**Falkirk Integration Joint Board Standing Orders**

# Title

1.1 These are the Standing Orders of the Falkirk Integration Joint Board made under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Integration Joint Boards) (Scotland) Order 2014. These Standing Orders will apply from 20 June 2025.

# Definitions

In the Standing Orders, the following terms have the undernoted meaning:-

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| **Term** | **Meaning** |
| Chairperson | The person presiding at the Board or a Committee duly appointed by the Board. |
| Chief Officer | The Chief Officer of the Falkirk Health & Social Care Partnership. |
| Clear days | When referring to service of Notices, the term “clear days” refers to weekdays, excluding weekends, Bank Holidays, local or national holidays, the day the Notice is posted and the day on which the meeting is held. |
| Committee | A Committee established by the Board for the purpose of carrying out its functions as the Board may determine. |
| Constituent authority | Falkirk Council or NHS Forth Valley |
| Clinical and Care Governance | Referring to matters of Clinical and Care Governance, the definition outlined in Annex C of the Scottish Government's Clinical and Care Governance Framework will be applied. |
| Integration  Functions | The functions delegated to the Integration Joint Board pursuant to section 3 of the integration scheme and further described in Annexes 1 and 2 of the scheme. |
| Integration Joint  Board | The body established under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 to deliver health and social care services. |
| Integration Joint  Board Order | The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Integration Joint Boards) (Scotland) Order 2014. |
| Integration Scheme | The document agreed between the constituent authorities in accordance with the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. |
| Substitute | A member appointed by the constituent authority to act in place of a member in their absence or a named alternate for certain categories as set out in these Standing Orders. |
| Third sector interface | The organisation of partnership which is recognised by the Scottish Government and Falkirk Council as the third sector interface for the Council area |
| Vice-Chairperson | The person presiding at the Board or a Committee in the absence of the convener. |

# General Principles

3.1 The following general principles are given effect to the application of the Standing Orders:-

1. That the role of the Chairperson is to ensure that the business of the meeting is properly dealt with and that clear decisions are reached;
2. That the Chairperson will seek to promote and identify consensus among the voting members of the Board;
3. That the Chairperson has a responsibility to ensure that the views of all members are expressed including the advice of officers when this is necessary to inform the decision, and
4. That meetings are conducted in a proper and timely manner with all members sharing responsibility for the proper and expeditious discharge of business.

# Membership

4.1 The membership of the Board shall consist of voting and non-voting members.

4.2 In accordance with the Integration Scheme, the voting members will consist of three Councillors appointed by Falkirk Council and three members of the Health Board appointed by Forth Valley Health Board. The members appointed by Forth Valley Health Board must be non-executive members except where regulation 3(5) of the IJB Order applies.

4.3 The non-voting members of the Board will be as follows:-

1. The Chief Social Work Officer of Falkirk Council;
2. The Chief Officer of the Board;
3. The proper officer of the Board appointed under section 95 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973;
4. A registered medical practitioner appointed by Forth Valley Health Board whose name is included in the list of primary medical services performers prepared by the Health Board in accordance with regulations made under section 17P of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978;
5. A registered nurse appointed by Forth Valley Health Board who is employed by the Health Board or by a person or body with which the Health Board has entered into a general medical services contract;
6. A registered medical practitioner appointed by Forth Valley Health Board employed by the Health Board and not providing primary medical services;
7. A person appointed by the Board in respect of the staff of Falkirk Council engaged in the provision of services provided under integration functions;
8. A person appointed by the Board in respect of staff of the Forth Valley Health Board engaged in the provision of services provided under integration functions;
9. The Chief Executive of the Falkirk Third Sector Interface.
10. A person appointed by the Board in respect of third sector bodies carrying out activities related to health or social care in the Falkirk Council area;
11. A person appointed by the Board in respect of service users residing in the Falkirk Council area;
12. A person appointed by the Board in respect of persons providing unpaid care in the Falkirk Council area;

# Term of Office

5.1 The term of office of a voting member of the Board is to be determined by the constituent authority but is not to exceed three years.

5.2 Members appointed under 4.3(a)-(c) will remain a member for as long as they hold the office in respect of which they are appointed.

5.3 Where the Board establishes any category of membership the terms of office will be three years from the time of appointment, unless otherwise determined. The term of office is not to exceed three years.

