

Membership of the Joint Board of Governance

City of Edinburgh Council

16 October 2008

1 Purpose of report

This report requests the City of Edinburgh Council to approve a revision in the membership of the Joint Board of Governance. The Joint Board has equal representatives from NHS Lothian and City of Edinburgh Council and provides strategic oversight of the joint Department of Health and Social Care.

2 Summary

It is proposed that the City of Edinburgh Council representation should comprise the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Health and Social Care Committee, plus the Conservative and Labour Group spokespersons. The Council's membership would therefore be:-

Cllr Paul Edie	Co-Chair
Cllr Norman Work	Member
Cllr Lesley Hinds	Member
Cllr Kate Mackenzie	Member

3 Main Report

3.1 Original Membership

3.1.1 The Council's membership was originally the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive of the Council, the Convener of Social Care and the opposition spokesperson for Liberal Democrats and Conservatives which reflected the political composition in the Council in 2005.

3.1.2 NHS Lothian's membership has varied over time. At the outset it was the Chair of NHS Lothian, the Chief Executive, the Chairman of Edinburgh Community Health Partnership, a Non Executive Trustee and the Director of Human Resources. More recently the latter two positions have been occupied by the Employee Director and the Director of Strategic Planning for NHS Lothian.

3.1.3 The Joint Board was and is designed to take account of the Scottish Executive Circular CCD7/2001, Joint Resourcing and Joint Management of Community Care Services and the Political and Corporate Governance arrangements for

Joint Resourcing and Management of Community Care produced by the Joint Future Unit and COSLA.

3.2 Reasons for the Change

3.2.1 The Joint Board has been in place for just over 3 years. During this relatively short period of time there has been very substantial changes in attendance. Of the total membership of 10 only 3 who were there at the outset are still members. This lack of continuity has been detrimental to the success of the Board. It is anticipated that the revised membership will ensure much greater continuity.

3.2.2 The second main reason for changing the membership is to reflect the remit which has been confirmed as Health and Social Care. There have been numerous discussions in the joint board about extending the remit of the board to cover some of the wider issues which require collaboration between the Council and NHS Lothian e.g. Child Protection, Planning, Transport. It is perceived that moving these issues into a separate leadership group which has just been established will be a more appropriate forum for this discussion. The leadership group includes the Leader and Chief Executive of the Council, the Chair and Chief Executive of NHS Lothian and the Chief Constable and Convenor of the Police Board.

It is for this reason that the Chair and Chief Executive of NHS Lothian and Leader and Chief Executive of the Council are to withdraw from the Joint Board. Following this rationale the existing Co chairing role will move from the Chair of NHS Lothian and Leader of the Council to the Chair of Edinburgh Community Health Partnership and Convenor of Health Social Care and Housing.

3.2.3 The final reason for changing the membership is to reflect the new political composition of the Council. The current membership does not have any representation from the SNP or Green party. This does not seem appropriate.

3.2 The Council's current membership comprises the Council Leader, the Convenor of the Health and Social Care Committee, and the Conservative and Labour Group Spokespersons.

3.3 Membership and Identification of Chair

The ongoing review of Community Planning arrangements affords an opportunity to refocus the Joint Board's membership and activities. The changes in membership are designed to facilitate the building of even stronger relationships between NHS Lothian and City of Edinburgh Council. It should encourage a clear understanding of the key objectives and pressures faced by each organisation, building on existing relationships and understandings. Existing officer support to the Joint Board will be maintained, subject to confirmation about the clerking arrangements.

3.4 The Joint Board agreed that for the next 12 months Mr Robert Anderson (Chair of Edinburgh CHP) will Chair the Joint Board with Cllr Paul Edie taking over the

Co Chair role. The Joint Board have also discussed and agreed the changes in membership proposed by this report.

4 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report as membership of the Joint Board does not attract any additional remuneration.

5 Environmental Impact

The proposals in this report have no environmental impact.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 To approve the revision to the membership summarised in section 2 of this report.
- 6.2 To note that NHS Lothian approval would also be sought to the revised membership. NHS Lothian will also have four members including the Chair of Edinburgh Community Health Partnership.



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Director of Health and Social Care

Appendices

Contact/tel

Wards affected

**Single Outcome
Agreement**

**Background
Papers**