

**SCOTTISH BORDERS  
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD**

**STANDING ORDERS**

## **1. General**

- 1.1 The Standing Orders of the Scottish Borders Health & Social Care Integration Joint Board are set up in accordance with the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 1.2 Any statutory provision, regulation or direction issued by the Scottish Ministers shall have precedence if they are in conflict with the Standing Orders.

## **2. Membership**

- 2.1 The Integrated Joint Board shall comprise five NHS Non-Executive Directors appointed by Borders Health Board, and five Elected Councillors appointed by Scottish Borders Council. In addition, there will be non-voting representatives drawn from health and social care professionals, staff, the third sector, users, the public and carers as identified by the Integration Joint Board. The Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board, Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Executives of NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council, and any other senior officers as appropriate, will be invited to attend the Integration Joint Board as non-voting members.
- 2.2 The term of office of voting Members of the Integration Joint Board shall last as follows:
  - (a) for Local Government Councillors, three years, thereafter Scottish Borders Council will identify its replacement Councillor(s) on the Integration Joint Board,
  - (b) for Borders Health Board nominees, three years, thereafter Borders Health Board will identify its replacement Non Executive(s) on the Integration Joint Board.
- 2.3 Where a Voting Member resigns or otherwise ceases to hold office, the person appointed in his/her place shall be appointed for the unexpired term of the Voting Member they replace.
- 2.4 On expiry of a Voting Member's term of appointment the Voting Member shall be eligible for re-appointment provided that he/she remains eligible and is not otherwise disqualified from appointment.
- 2.5 Any Voting Member appointed to the Integration Joint Board who ceases to fulfil the requirements for membership detailed in the Scheme of Integration approved by the Scottish Ministers shall be removed from membership on the serving by the Board Secretary of notice to that effect.
- 2.6 A Voting Member of the Integration Board may resign his/her membership in writing at any time during their term of office by giving notice to the Board Secretary or the Clerk to the Council. The resignation shall take effect from the date notified in the notice or on the date of receipt if no date is notified.
- 2.7 If a Voting Member has not attended three consecutive Ordinary Meetings of the, Integration Joint Board, the Board Secretary shall, by giving notice in writing to that Voting Member, remove that person from office unless the Integration Joint Board are satisfied that :-

- (a) The absence was due to illness or other reasonable cause; and
- (b) The Voting Member will be able to attend future Meetings within such period as the Integration Joint Board consider reasonable.

2.8 The acts, meetings or proceedings of the Integration Joint Board shall not be invalidated by any defect in the appointment of any Member.

### **3. Chair**

3.1 The first Chair of the Integration Joint Board shall be from the body not employing the Integration Joint Board's Chief Officer, with the Vice-Chair from the body employing the Chief Officer. The Chair and Vice –Chair posts shall rotate annually between the NHS Board and the Council, with the Chair being from one body and the Vice-Chair from the other.

3.2 The Vice-Chair may act in all respects as the Chair of the Integration Joint Board if the Chair is absent or otherwise unable to perform his/her duties.

3.3 At every Meeting of the Integration Joint Board the Chair, if present, shall preside. If the Chair is absent from any Meeting the Vice-Chair, if present, shall preside. If both the Chair and the Vice-Chair are absent, a chair shall be appointed from within the voting members present for that meeting.

3.4 Powers, authority and duties of Chair and Vice-Chair.

The Chair shall amongst other things:-

- (a) Preserve order and ensure that every Member has a fair Hearing;
- (b) Decide on matters of relevancy, competency and order, and whether to have a recess during the Meeting, having taken into account any advice offered by the Chief Officer or other relevant officer in attendance at the Meeting;
- (c) Determine the order in which speakers can be heard;
- (d) Ensure that due and sufficient opportunity is given to Members who wish to speak to express their views on any subject under discussion;
- (e) If requested by any Member ask the mover of a motion, or an amendment, to state its terms;
- (f) Maintain order and at his/her discretion, order the exclusion of any Member of the public who is deemed to have caused disorder or misbehaved;
- (g) The decision of the Chair on all matters within his/her jurisdiction shall be final;
- (h) Deference shall at all times be paid to the authority of the Chair. When he/she rises to speak, the Chair shall be heard without interruption and
- (i) Members shall address the Chair while speaking.