5.4 At the end of a term of office determined under 5.1 or 5.3, a member may be re-appointed for a further term of office.

5.5 A person may resign their membership of the Integration Joint Board at any time by giving notice in writing to the Integration Joint Board subject to the provisions of regulation 9 of the IJB Order.

5.6 A person may be removed from office by the Integration Joint Board subject to the provisions of regulation 10 of the IJB Order.

# Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

6.1 In accordance with the Integration Scheme, the first Chairperson was appointed by the Council and held office until 30 April 2017. For all subsequent periods the Chairperson alternates between the constituent parties for two year periods.

6.2 The constituent authority which is not entitled to appoint the Chairperson in respect of an appointing period will appoint the Vice-Chairperson of the Board in respect of that period.

6.3 The Health Board may only appoint as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson a member of the Board who is a non-executive member of the Health Board.

# Substitution

## Voting Members

If a voting member is unable to attend a meeting of the Board, the constituent authority which nominated the member is to use its best endeavours to arrange for a suitably experienced substitute who is either a Councillor or as the case may be a member of the Health Board to attend the meeting in place of the voting member. The question of whether the substitute is suitably experienced shall be a matter to be determined by the constituent authority.

## Non-Voting Members

If a member who is not a voting member is unable to attend a meeting of the Integration Joint Board, that member may arrange for a suitably experienced substitute to attend the meeting. Where an appointment is made under 4.3 (g)(l) above, the Board may also appoint a suitably experienced person or persons to act as a substitute in respect of the person appointed.

# Meetings

8.1 The Board will agree a programme of meetings for each year which will constitute the ordinary meetings of the Board and its Committees. The Chairperson, in consultation with the Vice-Chair, may alter the date of a Board meeting within the programme.

8.2 The Chairperson, in consultation with the Vice-Chair, may call a meeting of the Board at such other times as they think fit. Any meeting so called will constitute a special meeting of the Board.

8.3 A request for a meeting of the Board to be called may be made in the form of a requisition specifying the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting and signed by at least two thirds of the voting members, presented to the Chairperson

8.4 If following a request being made under paragraph 8.3, the Chairperson refuses to call a meeting, or does not call a meeting within seven days after the making of the request, the members who signed the requisition may call a meeting.

8.5 The business which may be transacted at a meeting called under 8.3 is limited to the business specified in the requisition.

# Notice of Meetings

9.1 Before each meeting of the Board, or a Committee of the Board, a Notice of the Meeting specifying the time, place and business to be transacted at it in the name of the Chairperson, is to be sent electronically to every member or sent to the usual place of residence of every member so as to be available to them at least five clear days before the meeting.

9.2 A failure to serve notice of a meeting on a member in accordance with 9.1 shall not affect the validity to anything done at that meeting.

9.3 In the case of a meeting of the Board called by members, the notice has to be signed by the members who requisitioned the meeting in accordance with 8.3 above.

# The Agenda

10.1 Each item of business to be transacted at a meeting will be noted on the Notice of Meeting. No other item of business will be considered at the meeting unless by reason of special circumstance the Chairperson is of the opinion that the item should be considered as a matter of urgency. The nature of the special circumstance will be recorded in the minute of the meeting.

10.2 Each item of business will be accompanied by a report unless special circumstances exist for the non-availability of the report. This provision will not apply where the item of business consists only of a presentation to be made to the Board for information purposes.

10.3 Copies of the Notice of Meeting and the accompanying reports will be open for inspection by members of the public at the offices of the Board at least five clear days before the meeting except:-

1. where the meeting is convened at shorter notice in which case the Notice of Meeting and reports will be available as soon as possible after the meeting is called;
2. where the report relates to an item during consideration of which, in the opinion of the Chief Officer, the meeting is likely not to be open to the public.

10.4 The business to be transacted will be:-

1. Attendance
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes
4. Rolling Action Log
5. Business
6. Motions

# Access to Meetings

11.1 All meetings of the Board will be open to the public except in the following circumstances:-

1. Where it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted that there will be disclosure of exempt information, the public may be excluded from the meeting while that particular item of business is considered;
2. Where, following consultation with the Chairperson and Chief Officer, the item of business is to consider matters relating to Clinical and Care Governance, the public may be excluded from the meeting while the item of business is considered, or
3. The Chairperson uses their power to exclude any member of the public from a meeting in order to supress or prevent disorder disorderly conduct or other misbehaviour which is impeding or likely to impede the work or proceedings of the Board.
   1. Exempt information means information which falls within any of the categories set out in Appendix 1 to these Standing Orders.
   2. No member of the public will be permitted to speak or take in part in the proceedings of a meeting of the Board, other than in accordance with Standing Order 16.

