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**To:** Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board

**On:** 16 September 2016

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**Report by:** Chief Officer

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**Heading:** Quality, Care and Professional Governance Framework – Update Report

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## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 At the Integration Joint Board (IJB) meeting on 18 March 2016, the IJB noted progress made to implement Renfrewshire HSCP Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework and the supporting implementation plan.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 to this report provides an update on progress made to deliver the key actions set out within the implementation plan, with the following supporting governance structures now fully established within Renfrewshire:
- Renfrewshire HSCP Executive Governance Group (REGG)
  - Renfrewshire HSCP Professional Executive Group (PEG)
  - Renfrewshire HSCP Service Pod - Locality Services
  - Renfrewshire HSCP Service Pod - Mental Health, Addictions and Learning Disability Services
  - Renfrewshire Chief Social Work Officers Professional Group (CSWO)
- 1.3 Any outstanding actions from the implementation plan will be progressed via the two Service Pods workplans, which are currently under development. These workplans set out how we will build upon delivery of the framework and ensure that legislative and regulation requirements continue to be met within Renfrewshire HSCP, through a defined set of actions.
- 1.4 Appendix 2 to this report provides a copy of the Role of Chief Social Work Officer guidance issued in July 2016 to local authorities by Scottish Ministers under section 5 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968. This Guidance replaces guidance previously issued in 2009 and is being shared with members for their information. Appendix 3 summarises the key changes to the role and how this applies to the Integration Joint Board.
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## **2. Recommendation**

It is recommended that the IJB:

- Note the progress made to implement Renfrewshire HSCP Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework.
- Note the ongoing work to develop clinical and care governance work plans.
- Note the Role of Chief Social Work Officer revised guidance issued by Scottish Ministers in July 2016.
- Note that future update reports will be submitted to IJB members on progress.

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## Implications of the Report

1. **Financial – Nil**
2. **HR & Organisational Development – Nil**
3. **Community Planning – Nil**
4. **Legal – Nil**
5. **Property/Assets – Nil**
6. **Information Technology –** managing information and making information available may require ICT input.
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 – Nil**
9. **Procurement – Nil**
10. **Risk – Nil**
11. **Privacy Impact –** None. The information to be made available via the Publication Scheme is information which would be disclosed in response to a request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This therefore would not include Personal Data as defined by the Data Protection Act 1998.

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## List of Background Papers

- Renfrewshire HSCP Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework (approved by the IJB on 18 September 2015)

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## Renfrewshire HSCP Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework Implementation Group - Implementation Plan

**This plan should be read in conjunction with:**

- Renfrewshire HSCP Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework

**Sponsors:**

Renfrewshire Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework Implementation Group

**Key**

G	On target
A	Some slippage/minor issues which may impact on delivery
R	Not running to target/ significant blockages or pressures
✓	Process ongoing
C	Complete

## Renfrewshire HSCP Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework Implementation Group - Implementation Plan

### Core Components of Renfrewshire Quality, Care & Governance Framework: Person Centred, Timely, Outcome Focused, Equitable, Safe, Efficient & Effective

Ref	Agreed Actions	Timescale	Update	Progress
1.1	Develop paper describing the Health & Safety Arrangements across the partnership	June 2016	Terms of Reference developed and agreed.	C
1.2	Review the Health & Safety Committee	June 2016	Health & Safety Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development Session has taken place</li> <li>- Group now established with Head of Admin as Chair and Social Work Service Manager as Co-chair</li> <li>- Membership agreed</li> <li>- Terms of Reference developed</li> <li>- Schedule of meeting developed.</li> </ul>	C
1.3	Extend building management manual	2016	Will be part of ongoing work with health and safety systems. Once agreed, will be rolled out by March 2017.	✓

2. Renfrewshire Locality Quality, Care & Professional Governance Pods - Two pods will be established including Locality Services/ Mental Health, Addictions & Learning Disabilities			
2.1	<p>Develop Renfrewshire Health and Social care Locality Quality, Care &amp; Professional Governance Pod:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agree Chair / Co-chair</li> <li>- Agree Membership</li> <li>- Develop Terms of Reference (6 weekly meetings)</li> <li>- Agree core agenda</li> <li>- Develop workplan</li> <li>- Feed local issues into Professional Executive Governance Group</li> <li>- Develop 3 key messages from each meeting</li> </ul> <p>Note: Work has already been established to establish Renfrewshire Mental Health, Addictions &amp; Learning Disabilities Pod.</p>	<p>Jan 2016</p>	<p>Locality Governance Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group now established with Heads of Health and Social Care Services rotating Chair and Clinical Director as Vice Chair</li> <li>- Membership agreed</li> <li>- Terms of Reference developed</li> <li>- Schedule of meetings- 6/8 weekly</li> <li>- Standing agenda items agreed and detailed within Terms of Reference</li> </ul> <p>Mental Health Governance Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group now established with Clinical Director/Clinical Lead rotating Chair and Vice Chair role</li> <li>- Membership agreed</li> <li>- Terms of Reference developed</li> <li>- Schedule of meeting -monthly</li> <li>- Standing agenda items agreed and detailed within Terms of Reference</li> </ul>
			C
2.1.1	<p><b>Note:</b> Renfrewshire Locality Quality, Care &amp; Professional Governance Pod responsibilities to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Incident Management, reporting and investigation (e.g. SCI. SCR)</li> <li>- Complaints</li> <li>- Patient/Service User/Client Feedback</li> <li>- Identify action plans for service improvement</li> <li>- Shared learning</li> <li>- Escalation</li> <li>- Implementation of guidance policies etc</li> <li>- Professional Registration</li> <li>- Public Protection</li> <li>- Quality Improvement, monitoring &amp; development</li> <li>- Review external reports (e.g. MWC, Care Inspectorate</li> </ul>		

