



INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

20 MARCH 2024

AUTISM / LEARNING DISABILITIES STRATEGIC DELIVERY PLAN UPDATE

**Report by Chief Officer
(Report No. G/24/44)**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides a progress update of year 2 of the Autism and Learning Disability Strategic Delivery Plan 2022-2025.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended the IJB:

- Notes progress to date on the Autism and Learning Disability Strategic Delivery Plan.
- Requests an update in 12 months' time.

2. SITUATION/BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 For nearly three decades the strategic direction in Scotland has been to support people with autism and/or a learning disability to remain in their own homes wherever possible rather than institutional care. More recently, greater emphasis has been placed on increasing choice in the types of support available and supporting the individual to have more control. The aim in Perth and Kinross is to enable more people with autism and/or a learning disability to live in a community setting with maximum independence and quality of life.
- 2.2 The Complex Care Transformation Programme is developing a sustainable model of care that provides high quality support for people who have complex care needs. Although the programme primarily supports people with autism and/or a learning disability, it also supports some people with mental health issues or a physical disability.

3. PROGRESS TO DATE

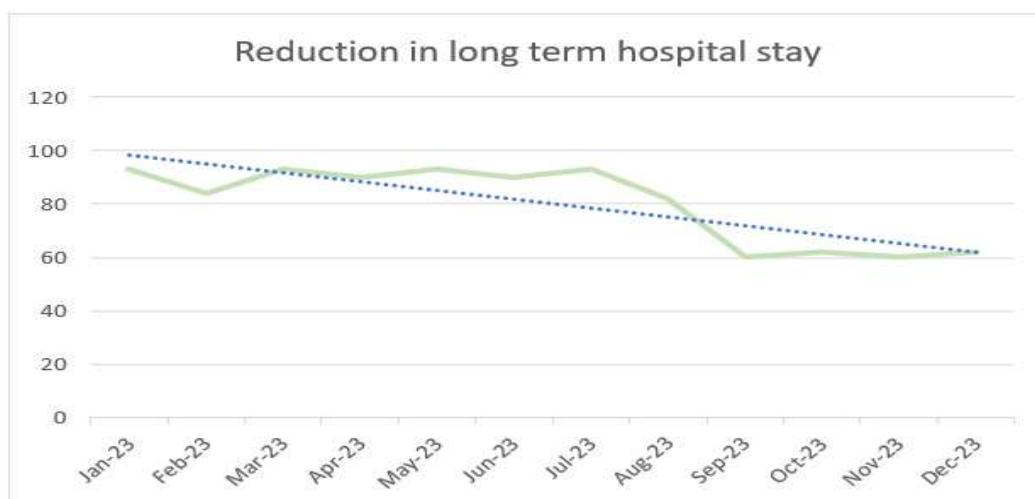
3.1 SCOPE Team

The SCOPE Team is a multidisciplinary team which provides specialist support for people with autism and/or a learning disability who have complex needs. The team launched on 30 May 2022 and is currently made up of Team Leader, Senior Practitioner, 6 FTE Social Workers, 6 Outreach Workers, Carer Support Worker, Family Group Decision Making Coordinator, Psychologist and Psychology Assistant. Funding has been secured through redesignation of core budget to recruit a permanent 0.6 FTE specialist Clinical Occupational Therapist. In addition to the core team there is also input from Physiotherapy, Speech and Language, Dietician and Community Learning Disability Nurse who are based within the Learning Disabilities Health Team.

The SCOPE Team is currently supporting 340 people who live in a variety of settings across Perth and Kinross and beyond, including those who are transitioning from school into adult life, this is an increase of 10% from 2023. 24 young people transitioning to adulthood who left school in 2023 were supported by the team. As shown in the chart below the young people and their families were supported with more than one discipline within the team. This helped ensure there was robust planning to support their transitions and they had positive destinations on leaving school.



The SCOPE team has continued to deliver support which is sustaining individuals in their own homes, reducing the need for admission into hospital or care provision. There were no admissions into long stay hospital in 2023 and one person was discharged. The graph below which shows a reduction in the number of bed days for those with a learning disability and/or autism currently in long stay hospital.



SCOPE outreach workers have supported 25 service users over the past 12 months. They have supported individuals transitioning to day opportunities, college and in some instances to new accommodation. The team have also offered support with independent travel training, accessing community resources and commencing volunteering opportunities. The input from SCOPE’s outreach team has also been crucial in terms of offering additional support to prevent carer breakdown and providing care at home when there has been gaps in care provision, enabling service users to remain within their own home.

