

Chair's Report

Report to: Board
Date: 24 October 2014
Report by: Paul Edie, Chair
Report No: B-24-2014
Agenda Item: 11

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update on key developments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

1. Notes the information contained in this report.

Version Control and Consultation Recording Form

Version	Consultation	Manager	Brief Description of Changes	Date
	Senior Management			
	Legal Services			
	Resources Directorate			
	Committee Consultation (where appropriate)			
	Partnership Forum Consultation (where appropriate)			

Equality Impact Assessment

To be completed when submitting a new or updated policy (guidance, practice or procedure) for approval.

Policy Title:

Date of Initial Assessment:

EIA Carried Out

YES

NO

If yes, please attach the accompanying EIA and briefly outline the equality and diversity implications of this policy.

If no, you are confirming that this policy will have no negative impact on people with a protected characteristic and a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

Name: Paul Edie

Position: Chair

Authorised by Director

Name: P Edie

Date:

Version: 2.0

Status: Final

Date: 17/10/2014

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This is my fifth Chair's report which highlights a few of my activities since the Board last met in June including a meeting I attended with the Deputy Chief Executive at St. Andrews House organised by Professor Jim McGoldrick in his role as Chair of the Joint Improvement Team. Attendees included HIS and JIT Representatives and a mutual exchange of views about areas of future and current cooperation.

2.0 SALLY WITCHER

Dr Sally Witcher has indicated that she will not be seeking a second term as a Board member. Sally has served in the Board of the Care Inspectorate since it was established in 2011 and brings her perspective as both an expert in the field of social care as well as being an experienced service user. The Public Appointments team at the Scottish Government will shortly be starting the process for filling the Board vacancy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sally for her very valuable contribution to the development of the Care Inspectorate and in particular her work as a vice-chair of the complaints sub-committee

3.0 STAFF CONFERENCE

I was delighted to open our annual staff conference in September. It was very heartening to hear about the work our staff are doing throughout the year and to hear about so many new innovations. The presentations were engaging and informative and the quality of professional discussion was high. I was particularly pleased with the level of engagement with Board members this year. Many of the workshops were chaired by Board Members and staff took the opportunity to learn more about the work of the Board throughout the course of the day.

4.0 OFFICE VISITS

I have restarted my next schedule of visits to the Care Inspectorate offices across the country. These have been immensely useful in getting an idea of how things work on the ground but also gives me an opportunity to gauge the mood of staff. As a dispersed organisation I am keen to ensure that I hear directly from staff across Scotland and to understand the different environments in which we work.

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5.0 MEETING WITH PARTNERSHIP GROUP

I was pleased to meet again with our staff representatives of the Partnership Forum in September. Much of the discussion focused in the staff survey. There was a positive welcome for the staff survey and the way in which it had been commissioned by the forum. The representatives stressed that the survey will provide the basis for partnership working over the next two year.

6.0 QUALITY CONVERSATIONS

One issue that the Cabinet Secretary raised with the Board, when we met with him last year, was the need to improve engagement with service providers. Providers are extremely important partners and it is very important that we work with them to improve services. To that end, in July, I chaired the first in a series of 'Quality Conversations' between the Care Inspectorate and providers. This particular event was on the theme of older people's services. The event was very well received and it is intended to roll these out to other provider groups in the future. This will include a focus on children's services and adults with disabilities. The feedback was very positive and a number of providers have since been contacted to support our development work. The note of the meeting is available to Board Members who wish to see it.

7.0 ENGAGEMENT WITH KEY PARTNERS

Over the summer months I have met with a number of partners to discuss issues of mutual interest. Groups and bodies I have met range from COSLA and SOLACE to Community Care Providers Scotland (CCPS) and Social Work Scotland (the new name for ADSW). These have been very useful in gauging how key stakeholders are rolling out health and social care reform, how well received our expert teams have been and how best we can work together to improve services.

8.0 STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT GROUP

The Strategic Scrutiny Group is chaired by the Chair of the Accounts Commission and brings together all the inspectorates and scrutiny bodies who have a role in inspecting local government. The remit of the group has been revised recently to take account of the changing landscape. The Policy Committee recently had an update from the Chief Executive on the work of this group in which we play an important role. High on the agenda is health and care integration and how we can work together to ensure that each scrutiny body carried out not only its own role but also how we work together to ensure risk based and proportionate inspection and take account of public sector reform.

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