# Quorum

12.1 No business is to be transacted at a meeting of the Board unless at least one half of the voting members (including substitutes) is present.

# Conduct of Meetings

13.1 At each meeting of the Board, the Chairperson will preside.

13.2 If the Chairperson is absent from a meeting of the Board, the Vice-Chairperson is to preside.

13.3 If the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are both absent from a meeting of the Board, a voting member chosen at the meeting by the other voting members attending the meeting is to preside. A member attending a meeting as a substitute under Standing Order 7 may not preside over the meeting.

13.4 If it is necessary or expedient to do so, a meeting of the Board may be adjourned to another date, time or place.

# Minutes

14.1 A record must be kept of the names of the members attending every meeting of the Board.

14.2 Minutes of the proceedings of each meeting of the Board including any decision made at that meeting are to be drawn up and submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Board for agreement after which they are to be signed by the person presiding at that meeting.

# Conflict of Interest

15.1 A member must disclose any direct or indirect pecuniary or other interest which the member considers should be disclosed in relation to an item of business to be transacted at a meeting of the Board, or a committee of the Board, before taking part in any discussion on that item.

15.2 Where an interest is disclosed under 15.1, the member disclosing the interest is to decide whether, in the circumstances, it is appropriate for them to take part in discussion of or voting on the item of business.

# Deputations

16.1 The Board can hear deputations on any matter that is included within its remit.

16.2 Every application for admission to the meeting as a deputation must be submitted in writing to the Chief Officer setting out the matters on which the deputation wishes to be heard.

16.3 Where the application relates to a matter included on the agenda for a meeting, it must be submitted not later than noon on the second last clear day before the meeting.

16.4 Where the application relates to a matter that will not otherwise appear on the agenda, it must be submitted at least 10 clear days before the meeting.

16.5 In all cases the Board shall decide whether to hear the deputation (voting on it if necessary) and no discussion of the merits of the case will take place before that decision has been taken.

16.6 Each deputation will not usually exceed five persons and will normally have ten minutes to present its case, unless the Chairperson determines that further time is required. If the meeting decides to hear more than one deputation on the same subject, they will be heard together. The Chairperson will decide how much time to allow.

16.7 Any member can put a question to the deputation that is relevant to the subject matter. The total time for such questions will not usually exceed 10 minutes. The merits of the case must not be discussed by members until the deputation has withdrawn.

# Alteration of Standing Orders

17.1 The Board shall have the power to alter these Standing Orders at any of its meetings provided due intimation of such proposed alterations appears on the face of the Notice of Meeting. Any such alteration may be approved by a majority of voting members present.

# Remote Attendance at meetings

18.1 The Board, if so determined by the Chairperson, may meet remotely in extreme circumstances.

18.2 A member of the Board may participate in a meeting by way of video conferencing (or other similar technology which allows communication between the place where a meeting of the Board is to take place and another place).

18.3 In circumstances where video conferencing becomes unavailable, this shall not affect the validity of anything done at that meeting, provided that the meeting is quorate.

# Conduct of Meetings at Committees

19.1 Meetings of Committees will be conducted in accordance with these Standing Orders excluding SO 4, 5, 6 and 17

# Decision Making

20.1 Where the Board is to take a decision, the Chairperson, allowing for a period of discussion, will determine whether there is consensus among the voting members on the proposed decision. In the absence of consensus, the question will be determined by a majority of the votes of the voting members attending.

20.2 In the event of an absence of consensus, a motion may be moved and seconded by voting members. Where no amendment is moved and seconded, the Chairperson, allowing for a further period of discussion, will put the matter to a vote for or against the motion. Where an amendment is moved and seconded, the Chairperson, allowing for a further period of discussion, will put the matter to a vote for the motion or for the amendment.

20.3 Only one amendment may be moved and discussed at a time and no further amendment may be moved (although notice of it must be given prior to any decision) until the amendment under discussion has been dealt with. No member may move more than one amendment to a motion.