Psychology input within the SCOPE team has meant that there have been no delays in SCOPE service users accessing this support if it is needed. Immediate access to Psychology has proven invaluable for the wider team when developing support plans for people with complex needs.

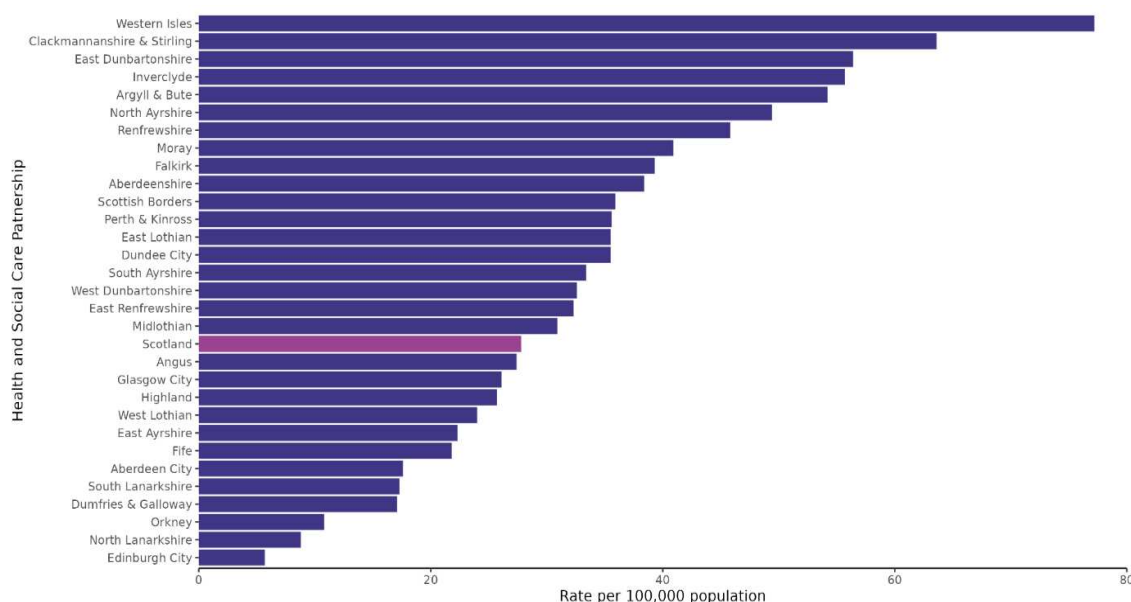
Work has also been undertaken to develop an integrated training framework which supports both the SCOPE team and the Learning Disability Health Service, to ensure workers have the necessary skills and knowledge. Initial learning sessions took place in the latter part of 2023 and further sessions are planned in 2024.

3.2 Dynamic Support Register

All HSCPs are now required to submit information on people with learning disabilities and complex needs who are in hospital or out of area placements in Dynamic Support Registers (DSR) to Scottish Government, supporting the delivery of the ambitions of the Coming Home Report. Perth and Kinross have developed a multi-disciplinary oversight group which meets monthly to review current work, make recommendations and update the information required for submission of the DSR to Scottish Government quarterly. The table below details the Perth and Kinross clients currently recorded on the register. The work undertaken through the DSR supports priority 3 of Keys to Life (All people with a learning disability have a right to live as independently as possible in their community and be supported).

DSR Category	Number of People	Percentage of People
In Hospital	6	13%
Inappropriately Out-of-Area	2	4.3%
At Risk of Support Breakdown	0	0%
Enhanced Monitoring	2	4.3%
Appropriate Out-of-Area	36	78.4%
Perth and Kinross	46	100%

The graph below shows that in September 2023 Perth and Kinross has a higher number of individuals per 100,000 on the DSR than the national average. However, this data includes people who are placed out of area but do not wish to return. This reflects the historical lack of suitable provision locally. This is being addressed through our Independent Living Programme of work in conjunction with colleagues from Housing. Of those placed out of area only 3 are wishing to return. It should be also noted that over the past 12 months there have been no additional out of area placements required for people supported by the SCOPE team.



