Dumfries and Galloway
Integration Joint Board
Strategic Planning, Finance and Commissioning Committee

Minute of Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board Strategic Planning, Finance and Commissioning Committee meeting held on 1st September 2026

For Approval

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Minute of the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board (IJB) Strategic Planning, Finance and Commissioning Committee held on Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 2pm – 5pm via Microsoft Teams

Voting Members Present:		
Ian Carruthers	**(IC)**	Local Authority Voting Member **(Vice Chair)**
Gwilym Gibbons	**(GG)**	NHS Voting Member
Maureen Johnstone	**(MJ)**	Local Authority Voting Member
Vicky Keir	**(VK)**	NHS Voting Member
Advisory Members Present:		
Sean Barrett	**(SB)**	Chief Finance Officer
Grecy Bell	**(GBe)**	Registered Medical Practitioner
Nicola Hay	**(NH)**	Scottish Care Representative
Callum Maccoll	**(CM)**	NHS Staff Side Representative
Gareth Marr	**(GM)**	Chief Officer
Amber Murray	**(AM)**	EA to Chief Officer / Admin Support
David Rowland	**(DR)**	Director of Strategic Planning and Transformation
Jim Parker	**(JP)**	Unpaid Carer Representative
Alan Webb	**(AWe)**	Third Sector Representative
Valerie White	**(VW)**	Director of Public Health
Supporting Present:		
Alec Campbell	**(AC)**	Communications Team Lead
Kay Forrest	**(KF)**	Social Work Manager Adult Services
Mark Kelly	**(MK)**	Director of Nursing
Helen Keron	**(HK)**	Third Sector Representative ***- Shadowing***
Donna Maxwell	**(DM)**	Performance and Improvement Manager
Caroline Ronaldson	**(CR)**	Head of Adult Social Care
Alison Solley	**(AS)**	Divisional Manager - Community Integrated Support
Ryan Stewart	**(RS)**	Workforce Planning, Systems, Information and Efficiency Manager
Julie Watters	**(JW)**	Chief Internal Auditor
Apologies:		
Kirsty Bell	**(KB)**	Programme Manager
Greg Black	**(GB)**	NHS Voting Member
Kim Dams	**(KD)**	NHS Voting Member **(Chair)**
Linda Dorward	**(LD)**	Local Authority Voting Member
Ken Donaldson	**(KD)**	Medical Director
Rod Edgar	**(RE)**	Communication and Engagement Manager
Ann Farrell	**(AF)**	Local Authority Staff Side Representative
Viv Gration	**(VG)**	Deputy Head of Strategic Planning and Commissioning
Andy McFarlane	**(AMcF)**	Local Authority Voting Member

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1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Apologies were noted as above.

2. Declaration(s) of Interest

No declarations of interest were noted.

3. Draft Minutes of the Meeting of 2nd June 2026

Notes from the meeting on the 2nd June 2026 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting, with no matters arising or matters of accuracy.

4. Action Plan and Rolling Agenda Matrix

All actions were updated prior to the committee, AM confirmed we have one ongoing which will be closed today following the update at Item 8.

5. Financial Performance Update Q1 2026 / 2027

SB introduced the report and invited questions. Discussion focused on the further social care savings requirement, the extent to which savings had been delivered from older people's services, the impact of reduced commissioned care hours on individuals and providers, and whether risk assessments and mitigations remained current.

GM confirmed that older people's services would contribute only a fair share and would not be expected to offset overspends elsewhere. He highlighted the need for complex care, physical disability and mental health services to deliver required savings. Members also discussed market sustainability, pay differentials, anticipated employment requirements, potential new models of care and cross-border opportunities with South Ayrshire. The Committee recognised the precarious financial position and the need to protect direct care while pursuing recurring, sustainable savings.

