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**To:** Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board

**On:** 20 March 2020

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**Report by:** The Clerk

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**Heading:** COVID-19 Emergency Governance Arrangements

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1. The United Kingdom Government has this week issued detailed guidance in relation to measures that should be taken to restrict the spread of the Covid-19 virus.
- 1.2. These measures include restrictions on unnecessary travel and meetings and advice for specified groups of citizens who are seen as being at greater risk from infection.
- 1.3. In view of this guidance and to support measures to prevent the spread of the virus, this report seeks approval for a delegation to the Chief Officer to enable decisions to be taken without there being a requirement for the Integration Joint Board to meet.
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**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1. It is recommended that the IJB:
- Delegates to the Chief Officer in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the IJB the power to cancel if necessary the planned meeting of the IJB on 26 June 2020 and any subsequent meeting;
  - Further delegates to the Chief Officer in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair authority to make all decisions required relating to the functions of the IJB in advance of the next meeting of the IJB that takes place..
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**3. Background**

- 3.1. Members of the IJB will be aware of the serious situation arising from the the spread of the Covid-19 virus. Following recent announcements from the Government and health advice from NHS-Scotland, the IJB needs to

consider what measures it should take to protect its members and their families from risk of infection.

- 3.2. The advice is that members of the public should avoid unnecessary meetings and those in defined groups should take steps to self isolate. It is proposed that members of the IJB follow the guidance available and that they put in place arrangements to enable the business of the IJB to be carried on in circumstances where the IJB may not be able to meet. The next meeting of the IJB is not due to take place until 26 June 2020 and given the uncertainty surrounding whether that meeting can take place, it is recommended that a delegation is given to the Chief Officer in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair to cancel that meeting and to make any decisions that are required until the next meeting of the IJB can take place.

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### **Implications of the Report**

1. **Financial** – none
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none
3. **Community Planning** – none
4. **Legal** – This report seeks a delegation in extraordinary circumstances to ensure that the business of the IJB can continue in circumstances where the IJB is unable to meet
5. **Property/Assets** – none
6. **Information Technology** – none
7. **Equality & Human Rights** – The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** – none
9. **Procurement** – procurement activity will remain within the operational arrangements of the parent bodies.
10. **Risk** – None.
11. **Privacy Impact** – none.

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### **List of Background Papers** – none

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**Author:** Ken Graham, Clerk, 0141 618 7360