3.3 Independent Living

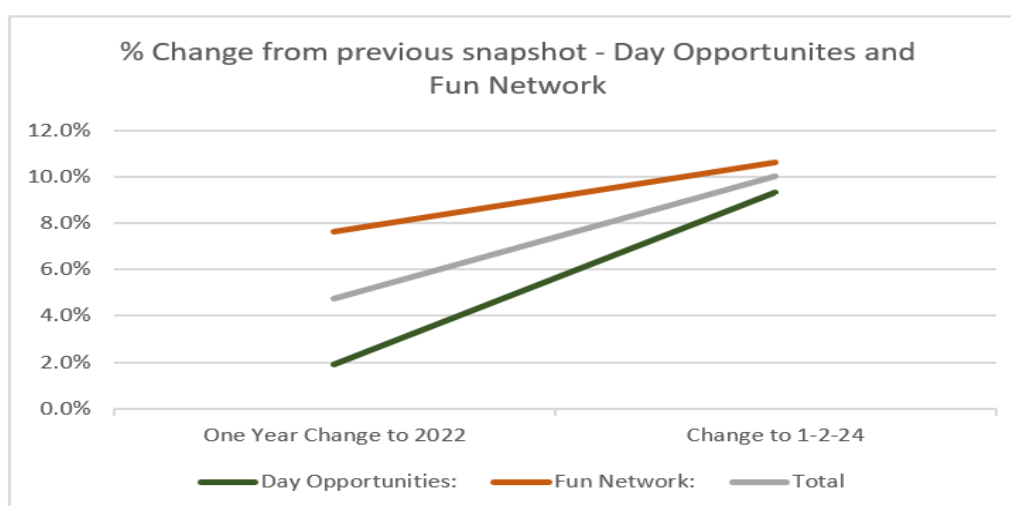
The Independent Living Panel and the SCOPE Team are supporting the local implementation of the Coming Home Report by enabling people with autism and/or a learning disability who are in a long stay hospital and/or are placed outside the area to return to a community setting in Perth and Kinross. The Independent Living Panel identifies supported accommodation for people with additional needs including those with a learning disability and/or autism into existing supported accommodation and those as part on the new build Core and Cluster programme of work. The panel has supported the development of Core and Cluster Projects. These provide people with their own tenancies and a team of staff based in a nearby property who provide support as required.

Development	Number of Units	Current Progress
Ratray	10	8 tenants have now moved in with a further 2 to transition from hospital when ready and support in place
Perth City	4	4 individuals identified and provider in place, awaiting completion of utilities
Perth City	5	5 individuals identified and provider in place and transitioning planning to commence January 2024 for first 3 individuals, with further 2 moving in a phased approach through spring 2024.
Perth City	2	Transition service, 2 individuals identified and provider in place, transition in January 2024
Crieff	8	Contractors on site, build due to be completed 2025. 7 individuals to move from current Hillcrest provision.

This model of delivering supported accommodation has increased the number of individuals supported in the community, rather than moving into a care home, from 332 in 2018/19 to 422 in 2023/24, an increase of 27%. The average cost of a package has reduced by £4.5k per annum which is evidence of the cost effectiveness of the new model.

3.4 Support People with learning disabilities to participate in their communities, which are welcoming and accessible (Priority 4, Keys to Life)

It has been recognised through work undertaken with Health Improvement Scotland (HIS) Learning Disability Day Support Collaborative and Glasgow School of Art and the increasing demand on current service provision which is outlined in the graph below that how we support people in with a learning disability to access meaningful activity within their local communities needs to be reviewed. Work is commencing to review existing provision and how we engage with local communities to provide accessible opportunities.



3.5 Principles into Practice

Principles into Practice project was undertaken jointly with colleagues in Education at Breadalbane Academy in early 2023. This identified the key theme of lack of accessible information. To address this, work has commenced to deliver the Compass App in conjunction ARC Scotland. The

App contains a range of useful information and can be modified for the bespoke requirements of each individual. Awareness training and rollout is planned over April and May 2024, with the launch of the app in early June 2024.

3.6 Development of a Local Involvement Network

As part of the ongoing development of the Local Involvement Network, a successful application to Perth and Kinross Council's Angel Share was made on behalf of the Keys to Life Strategy Group. Funding has been secured for a dedicated facilitator for one year to support the development of this network ensuring a greater voice for people with learning disabilities in society (Priority 1 Key to Life).

3.7 Workplace Equality Fund

Perth and Kinross undertook consultation with people with lived experience and their carers to identify key themes regarding support they require. Education and employment were identified as key areas where there are significant barriers for people with Autism.