## **4. Meetings**

- 4.1 The Integration Joint Board shall meet at such place and such frequency as may be agreed by the Integration Joint Board and no less than six times per year.
- 4.2 The Chair may convene Special Meetings if it appears to him/her that there are items of urgent business to be considered. Such Meetings will be held at a time, date and venue as determined by the Chair. If the Office of Chair is vacant, or if the Chair is unable to act for any reason the Vice-Chair may at any time call such a Meeting.
- 4.3 If the Chair refuses to call a Meeting of the Integration Joint Board after a requisition for that purpose specifying the business proposed to be transacted, signed by at least one third of the whole number of voting Members, has been presented to the Chair or if, without so refusing, the Chair does not call a Meeting within seven days after such requisition has been presented, those Members who presented the requisition may forthwith call a Meeting provided no business shall be transacted at the Meeting other than specified in the requisition.

## **5. Notice of Meeting**

- 5.1 Before every Meeting of the Integration Joint Board a Notice of the Meeting, specifying the time, place and business to be transacted at it shall be delivered to every Member or sent by post to the usual place of residence of such Members or delivered by electronic means so as to be available to them at least seven clear days before the Meeting. Members may opt in writing addressed to the Chief Officer to have Notice of Meetings delivered to an alternative address. Such Notice will remain valid until rescinded in writing. Lack of service of the Notice on any Member shall not affect the validity of a Meeting.
- 5.2 In the case of a Meeting of the Integration Joint Board called by Members in default of the Chair, the Notice shall be signed by those Members who requisitioned the Meeting. The meeting will consider the business specified in the notice. Such meeting shall be held within fourteen days of receipt of the notice by the Chief Officer.
- 5.3 At all Ordinary or Special Meetings of the Integration Joint Board, no business other than that on the Agenda shall be discussed or adopted except where by reason of special circumstances, which shall be specified in the Minutes, the Chair is of the opinion that the item should be considered at the Meeting as a matter of urgency.
- 5.4 The Board Secretary shall be responsible for giving public notice of the time and place of each Meeting of the Integration Joint Board by posting within the main offices of the Integration Joint Board not less than three clear days before the date of each Meeting.

## **6. Quorum**

- 6.1 No business shall be transacted at a Meeting of the Integration Joint Board unless there are present, and entitled to vote both Council and NHS Board members. Three

Elected Members from Scottish Borders Council and three Non Executive members from NHS Borders shall constitute a Quorum.

## **7. Codes of Conduct and Conflicts of Interest**

- 7.1 Members of the Integration Joint Board shall subscribe to and comply with both the Standards in Public Life - Code of Conduct for Members of Devolved Public Bodies and Councillors Code of Conduct and Guidance made in respect thereto which are incorporated into the Standing Orders. All members who are not already bound by the terms of either Code shall be obliged before taking up membership, to agree in writing to be bound by the terms of the Code of Conduct for Members of Devolved Public Bodies.
- 7.2 If any Member has a financial or non-financial interest as defined in the Councillors' Code of Conduct or the Code of Conduct of Members of Devolved Public Bodies and is present at any Meeting at which the matter is to be considered, he/she must as soon as practical, after the Meeting starts, disclose that he/she has an interest and the nature of that interest and if he/she is precluded from taking part in consideration of that matter.
- 7.3 If a Member or any business associate, relative or friend of theirs has any pecuniary or any other interest direct or indirect, in any Contract or proposed Contract or other matter and that Member is present at a Meeting of the Integration Joint Board, that Member shall disclose the fact and the nature of the relevant interest and shall not be entitled to vote on any question with respect to it. A Member shall not be treated as having any interest in any Contract or matter if it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to significantly affect or influence the voting by that Member on any question with respect to that Contract or matter.
- 7.4 A Member who has an interest in service delivery may participate in the business of the Integration Joint Board, except where they have a direct and significant interest in a matter, unless the Integration Joint Board formally decides and records in the Minutes of the Meeting that the public interest is best served by the Member remaining in the Meeting and contributing to the discussion. During the taking of a decision by the Integration Joint Board on such matter, the Member concerned shall absent him/herself from the Meeting.

## **8. Adjournment of Meetings**

- 8.1 A Meeting of the Integration Joint Board may be adjourned by a motion, which shall be moved and seconded and put to the Meeting without discussion. If such a motion is carried by a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote, the Meeting shall be adjourned to another day, time and place specified in the motion.

