean living by yourself or fending for yourself. It means rights to practical assistance and support to participate in society and live an ordinary life".
- 2.3 The Perth and Kinross Joint Strategy to Support Independent Living and Quality of Life for Adults with a Physical Disability and/or Sensory Impairment (2014 – 2017) (subsequently referred to as the Joint Strategy) was originally approved by Housing and Health Committee in August 2014 (Report 14/353) with annual updates discussed at Housing and Health Committee in August 2015 (15/341) and August 2016 (16/354).
- 2.4 In 2016 the first integrated health and social care Strategic Commissioning Plan for Perth and Kinross was published. One of the main strands of the plan was about supporting people to lead as independent, healthy and active lives as possible in their own homes.
- 2.5 The Joint Strategy supported actions to ensure people living in Perth and Kinross with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment are able to live as independent members of the community. A range of actions are reported upon which support individuals to have choice and control over any support and/or equipment they may need for daily living and maintaining a healthy lifestyle and improve access to housing, transport, employment, education and training.
- 2.6 The action plan for the Joint Strategy (attached at Appendix 1) contains ten priority action areas:
 1. Housing – which is accessible and adapted to meet individuals' requirements

¹ [Independent Living in Scotland](#)

2. Information – which is accessible and useful in assisting individuals to fully participate in all aspects of life.
3. Communication – support to allow individuals to communicate effectively.
4. Employment – access to meaningful employment, training and further education.
5. Health – support physical and mental well-being and encourage healthy lifestyles.
6. Accessible Environment –access to all local amenities and buildings.
7. Accessible Transport – affordable, flexible travel options across all modes of transport.
8. Personalised Support – self-directed support to help individuals achieve their desired outcomes.
9. See Hear – improve support for people with a sensory impairment.
10. Equalities – increase awareness and reduce inequalities.

3. PROGRESS

- 3.1 In the past 12 – 24 months, significant progress has been made. A new three year Service Level Agreement was agreed with VisionPK and Action on Hearing Loss (Scotland) to provide integrated support to people in Perth and Kinross with a sensory impairment. Before this, people with a hearing impairment and people with a visual impairment accessed support from different providers. There is now a ‘one stop shop’ in the New Row, Perth, where support for all sensory loss can be accessed. There is also regular sensory loss outreach support available in rural areas in Perth and Kinross.
- 3.2 The following are further examples that illustrate the positive impact the Joint Strategy has made (for full details please see the final action plan, updated August 2017, Appendix 1):

Information and Communication

The Perth and Kinross Council customer service centre has adopted a protocol for using the British Sign Language (BSL) Contact Scotland² online interpreting system to communicate with people who use BSL and guidance for staff has been developed and shared accordingly.

² [contactSCOTLAND | – BSL –](#)

Employment

The Perth and Kinross Employability Network has developed information and resources for its employer members which highlight support available when employing or training staff who live with a physical disability or sensory impairment. VisionPK and Deaf Action are both employability network members which have increased awareness both of support services available and challenged views and myths about sensory impairment in the workforce.

Health

Live Active Leisure continue to develop 'all access' groups which develop health and well-being options for people who live with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment. Opportunities are currently available in North Perthshire as well as Perth City with physical activity as well as mental health and well-being activities being available for adults, young people and children. In South Perth & Kinross a local disability sport group based at Loch Leven Campus is supported.

CulturePK mobile libraries continue to operate as distribution points for replacement NHS hearing aid batteries and in 2017/18 this service has been extended to include all rural libraries.

Accessible Environment

The Centre for Inclusive Living (CIKLPK) develops and promotes opportunities such as Disabled Access Day (DAD). 2017 saw a growing range of businesses taking part including the newly refurbished Council Offices at 2 High Street which includes a 'Changing Places' toilet which is accessible to people with a physical disability. This increases accessibility by enabling people to plan trips in advance using information on the website. CIKLPK have also been heavily involved in ensuring the redevelopment of Perth Theatre and Mill Street has given consideration to accessibility in its widest sense e.g. ridged edges to the pavements so people with a visual impairment know where the road starts and drain covers with specifications to ensure wheels from wheelchairs and rollators do not get stuck.

Accessible Transport

Shopmobility benefited from the refurbishment of the Canal Street Car Park in Perth. There are now 27 accessible parking spaces immediately adjacent to the Shopmobility Unit which gives improved access to the service.

PKC The Environment Service has redrafted all bus timetable information displayed in bus stops and shelters and made this more accessible in terms of font size and clarity of information. The strategy group supported this work by liaising with individuals and groups representing people with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment to ensure any changes were suitable for their requirements.

4. MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 4.1 The Joint Strategy Group and the See Hear Steering Group meet quarterly with key parts of the action plan being reviewed at each meeting. The See Hear Steering Group also receive updates on the projects which have received any See Hear funding during 2017/18.
- 4.2 This strategy has historically reported annually to the Perth and Kinross Council Housing and Communities Committee. In the future updates will be reported to the Integrated Joint Board.

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The strategy will be developed into a Commissioning Plan which will form part of the Older People and Unscheduled Care Programme of the Perth and Kinross Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 5.2 In July 2017 the Fairness Commission for Perth and Kinross published 'Fairer Futures'³. The recommendations contained within the Fairer Futures report begins the process of challenging everyone to increase their awareness of how poverty and inequality impacts on their fellow citizens. Several working groups have been established to drive collaborative action in order to progress these recommendations. Involvement of key stakeholders with an interest in physical disabilities and sensory impairment in these working groups will ensure that the views and needs of disability groups effectively influence discussions.
- 5.3 Going forward these overarching areas of local policy will influence many areas of planning and ensure care group strategy actions are considered and included.