This joint two-year project has provided the opportunity within Perth and Kinross Council and HSCP to increase awareness and be a more inclusive employer. So far there have been three face to face sessions and one online, with a total of 80 managers having attended. There are further two sessions planned in February and March 2024.

3.8 Technology Enabled Care (TEC)

Work has been ongoing to deliver an Overnight Responder service within Perth and Kinross offering an alternative option of overnight care, supporting the promotion of independence within a community setting. This will be delivered by the Community Alarm service through the use of KOMP which allows the user to communicate visually with the Overnight Responder for support. There are dedicated staff who are able to respond if the situation cannot be resolved remotely. A Test of Change commenced on 29th January at the Supported Living Team, St Catherine's Road for 6 months with 5 service users, with the potential to remove one waking night long term. Work has commenced to expand the Test of Change to a further 6 service users who have overnight staff on site.

3.9 Health Developments

The Perth and Kinross Community Learning Disability Service has worked hard over the past year to continue to address the health inequalities agenda. It is known that people with a learning disability often experience poorer access to healthcare resulting in people with learning disabilities dying 20 years earlier than the rest of the population. The Scottish Government implemented the Annual Health Checks for People with Learning Disabilities (Scotland) Directions in May 2022. Currently there is a Tayside Annual Health Checks Strategic Group which the Perth and Kinross Learning Disability team

and Perth & Kinross Primary Care Managers provide representation on, and this is looking at a Tayside wide approach for implementation and delivery.

Work has commenced on a multi-disciplinary dementia post-diagnostic support (PDS) pathway to ensure those with a diagnosis of learning disability and dementia are offered post diagnostic support in line with all other members of the general population. Currently there are 4 people being treated on this pathway with the number of referrals for this set to increase in line with the increasing aging population of those with a learning disability. This promotes the ethos that people receive the right support at the right time and thus reduces inequalities in relation to people with learning disabilities.

Locally, our Learning Disability Intensive Support Service (LDISS) continues to offer a physical health check to people on their caseload. In the past year 74 checks have been undertaken. The service also provides the following clinics: antipsychotic, ADHD monitoring, epilepsy, Clozapine, Downs Syndrome screening and lithium therapy.

The Learning Disability Allied Health Professionals team have in the past year implemented postural care clinics in line with the Postural Care Strategy requirements. This is a multidisciplinary approach involving Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language colleagues. To date 22 people have attended and 11 are awaiting an appointment.

This work continues to improve the health outcomes for people in Perth and Kinross and meets Priority 2 of Keys to Life, Outcome 2a (Promote early intervention approaches to reduce barriers and increase health outcomes).

3.10 Pan Tayside Work

The Tayside Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Whole System Change Program recommenced in May 2023 with two main workstreams identified, Pathways and Processes and Workforce for the Future. A rapid improvement/design session is being arranged at the V & A museum in Dundee which will inform the direction going forward.

3.11 Autism and Mental Health

Through the consultation at the end of 2022 the main concerns identified for both young people and adults with autism were difficulty in obtaining a diagnosis, post diagnostic support and the impact on their mental health due to lack of support through current services. Recent statistics show that people with autism are nine times more likely to die by suicide than the general population. Workshops have been planned in March 2024 with all relevant stakeholders to identify how to address these issues.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Perth and Kinross Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP) is currently undergoing financial planning for the 3 years 2024-27. There continues to be a recurring financial pressure associated with Autism and Learning Disabilities

which is driven mainly by an increase in demand and complexity in packages. The estimated additional pressure for 2024-25 is £1.5m, mainly derived from people making the transition from children to adult services as well as the growing needs of the adult population. It should be noted that the HSCP does not receive additional funding for these pressures and therefore, must fund them within existing resources.

4.2 The work being undertaken through the Complex Care Transformation Programme aims to put in place the services and support that will allow for early intervention to maximise people’s independence and address underlying causes of behavioural issues and in doing so, reducing the need for more intensive, expensive and sometimes intrusive interventions. This is being achieved through investment in Core and Cluster models, Technology Enabled Care and improving the pathway for young people transitioning into Adult Services, along with a range of other actions. This investment supports the above workstreams allowing for efficiency in service delivery, with those efficiencies being invested back into service delivery so that the increasing volume and complexity of needs throughout communities can continue to be supported.

5. DIRECTIONS

The Integration Joint Board requires a mechanism to action its strategic commissioning plans and this is provided for in Section 26 to 28 of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. This mechanism takes the form of binding directions from the Integration Joint Board to one or both of Angus Council and NHS Tayside.