2.2	Arrange and confirm admin support for Renfrewshire HSCP Locality Quality, Care & Professional Governance Pod	May 2016	Admin Support in place to support governance arrangements of Pods	C
2.3	Develop reporting templates for Renfrewshire Quality, Care & Professional Governance Service Pods - Status Report Interim/Yearly Report Templates	Dec 2015 Feb 2016	Status report templates have been developed.  6 monthly service pods reports have been developed and were presented at the first HSCP Exec Governance Group in August 2016.	C

3. Renfrewshire Professional Executive Group				
3.1	<p>Arrange meeting to develop Renfrewshire Professional Governance Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agree Chair /Co-chair</li> <li>- Agree Membership – all professional leads</li> <li>- Develop Terms of Reference (Quarterly meetings)</li> <li>- Agree core agenda</li> <li>- Develop workplan</li> <li>- Develop 3 key messages from each meeting.</li> </ul>	Jan 2016	<p>Professional Governance Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group now established with Clinical/Associate Director as Chair and Nurse Professional Adviser as vice chair</li> <li>- Membership agreed</li> <li>- Terms of Reference developed</li> <li>- Schedule of meetings - bi-monthly</li> <li>- Standing agenda items agreed and detailed within Terms of Reference</li> </ul>	C
3.1.1	<p><b>Note:</b> Renfrewshire HSCP Professional Executive Governance Group responsibilities to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cross-system leading for localities, care groups and professional groups within and beyond HSCP</li> <li>- Professional regulation, fitness to practice issues</li> <li>- Impact of assessment and guidance to localities about policies, guidance, inspections etc</li> <li>- Mental Health Officer (MHO) service.</li> </ul>			
3.2	<p>Arrange and confirm admin support for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renfrewshire Professional Leads Executive Governance Group</li> </ul>	May 2016	Admin Support in place to support governance arrangements	C
3.3	<p>Develop reporting templates for Renfrewshire HSCP Executive Governance Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Status Report</li> <li>- Interim/Yearly Report Templates</li> </ul>	Dec 2015	Status report templates have been developed and are being implemented. 6 monthly reports were developed and presented at the first HSCP Exec Governance Group in July 2016.	C

<b>4. Renfrewshire HSCP Executive Governance Group</b>				
4.1	<p>Arrange meeting to develop Renfrewshire HSCP Executive Governance Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agree Chair /Co-chair</li> <li>- Agree Membership – all professional leads</li> <li>- Develop Terms of Reference (Twice yearly meetings)</li> <li>- Agree core agenda</li> <li>- Develop workplan</li> <li>- Develop 3 key messages from each meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>March 2016</p> <p>Jan 2016</p>	<p>Clinical Risk Support will attend Renfrewshire Executive Governance Group and provide support to Service Pods as required.</p> <p>Exec Governance Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group now established</li> <li>- Initial membership agreed</li> <li>- Terms of Reference developed</li> <li>- Schedule of meetings 3/4 times yearly</li> <li>- Standing agenda items detailed within Terms of Reference</li> </ul>	C
4.1.1	<p><b>Note:</b> Renfrewshire HSCP Executive Governance Group responsibilities to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impact of assessment and guidance to localities about policies, guidance, inspections etc</li> <li>- Analysis, learning from incidents &amp; complaints</li> <li>- Quality Assurance for locality level</li> <li>- Promoting Person Centred Care through ongoing service development and review.</li> </ul>			C
4.2	Arrange and confirm admin support for Renfrewshire HSCP Executive Governance Group	May 2016	Admin Support in place to support governance arrangements for Executive Governance Group.	C
<b>5. Datix</b>				
5.1	Explore whether Datix can be expanded for Social Work	Target date mid 2017	At present, we cannot use Datix for social work incidents or complaints. The Datix Team currently do not have capacity to include social work incidents or complaints on Datix. Further work planned to work through issues if possible.	✓
5.2	Organise Training & Development Session on Datix (including running reports)	Target date mid 2017	JS has had initial discussion with Datix Manager. Datix team will do this once new system rolled out to key staff.	✓
5.3	Review and improve on usage of actions module within Datix by NHS staff	Dec 2016	AMCL has requested Datix module for locality Services.	✓