## **9. Disclosure of Information**

- 9.1 No Member or Officer shall disclose to any person any information which falls into the following categories:-
- Confidential information within the meaning of Section 50(a)(2) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

- The full or any part of any document marked not for publication by virtue of the appropriate paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.
- Any information regarding proceedings of the Integration Joint Board from which the Public have been excluded unless or until disclosure has been authorised by the Council or the NHS Board or the information has been made available to the Press or to the Public under the terms of the relevant legislation.

9.2 Without prejudice to the foregoing no Member shall use or disclose to any person any confidential and/or exempt information coming to his/her knowledge by virtue of his/her office as a Member where such disclosure would be to the advantage of the Member or of anyone known to him/her or which would be to the disadvantage of the Integration Joint Board, the Council or the NHS Board.

## **10. Recording of Proceedings**

10.1 No sound, film, video tape, digital or photographic recording of the proceedings of any Meeting shall be made without the prior approval of the Integration Joint Board.

## **11. Admission of Press and Public**

11.1 Members of the public and representatives of the Press will be admitted to every formal meeting of the Board but will not be permitted to take part in discussion (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973)

11.2 The Board may exclude the public and press while considering any matter that is confidential. (Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Schedule 7; Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act) and Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations)

11.3 The terms of any resolution specifying the part of the proceedings to which it relates and the categories of exempt information involved shall be specified in the minutes.

11.4 Members of the public and representatives of the press admitted to meetings shall not be permitted to make use of photographic or recording apparatus of any kind unless agreed by the Board. (Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973; Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)

11.5 Members of the public and press should leave when the meeting moves into reserved business. It is at the discretion of the Chair of that meeting if officers can remain.

11.6 Subject to the extent of the accommodation available and subject to the terms of Sections 50A and 50E of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, and Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 meetings of the Integration Joint Board shall be open to the public.

11.7 Every Meeting of the Integration Joint Board shall be open to the public but these provisions shall be without prejudice to the Integration Joint Board's powers of exclusion in order to suppress or prevent disorderly conduct or other misbehaviour at a Meeting. The Integration Joint Board may exclude or eject from a Meeting a member or members of the Press and Public whose presence or conduct is impeding the work or proceedings of the Integration Joint Board.

## **12. Reception of deputations**

12.1 Every application for the receiving of a deputation must be in writing, duly signed and delivered or e-mailed to the Board Secretary at least three clear working days prior to the date of the meeting at which the deputation wish to be received. The application must state the subject and the action which it proposes the Integration Joint Board should take.

12.2 The deputation shall consist of not more than ten people.

12.3 No more than two members of any deputation shall be permitted to address the meeting, and they may speak in total for no more than ten minutes.

12.4 Any member of the Integration Joint Board may put any relevant question to the deputation, but shall not express any opinion on the subject matter until all questions have been asked. If the subject matter relates to an item of business on the agenda, no debate or discussion shall take place until the relevant minute or other item is considered in the order of business.

12.5 The Integration Joint Board may make the following decisions regarding any deputation:

- (i) refer the petition to another organisation or Officer of another organisation, with or without a recommendation or comment. That Organisation or Officer shall then make the final decision which could include taking no further action;
- (ii) that the issue(s) raised do not merit or do not require further action.

## **13. Receipt of petitions**

13.1 Every petition shall be delivered to the Board Secretary at least three clear working days before the meeting at which the subject matter may be considered. The Chair will be advised and will decide whether the contents of the petition should be discussed at the meeting or not.

13.2 The Board may make the following decisions regarding any petition:

- (i) refer the petition to another organisation or Officer of another organisation, with or without a recommendation or comment. That Organisation or Officer shall then make the final decision which could include taking no further action;
- (ii) that the issue(s) raised do not merit or do not require further action.

## **14. Alteration, Deletion and Rescission of Decisions of the Integration Joint Board**

14.1 Except insofar as required by reason of illegality, no motion to alter, delete or rescind a decision of the Integration Joint Board will be competent within six months from the decision, unless a decision is made prior to consideration of the matter to suspend this Standing Order.

