

Falkirk Integration Scheme

Easy Read Version

What is Health and Social Care Integration?

Integration of health and social care is the Scottish Government's programme of reform to improve services for people who use health and social care services.

It will ensure that health and social care provision across Scotland is more joined-up and seamless, especially for people with long term conditions and disabilities, many of whom are older people.

New legislation requires all Health Boards and Councils to start to integrate their health and social care services for adults from 1 April 2015.

What are the main aims of Health and Social Care Integration?

Health and Social Care Integration aims to:

- make it easier and quicker to access services and support
- help people to stay fit and healthy so that they can live safely and independently in their own home for as long as possible
- provide care that is tailored to individual needs
- make better and more effective use of the resources and skills available
- deliver services in a joined up way by bridging gaps and removing duplication
- make it easier for staff to share information, expertise and experience
- respond to the different health and social care needs of local communities

How is integration being taken forward in Forth Valley?

Integration is not about starting again as all health and social care organisations in Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire work well together. There are already many successful examples of joint working which can be built on.

There will be two new health and social care partnerships that cover the Forth Valley area – one for Falkirk which will be developed jointly by NHS Forth Valley and Falkirk Council and one for Clackmannanshire and Stirling which will be developed jointly by NHS Forth Valley, Clackmannanshire Council and Stirling Council. These new Partnerships will be responsible for ensuring that people get the joined up and seamless support and care they require to meet their individual needs.

What is the Integration Scheme?

The Scheme is an agreement between Falkirk Council and NHS Forth Valley who are called 'the parties' in the agreement. The Scheme sets out which health and social care functions will be delegated from the parties to the new Integration Joint Board (IJB). It also sets out what support, including financial support, the parties will provide to the IJB to enable it to meet its responsibilities. It does not describe what the IJB will do in detail. The IJB will become responsible for planning and delivering adult and older peoples services in April 2016. The scheme contains high level statements of commitment to ensure flexibility.

What is the Integration Joint Board (IJB)

The IJB is a separate legal body. It is not a Committee of Falkirk Council or NHS Forth Valley. There are 6 voting members on the IJB - 3 elected members from Falkirk Council and 3 NHS Forth Valley Board members. There are also non-voting members, including representatives from service users and carers. The IJB must put in place a Strategic Plan and then direct NHS Forth Valley and Falkirk Council to deliver services in line with that so the IJB will be able to shift pooled resources to better

deliver integrated services. The operational delivery of agreed services will be through the Chief Officer, who is accountable to the Chief Executives of NHS FV Board and Falkirk Council. The IJB is accountable to the Scottish Ministers, Falkirk Council, the Board of NHS Forth Valley and the public for delivering the nationally agreed outcomes.

What is in the Integration Scheme?

The scheme has different sections to cover key areas of the agreement between Falkirk Council and NHS Forth Valley. These are as follows:

Introduction: Vision for the Falkirk area and agreed outcomes. The vision is 'to enable people to live full and positive lives within supportive communities'.

- Section 1: Definitions and Interpretation
This section sets out the use of terms and definitions that are used throughout the scheme.
- Section 2: Local Governance Arrangements
This describes the make up of the IJB and its relationship with the parties. It also sets out the agreement on number of voting members, the appointment of a chair and vice-chair and appointment periods.
- Section 3: Delegation of Functions
This describes the health and social care functions to be delegated by Falkirk Council and NHS Forth Valley to the IJB. The detail is set out in Annexes 1 and 2 to the scheme. The Falkirk partnership has agreed to integrate the minimum functions allowed at this stage. The detail about how integrated services will be operationally managed is not included in the scheme. This will be described in the Strategic Plan.
- Section 4: Local Operational Delivery Arrangements
This sets out how the parties will support the IJB to carry out the delegated functions. This includes providing corporate and strategic planning support, financial and activity information and working together on performance management.
- Section 5: Clinical and Care Governance
This sets out the responsibility of the parties to put systems in place to ensure safe standards for the delivery of integrated health and social care services. It commits the parties to develop an agreed framework.
- Section 6: Chief Officer
This section describes the role of Chief Officer of the IJB. The Chief Officer will have operational responsibility and will be a member of the Executive Management Team of both parties as well as be a non-voting member of the IJB itself.
- Section 7: Workforce and Organisational Development
This section covers the commitment of parties to develop workforce plans. These will be developed over 2015/16.
- Section 8: Finance
This section sets out the method for determining how much Falkirk Council and NHS Forth Valley must commit from their budgets to the IJB in the first operational year (2016/17) and onwards. It also sets out what will happen if there are over or underspends on the IJB's budgets.

Section 9: Participation and Engagement

This section, along with Annex 3 of the scheme, set out who was consulted in the development of the scheme. It also commits the parties to support the IJB to develop a participation and engagement strategy.

Section 10: Information Sharing and Data Handling

This section describes how the parties will agree arrangements for sharing personal information with the IJB, if that becomes necessary.

Section 11–14: Complaints, Claims, Risk Management and Disputes

These sections cover a range of technical issues and how these will be resolved. The dispute section covers both disputes between the parties in relation to Scheme and between one or both of the parties and the IJB.

How do I get more information?

You can get further information at www.nhsforthvalley.com/hsci or by contacting

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