The Joint Strategy Group will continue to support the development of a Commissioning Plan for Physical Disabilities and Sensory Impairment and intends to review group membership, role and remit. There is likely to be particular emphasis on the following areas:

Accessible Transport

CILPK will continue to provide training for Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle drivers with consideration being given by PKC licensing to this becoming a requirement of holding such a licence.

³ <https://fairerfutures.com/>

Housing

Perth and Kinross Council Housing and the Health and Social Care Partnership undertook a Special Needs Housing review in 2017 which was informed by feedback from over 500 stakeholders. This included people with learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorder (ASD), profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD), physical disabilities, mental health and older people. The review made it very clear that current supported accommodation and wheelchair accessible housing in Perth and Kinross is highly valued by the people who live there. It concluded that there will be an ongoing demand for housing with care and support. In light of this, an action plan has been developed which sets out work streams to be progressed that will assist in enabling the development of housing for individuals who require care and support, or physically adapted properties, such as wheelchair accessible housing, to live independently in the community.

Accessible Environment

PKC TES and CILPK will continue working together with Living Streets Scotland to deliver a range of street and pavement improvements in Blairgowrie, Crieff and Perth City Centre. Work will also be ongoing with PKC City Centre Partnership towards the 'Walking Cities' Standard⁴.

Communication

CILPK have obtained Perth2021 funding to use information already collated and verified by DisabledGo to produce a hard copy leaflet or brochure for local 'Tourist Information' and other information giving sites. This includes access information about cultural venues and attractions throughout Perth and Kinross. Production will take place in 2018.

The online resource Euan's Guide⁵ is also promoted and used locally to share access reviews about venues and attractions which is of benefit to a wide range of community members.

A communication 'tent card' will be piloted in Autumn 2018 in Pullar House and 2 High Street with Customer Service Centre staff also taking part in awareness raising sessions around sensory loss. A visible card will sit on reception desks making it simpler for people to identify any communication support need.

See Hear

As Technology Enabled Care (TEC) solutions develop the Joint Strategy Group will work with the TEC Strategy Group to try and ensure the latest technology is available and accessible to people with a sensory impairment in Perth and Kinross.

⁴ [Walking Cities | Living Streets](#)

⁵ <https://www.euansguide.com/>

A review will be carried out of specialist sensory support equipment during 2018, including the assessment criteria and the agreed 'core lists'.

Recommendations for service improvement will be agreed with the See Hear Steering Group and shared with Health & Social Care Partnership Senior Management Team.

The See Hear Steering Group is working with other statutory partners to ensure cohesive local British Sign Language (BSL) plans for Perth and Kinross Council and NHS Tayside are published in late 2018.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 As evidenced in this report and in the action plan at Appendix 1, there have been many areas of progress in actioning the priorities identified in the Joint Strategy over the past 12 – 24 months. This has been achieved by strong partnership working with individuals, community groups and a range of agencies and is improving outcomes for people with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment in Perth and Kinross.
- 6.2 Further areas for improvement have been identified and along with ensuring support for people with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment are prioritised across the three localities in Perth and Kinross, this will be the focus of the Commissioning Plan as it evolves in the next twelve months.

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NOTE: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
HSCP Strategic Commissioning Plan	Yes
Transformation Programme	No
Resource Implications	
Financial	No
Workforce	No
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	Yes
Risk	No
Other assessments (enter here from para 3.3)	No
Consultation	
External	Yes
Internal	Yes
Legal & Governance	
Legal	No
Clinical/Care/Professional Governance	No
Corporate Governance	No
Communication	
Communications Plan	No

1. Strategic Implications

1.1 Strategic Commissioning Plan

This report supports the following outcomes of the Perth and Kinross Strategic Commissioning Plan:

- 1 prevention and early intervention,
- 2 person centred health, care and support
- 3 work together with communities
- 4 inequality, inequity and healthy living

2. Resource Implications

2.1 Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

2.2 Workforce

There are no direct workforce issues arising from this report.

3. Assessments

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010, PKC and NHS Tayside is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the HSCP to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

The Equality Impact Assessment undertaken in relation to this report can be viewed [Perth & Kinross Council - Equality Impact Assessments](#)

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) and assessed as **relevant** and the following positive outcomes are expected following implementation:

Increased independent living for those people living with physical and/or sensory impairments.

3.2 Risk

There are no issues of risk arising from the proposals in this report.

4. Consultation – Patient/Service User first priority

4.1 External

Members of the Perth and Kinross Joint Physical Disability Strategic group, the Perth and Kinross See Hear Steering Group and their associated networks have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

4.2 Internal

The views, report updates and general contributions of lead officers and members of the Joint Physical Disability Strategy Group and See Hear Steering Group have been gathered. This includes Service Managers and Senior Staff the Health and Social Care Partnership and Housing and the Environment Service.

5. Legal and Governance

3.4 This report contains no issues which would have a legal or governance impact on the Council.

6. Communication

6.1 Not relevant to this report.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCES

No background papers were relied upon during the preparation of this report.

8. APPENDICES

- 8.1 Appendix 1 in this report is the Final Action Plan for delivery of the Perth and Kinross Joint Strategy to Support Independent Living and Quality of Life for Adults with a Physical and/or Sensory Impairment 2014 – 2017.