## **15. Suspension, Deletion or Amendment of Standing Orders**

15.1 Any one or more of the Standing Orders in the case of emergency as determined by the Chair upon motion may be suspended, amended or deleted at any Meeting so far as regards any business at such Meeting provided that two thirds of the voting Members of the Integration Joint Board present and voting shall so decide. Any motion to suspend Standing Orders shall state the number or terms of the Standing Order(s) to be suspended.

## **16. Order of business**

16.1 For ordinary meetings of the Board or its Committees, the business shown on the agenda shall normally proceed in the following order:

- Business determined by the Chair to be a matter of urgency by reason of special circumstances
- Reception of deputations, followed by consideration of any items of business on which the deputations have been heard
- Petitions
- Minutes of the previous meeting for approval
- Minutes of Sub-Committees
- General Business
- Questions and motions of which due notice has been given

16.2 No item of business shall be transacted at a meeting, unless either:

- It has been included on the agenda for the meeting; or
- It has been determined by the Chair to be a matter of urgency by reason of special circumstances

## **17. Motions, Amendment and Debate**

17.1 It will be competent for any voting Member of the Integration Joint Board at a Meeting of the Integration Joint Board to move a motion directly arising out of the business before the Meeting.

17.2 No Member, with the exception of the mover of the motion or amendment, will speak supporting the motion or amendment until the same will have been seconded.



17.3 Subject to the right of the mover of a motion, and the mover of an amendment, to reply, no Member will speak more than once on the same question at any Meeting of the Integration Joint Board except:-

- On a question of Order
- With the permission of the Chair
- In explanation or to clear up a misunderstanding in some material part of his/her speech.

In all of the above cases no new matter will be introduced.

17.4 The mover of an amendment and thereafter the mover of the original motion will have the right of reply for a period of not more than 5 minutes. He/she will introduce no new matter and once a reply is commenced, no other Member will speak on the subject of debate. Once these movers have replied, the discussion will be held closed and the Chair will call for the vote to be taken.

17.5 Amendments must be relevant to the motions to which they relate and no Member will be at liberty to move or second more than one amendment to any motion, unless the mover of an amendment has failed to have it seconded. The mover and seconder of the motion will not move an amendment or second an amendment, unless the mover of the motion has failed to have it seconded.

17.6 It will be competent for any Member who has not already spoken in a debate to move the closure of such debate. On such motion being seconded, the vote will be taken, and if a majority of the Members present vote for the motion, the debate will be closed. However, closure is subject to the right of the mover of the motion and of the amendment(s) to reply. Thereafter, a vote will be taken immediately on the subject of the debate.

17.7 Any Member may indicate his/her desire to ask a question or offer information immediately after a speech by another Member and it will be the option of the Member to whom the question would be directed or information offered to decline or accept the question or offer of information.

17.8 When a motion is under debate, no other motion or amendment will be moved except in the following circumstances:

- to adjourn the debate; or
- to close the debate.

17.9 A motion or amendment once moved and seconded cannot be altered or withdrawn

unless with the consent of the majority of those present.

## **18. Voting**

18.1 Every effort shall be made by Members to ensure that as many decisions as possible are made by consensus.

18.2 Only the five Members nominated by the NHS Board, and the five Members appointed by the Council shall be entitled to vote. Those Members drawn from health and social care professionals, staff, the third sector, users, the public and carers shall not be entitled to vote.

18.3 Every question at a Meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes of the Members present and who are entitled to vote on the question. In the case of an equality of votes the Chair shall not have a second or casting vote. In the event of an equality of votes, the matter shall be referred to the NHS Borders Board and to Scottish Borders Council for final decision.

## **19. Minutes, agendas and papers**

19.1 The Board Secretary is responsible for ensuring that Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Integration Joint Board or its Committees, including any decision or resolution made at that meeting, shall be drawn up. The minutes shall be submitted to the next meeting of the Integration Joint Board, or relevant Committee, for approval by members as a record of the meeting subject to any amendments proposed by members and shall be signed by the person presiding at that meeting. A Minute purporting to be so signed shall be received in evidence without further proof.

19.2 The names of members present at a meeting of the Integration Joint Board or of a Sub-Committee of the Board shall be recorded in the Minute, together with the apologies for absence from any member.

19.3 Minutes of Meetings shall be submitted by the Chief Officer or an officer so designated by him/her to the Council and the NHS Board for noting.