Decision(s)

Committee Members:

- **Noted the totality of delegated resources, as per section 3.44, to the IJB and the associated financial recovery plan targets, as per section 3.45, to achieve a balanced budget in 2026/27.**

- **Noted the revised NHS delegated budget to the IJB, as per sections 3.13 to 3.16.**

- **Noted the financial position of the NHS delegated services at Quarter 1 and the measures being taken, however, recognise that the there is a current in-year gap against the savings required to deliver against plan. (Appendix 1)**
  - **The financial position for delegated local authority services at Quarter 1 as at the end of June 2026, with a current forecast overspend of £5.6m, representing an improvement of £2.0m from the revised opening budget pressure of £7.6m, prior to the delivery of further planned savings measures. (appendix 1)**

  - **the current progress and plans for the utilisation of the additional Council financial recovery plan funding of £2.8m as referenced in section 3.38 to 3.43.**

- **the commitment of the IJB Senior Management Team to the deliver the service to a balanced position and the risks associated with that as per section 3.23 to 3.25 and 3.36 to 3.37.**

- **Noted that delivery of the savings proposals will be undertaken through the Health and Social Care Partnership. This includes the requirement to achieve savings to reduce the in-year deficit and support delivery of the Financial Plan, alongside the significant risks associated with meeting the savings targets.**

- **Noted the IJB holds reserves, which are fully committed as per section 3.47.**

6. Strategic Planning Group Update

Helen Keron provided the verbal update on behalf of Isabel McKnight. New terms of reference had been agreed, with a renewed focus on cross-sector membership, attendance, structured agendas and papers, and clarity of purpose in supporting the IJB. Isabel McKnight would chair the next meeting before handing over to a new Chair.

KB and DR were managing the succession process, the next meeting will be held on Thursday 10th September 2026.

7. IJB Direction Update

DM outlined the final proposed set of 12 directions and advised that both Council and NHS senior leadership forums had welcomed the new approach. Members discussed how community wealth building could be reflected in outputs and measures during the first implementation year, and the need to keep the directions under review as national legislation and health and social care structures developed.

The Committee Member agreed that local work should continue rather than pause pending national clarity.

GM / DM to bring forward a briefing or paper on National Health and Social Care Reform proposals and the implications for the IJB and new Directions.

Action: DM / GM

Decision(s)

Committee Members:

- **Discussed the final proposal for a set of 12 new IJB Directions and recommended approval to the IJB on 22nd September 2026 (Appendices 1 and 2).**

- **Discussed the updated Appendix to the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board Directions Policy (Appendix 3) and recommended approval to the IJB on 22nd September 2026**

- **Noted that work will continue over the next year with responsible Officers to identify local outputs across the proposed new IJB Directions.**

- **Noted that a mid-year update on the current IJB Directions will be brought forward in December 2026 with a full year update on the current and new IJB Directions in June 2027.**

8. Complex Needs Plan inc Coming Home Update

Caroline Ronaldson and Kay Forrest presented progress against the Learning Disability and Complex Needs Implementation Plan. Positive progress was reported across priority

workstreams, alongside significant constraints relating to suitable housing, tenancy availability, funding, workforce, project management and administrative capacity. A northwest Dumfries development was expected to support the return of people from out-of-area placements when available, and a supported accommodation project with Voyage Care was also progressing. Members discussed liaison with communities and housing providers, the financial and human benefits of reducing out-of-area placements, and the need for dedicated project support. GM advised that a Strategic Housing Group had been re-established and that an IJB workshop would consider housing need, investment and influence.

The Committee noted the position regarding Independent Living Fund support and tenancy opportunities; endorsed continued development of local housing with care and support solutions for the Coming Home agenda; and noted the resource requirement, including project management and administrative support, IC thanked the team for the work around Housing and to flag this has progressed well.

GM confirmed a workshop was due to take place after the IJB in September, but will be in December now due to Annual Leave, and to see the planned IJB housing workshop to identify how the IJB can influence investment and to consider project management and administrative support for delivery of the plan.

Action: GM

Decision(s)

Committee Members:

- **Noted progress against the Learning Disability and Complex Needs Implementation Plan 2026-2029.**
- **Noted the position regarding Independent Living Support (ILS) funding and the current limitations associated with the availability of suitable tenancy opportunities.**
- **Endorsed the continued development of local housing with care and support solutions to support delivery of the Coming Home agenda.**
- **Noted the resource requirements associated with implementation of the plan, including project management and administrative support.**

9. RCRP / Community Hub Update

Alison Solley presented the update on behalf of Stephanie Mottram and Peter Bryden. Progress had been made in developing four community hubs in repurposed cottage hospital sites, providing flexible workspace, clinical and vaccination space, and bookable rooms for meetings and group activity. Minor IT refinements, volunteer support and further engagement and hub visits were in progress. Members welcomed the pace of implementation and early adoption.

Discussion emphasised the need to resource utilisation, capture learning, strengthen community leadership and web visibility, develop hub-and-spoke arrangements, and ensure that the work moved into the next phase rather than being treated as complete.