Direction Required to Perth & Kinross Council, NHS Tayside or Both	Direction to:
No Direction Required	✓
Perth & Kinross Council	
NHS Tayside	
Perth & Kinross Council and NHS Tayside	

6. GOVERNANCE

The Autism and Learning Disabilities Strategic Delivery Plan is delivered by the Keys to Life and Autism Strategy groups and the Complex Care Transformation Programme Steering Group.

7. CONCLUSION

Over the next year the Autism and Learning Disability Strategy groups will continue working to improve services and supports for people with autism and/or a learning disability. This work will be supported through the ongoing implementation of the Complex Care Transformation Programme, especially the development of an Overnight Responder Service and Core and Cluster developments. However, it is recognised that there are ongoing challenges regarding increased demand, complexity of need and the changing financial climate.

Author(s)

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Gillian Morrison	Interim Service Manager	tay.pkijbbusinesssupport@nhs.scot
Kenny Ogilvy	Interim Head of Adult Social Work and Social Care	tay.pkijbbusinesssupport@nhs.scot

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	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	Yes
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	Yes
Risk	Yes
Other assessments (enter here from para 3.3)	
Consultation	
External	Yes
Internal	Yes
Legal & Governance	
Legal	N/A
Clinical/Care/Professional Governance	Yes
Corporate Governance	N/A
Directions	No
Communication	
Communications Plan	Yes

1. Strategic Implications

1.1 Strategic Commissioning Plan

The Strategic Delivery Plan supports the delivery of the Perth and Kinross Strategic Commissioning Plan in relation to all five deliverables below:

- 1 *prevention and early intervention,*
- 2 *person centred health, care and support*
- 3 *work together with communities*
- 4 *inequality, inequity and healthy living*
- 5 *best use of facilities, people and resources*

2. Resource Implications

2.1 Financial

The Learning Disabilities/Autism SDP provides a clearly defined Financial Framework which provides full information on the financial implications of the proposals.

2.2 Workforce

There will be increased numbers of individuals in employment and increased numbers of employers offering employment opportunities. These have been discussed with Employability Network and Employability team.

The SDP outlines in detail a plan to ensure that those who support autistic people in various settings are well trained and informed through ongoing workforce planning for Complex Care Programme.

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.

Up to date EqIA was completed 21 February 2024.

Assessed as **relevant** and the following positive outcomes expected following implementation: Our ambition is to help people to live as independently as possible with as high a quality of life as possible and reduce the reliance on acute health services and institutional care.

3.2 Risk

Risk profile completed as part of Complex Care Transformation Programme and is regularly monitored and reviewed.

3.3 Other assessments

The following headings should be included in the report where relevant:

Measures for Improvement – a list of the measures that will be monitored as part of the implementation of the SDP are included.

Benefit Realisation – details of the benefits articulated as part of Complex Care Programme.

Quality – Quality improvements are highlighted within the SDP and will be part of the Performance Monitoring .

4. Consultation – Patient/Service User first priority

4.1 External

A variety of consultations has been conducted as part of the Complex Care Programme and with KTL/Autism and Carers Strategy Groups details can be provided where appropriate.

4.2 Internal

Regular reports have been provided as part of the development of the Complex Care Programme and KLT / Autism and Carer Strategies to IMT / EMT/ IJB.

4.3 Impact of Recommendation

Over the next year the Autism and Keys to Life strategy groups will continue to improve services and provide support for people with autism and/or a learning disability. This will be provided through regular reporting to Strategy Groups / Steering Groups / IMT / EMT and IJB.

5. **Legal and Governance**

- 5.1 The Head of Legal and Governance Services has been consulted through the sharing of the SDP.

The Scottish Strategy for Autism 2018-21, The Keys to Life Strategy 2019-21 and The Coming Home Report have general themes which are reflected throughout policy and legislation which is focused on promoting and protecting people's rights to enable them to live healthy, productive lives. This is underpinned by living independently; fair access to support and treatment at the right time, having access to education and employment opportunities and being able to actively participate in communities which this SDP aims to provide.

- 5.2 The Autism and Keys to Life strategy groups will oversee the SDP and ensure monitored and reported on regularly through the Performance Monitoring process.

6. **Directions**

N/A

7. **Communication**

- 7.1 The Communications and Engagement Plan for the Complex Care Programme provides the details of how this change will be implemented.

2. **BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCES**

N/A

3. **APPENDICES**

N/A