19.4 The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 gives the public a general right of access to all recorded information held. Therefore, when minutes of meetings are created, it should be assumed that what is recorded will be made available to the public. This does not apply to Minutes of a private section of any meeting.

19.5 The Minute of a meeting being held where authority or approval is being given by the Integration Joint Board and the Minutes are intended to act as a record of the business of the meeting, then the Minute should contain:

- A summary of the Integration Joint Board's discussions
- A clear and unambiguous statement of all decisions taken

- If no decision is taken, a clear and unambiguous statement of where the matter is being referred or why the decision has been deferred
- Where options are presented, a summary of why options were either accepted or rejected
- Reference to any supporting documents relied upon
- Any other relevant points which influenced the decision or recommendation
- Any recommendations which require approval by a higher authority

19.6 The contents of a Minute will depend upon the purpose of the meeting. If the meeting agrees actions they will be recorded in an Action Tracker:

- A description of the task, including any phases and reporting requirements
- The person accepting responsibility to undertake the task
- The time limits associated with the task, its phases and agreed reporting

19.7 The agendas and papers for all Integration Joint Board, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings shall be circulated to members by post or electronic means at least seven days before any given meeting.

19.8 The draft minutes and action trackers from all Integration Joint Board, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings shall be issued as soon as possible following a meeting, ideally within five working days.

## **20. Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002**

20.1 The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A) was introduced by the Scottish Parliament to ensure that people have the right to access information held by Scottish public authorities. The Act states that any person can receive information that they request from a public authority, subject to certain exemptions such as protection of personal data and commercial interests, or national security. It came into force on 1 January 2005 and is retrospective.

Under FOI(S)A NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council are required to:

- Provide applicants with help and assistance in finding the information they require within a given timescale
- Maintain a publication scheme of information to be routinely published
- Put in processes for responding to enquiries and undertaking appeals against decisions to withhold information

20.2 Information as defined under FOI(S)A includes copies or extracts, including drafts, of any documents such as:

- reports and planning documents
- committee minutes and notes
- correspondence including e-mails
- statistical information

20.3 The FOI(S)A provides a range of exemptions which may be applied allowing the public authority to withhold information. Exemptions must be considered on a case by case basis and may be applied to all or only part of the information requested.

- All documents will be scrutinised for information which may be withheld under an exemption to the Act prior to release.
- Full details of the FOI(S)A exemptions and how to apply them can be found in the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
- Briefings on how to apply exemptions can be found on the Scottish Information Commissioners website <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/ScottishPublicAuthorities/ScottishPublicAuthorities.asp>.

## **21. Records management**

21.1 Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council must have comprehensive records management systems and process in place which must give clear guidance on time limits for the retention of records and documents.

## **22. Reserved Business**

22.1 A Private meeting of the Integration Joint Board may be called at any time by the Chair, or one third of the Members. Generally a minimum notice period of three days should be observed. However, in exceptional circumstances and provided the majority of Integration Joint Board members are present and given the opportunity to attend, appropriate matters pertaining to a Private session may be conducted at the conclusion of an Integration Joint Board meeting. To allow for appropriate notice periods to be observed the wording “At the conclusion of the Board meeting, the board will reconvene for any matters of reserved business.” should be clearly stated at the bottom of each Integration Joint Board meeting agenda.

## **23. Suspension and Disqualification**

23.1 Any Member of the Integration Joint Board may on reasonable cause shown be suspended from the Integration Joint Board or disqualified from taking part in any business of the Integration Joint Board in circumstances specified for NHS Board appointed nominees by the NHS Board, and for Council appointed nominees by the Council.

## **24. Working Groups**

24.1 The Integration Joint Board may establish any Sub-Committee or Working Group as may be required from time to time but each Working Group shall have a limited time span as may be determined by the Integration Joint Board.

24.2 The Membership, Chair and quorum of any Sub-Committee or Working Groups will be determined by the Integration Joint Board.

24.3 The Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee or Working Group will be determined by the Integration Joint Board.

24.4 A Sub-Committee or Working Group does not have any delegated powers to implement its findings and will prepare a Report for consideration by the Integration Joint Board.

24.5 Agendas for consideration at a Sub-Committee or Working Group will be issued by electronic means to all Members no later than seven working days prior to the start of the Meeting.