GM asked to Bring forward the next phase for community hubs within place-based care and strategic alliance planning, including continued utilization and learning.

Action: GM / S Mottram

Decision(s)

Committee Members:

- **Noted the update in respect of progress and provide any feedback, this will go to the full IJB on 22nd September to update.**

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10. Quarterly Communication and Engagement Report May – July 2026

AC highlighted engagement relating to the GMS review, the proposed relocation of GP services from Waverley Medical Centre, value-based health and care / realistic medicine, and chronic pain awareness. Members discussed communications relating to anticipated national structural announcements and the opportunity for a partnership response. Social prescribing engagement was also considered, with support expressed for encouraging communities to respond through the Scottish Government platform.

AC / RE to consider further social media promotion of the Scottish Government social prescribing engagement to local communities.

Action: AC / RE

Decision(s)

Committee Members:

- **Noted the information presented within the paper on communication and engagement activity**

11. IJB Participation and Engagement Strategy 2026 - 2029

AC explained that the draft strategy updated the existing three-year framework and was informed by experience and stakeholder input. The strategy set out principles and a high-level approach for participation and engagement. Members discussed the relationship with the Community Wealth Building legislation and agreed this should be considered through the annual review once further guidance was available.

Use the annual review to test alignment with Community Wealth Building requirements and raise the equivalent point when the strategy is considered by the NHS Board.

Action: AC

Decision(s)

Committee Members:

- **Noted the Draft Participation and Engagement Strategy 2026–2029**
- **Noted the proposed approach to delivery through existing governance arrangements**
- **Noted that progress will be subject to ongoing monitoring and annual review**

12. Community Wealth Building Presentation

Presentation was shared this morning, and Valerie White took members through the presentation.

VW presented an overview of Community Wealth Building, its five pillars and the differing duties of relevant and specified public bodies. The IJB was described as a specified body that must have due regard to Community Wealth Building principles in its strategic commissioning plans, corporate plans and relevant strategies. Discussion focused on practical application through commissioning, procurement, fair work, use of assets, local and third-sector provision, place plans, community action plans and strategic directions. Members emphasised designing procurement routes that were accessible to small and medium-sized local enterprises and considering local employment and community benefit clauses within larger contracts.

The Committee received and discussed the presentation and agreed that Community Wealth Building principles should be made visible in IJB strategy, commissioning, direction-setting and decision-making.

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VW to liaise with governance colleagues on embedding Community Wealth Building in IJB plans, directions and processes; share the presentation with Ryan Stewart; and flag existing place/community plans at the CPP workshop.

Action: VW

13. NHS Public Health Committee Chairs Briefing June & August 2026

VW summarised the Public Health Committee briefings, including vaccination and screening performance, inequalities in uptake, place planning, healthy weight environments, preventative spend, population health maturity, anchor organisation metrics and the role of community link workers and the public health improvement workforce. Members considered whether this reporting should remain with this Committee or move to Performance and Resources. A member expressed the view that this Committee remained the appropriate forum because the briefing provided strategic oversight of population health and prevention.

Decision(s)

Committee Members:

- **Noted and discuss the papers presented in Appendix 1 and 2 which outlines a range of work undertaken by NHS Dumfries and Galloway to support improvements in population health.**

14. Workforce Plan Update

Ryan Stewart outlined development of a repeatable workforce evidence base and dashboard covering NHS and adult social work. The baseline would examine workforce scale, composition, demographics, movement, hard-to-fill posts, recruitment pressures and alignment with the local labour market. Members discussed housing constraints, attraction and retention, the wider third and independent sector workforce, volunteer contribution, and the risk of statutory organisations drawing staff away from commissioned providers. Ryan advised that a multi-disciplinary development and oversight group would be established and that the final plan would include recruitment, retention, role redesign and redeployment considerations.

The Committee noted the proposed baseline and the planned development of the full Workforce Plan. It supported inclusion of finance, service, professional, third-sector and independent-sector representation in the development group. The Committee requested a further update before the plan proceeds to the IJB.

RS to establish the development and oversight group with third and independent sector representation, and keep stakeholders updated, AM to link with RS to arrange a suitable bring forward date.

Action: AM / RS

15. Any Other Business

No AOCB was noted.

16. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of this Committee will be on Tuesday 1st December 2026 at 2pm – 5pm via Microsoft Teams

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