20.4 If an amendment is lost, other amendments may be moved on the original motion but only where notice has been given prior to any decision. If an amendment is carried, the amended motion replaces the original motion and becomes the substantive motion upon which any further amendment may be moved.

20.5 Motions and amendments moved at the meeting must be relevant to the item of business and the Board’s decision making remit, and cannot contain defamatory or otherwise improper content, as determined by the Chairperson.

20.6 The clerk will read out to the meeting the terms of the motion and any amendment. Thereafter, the clerk will call over the names of all the voting members and will record in the minutes of the meeting the names of those:-

(i) voting for or against the motion or amendment; or

(ii) abstaining from voting.

20.7 In the event of an equality of votes no decision may be made on that item of business at the meeting.

20.8 Where 20.7 applies, the Chief Officer after consulting with the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the constituent authorities, shall reconsider the proposal giving rise to the equality of votes and may:

1. present the proposal to a future meeting of the Board in an amended form;
2. provide the Board with further and better information on the proposal; and
3. provide the Board with advice on any legal, financial or other risk arising from the failure to take a decision.

20.9 Where 20.7 applies, standing order 21 will not have effect.

# Revocation of Previous Decisions

21.1 A decision by the Board cannot be considered or changed within six months or being made unless:-

1. it is required by statute;
2. or two thirds of the voting members present and voting agree otherwise.

# Motions

22.1 Without prejudice to standing order 20, a voting member of the Board may submit a motion to the Board on any matter within its decision making remit. Any such motion will be submitted at least 10 clear days before any ordinary meeting of the Board to the Chief Officer.

22.2 Unless the Chief Officer determines that the motion is outwith the Board decision making remit, or contains defamatory or otherwise improper content, the motion will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.

# Committees

23.1 The Board may establish Committees of its members for the purpose of carrying out such of its functions as it may determine.

23.2 Where the Board establishes a Committee, it must determine who will act as Chairperson of the Committee.

23.3 A Committee established must include voting members and must include an equal number of the voting members appointed by the Health Board and the council.

23.4 Any decision relating to carrying out of functions under the Act or to integration functions taken by a Committee established by virtue of this standing order must be agreed by a majority of the votes of the voting members who are members of the Committee.

**Appendix 1**

Exempt Information

The following categories of information are defined as being “exempt”:-

1. Information relating to a particular employee, former employee or applicant to become an employee of, or a particular office holder, former office holder or applicant to become an office holder under, the Council;
2. Information relating to any particular occupier or former occupier of, or applicant for, accommodation provided by or at the expense of the authority;
3. Information relating to any particular applicant for, or recipient or former recipient of, any service provided by the Council;
4. Information relating to any particular applicant for, or recipient or former recipient of, any financial assistance provided by the Council;
5. Information relating to the adoption, care, fostering or education of any particular child or relating to the supervision or residence of any particular child in accordance with a supervision requirement of that child made under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995;
6. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the Council);
7. Information relating to anything done or to be done in respect of any particular person for the purposes of any matter referred to in section 27(1) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 (providing reports on and supervision of certain persons);
8. The amount of any expenditure proposed to be incurred by the Council under any particular contract for the acquisition of property or the supply of goods or services;
9. Any terms proposed, or to be proposed by or to the Council, in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of any property or the supply of goods or services;
10. The identity of the Council (as well as any other person, by virtue of item (vi) above) as the person offering any particular tender for a contract for the supply of goods or services;
11. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the Council;
12. Any instructions to Counsel and any opinion of Counsel (whether or not in connection with any proceedings) and any advice received, information obtained or action to be taken in connection with:- (a) any legal proceedings by or against the Council, or

(b) the determination of any matter affecting the Council, (whether, in either case, proceedings have been commenced or are in contemplation);

1. Information which, if disclosed to the public, would reveal that the Council proposes:-
   1. to give under any enactment a notice under, or by virtue of, which requirements are imposed on a person, or
   2. to make an order or direction under any enactment;
2. Any action taken, or to be taken in connection, with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime; (xv) The identity of a protected informant.

For the purposes of these Standing Orders, references to the Council in this appendix shall be read as including a reference to the Health Board or the Integration Joint Board as the context requires.