<b>6. Complaints</b>				
6.1	Review complaints process – central location for HSCP (Health/SW)	2017	Work in progress – awaiting guidance from SPSO (April 2017) regarding new streamlined process	✓
6.2	Develop Flow chart for complaints	Dec 2016	In progress.	✓
6.3	Review complaints process to ensure appropriate governance and ability to obtain meaningful information on outcomes	Dec 2016	New web based Datix system will assist with this. Training being arranged for key members of staff  Staff currently progress actions and record these on paper copy – work underway to have action plan electronically	✓
<b>7. Incident Reporting</b>				
7.1	Review usage of Accident Incident Report Database (AIRD) for staff for incident reporting.	2017	Needs wider discussion and comparison with Datix for incident reporting.	✓
<b>8. Communication &amp; Engagement</b>				
8.1	Agree escalation list and briefing system for Rapid Alert (email group)	Feb 2016	Process in place via Chief Officer.	C
8.2	Develop closer working relationships to support initial Service Pods reporting and working arrangements.	Dec 2016	AMCL and NH now meeting regularly and maintaining close working relationship to support HSCP Heads of Service with ongoing governance arrangements.	C
8.3	Ensure service areas have read and understood responsibilities to implement Renfrewshire HSCP Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework	Jan 2016	HSCP Quality, Care & Professional Governance Framework has been promoted at Leadership Network Session(s) and Staff Events. E-Link to papers have been shared via Team Brief	C
<b>9. Other</b>				
9.1	Consider remit / TOR's for CSWO professional group and how it fits into structure	Jan 2016	CSWO Governance Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group now established with CSWO as chair</li> <li>- Initial membership agreed</li> <li>- Draft Terms of Reference developed</li> <li>- Schedule of meetings developed – Quarterly</li> <li>- Standing agenda items detailed within Terms of Reference</li> </ul>	C

9.2	Arrange and confirm admin support for CSWO Professional Governance Group	April 2016	Admin Support in place to support governance arrangements.	C
9.3	Provide diagram of structure and identify board wide and council groups relationship / engagement with HSCP structure	Jan 2016	Final structure has been developed for Renfrewshire HSCP.	C
9.4	Consider how dashboard might support the process and provide meaningful information to inform service development and improvement.	Dec 2016	Will be developed as part of Service Pod workplans which are currently under development.	✓
9.5	Update progress schedule in preparation for IJB in March 2016	Feb 2016	Progress report went to IJB meeting in March 2016 and update report submitted to September 2016 meeting.	C
9.6	Develop work plans for governance groups.	Sept 2016	Each service pod is currently developing a clinical and care governance workplan.	✓
9.7	Share learning across all HSCP governance groups.	On going	Process to share learning across all HSCP Governance will be via status report template which has now been developed and is being implemented.	C
9.8	Hold an annual care governance event for wider stakeholders.	Annual	Annual event will be organised for summer 2017.	✓
9.9	Develop training programme to support governance arrangements i.e. Root Cause Analysis	March 2017	A training plan is currently under development.	✓

# **The Role of Chief Social Work Officer**

## **Guidance Issued by Scottish Ministers** pursuant to Section 5(1) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968

Revision of Guidance First Issued In 2009

**Revised Version – July 2016**

**This guidance has been developed in partnership  
with local government and supported by COSLA**

**July 2016**



## INTRODUCTION

1. The Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 (the 1968 Act) requires local authorities to appoint a single Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) for the purposes of listed social work functions.
2. This document contains statutory guidance. It is issued to local authorities by Scottish Ministers under section 5 of the 1968 Act. The local authority must have regard to this guidance. It must follow both the letter and the spirit of the guidance. It must not depart from the guidance without good reason. The Guidance replaces guidance previously issued in 2009.

## PURPOSE

3. The guidance is for local authorities and will also be of use to bodies and partnerships to which local authorities have delegated social work functions. Local authorities must have regard to this guidance when carrying out their functions under the 1968 Act. Recognising the democratic accountability which local authorities have in this area, clarity and consistency about the role and contribution of the CSWO are particularly important given the diversity of organisational structures and the range of organisations and partnerships with an interest and role in delivery of social work services.
4. This guidance summarises the minimum scope of the role of the CSWO. It will assist elected members in ensuring that the role is delivered effectively and that the local authority derives maximum benefit from the effective functioning of the role. Effective delivery of and support for the role will assist local authorities to be assured that there is coherence and effective interfacing across all of their social work functions.
5. The guidance is intended to:
  - (a) support local authorities in effective discharge of responsibilities for which they are democratically accountable;
  - (b) help local authorities maximise the role of the CSWO and the value of their professional advice – both strategically and professionally;
  - (c) provide advice on how best to support the role so that the CSWO can be effective in their role both within the local authority and in regard to other entities, such as Community Planning Partnerships, whilst recognising that local authorities operate with different management and organisational structures and in different partnership landscapes;
  - (d) assist Integration Joint Boards (IJBs) to understand the CSWO role in the context of integration of health and social care brought in through the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the 2014 Act).

- (e) be read alongside the wide range of guidance relevant to social work functions of local authorities and relevant guidance issued relating to the 2014 Act.
- (f) be sufficiently generic to remain relevant in the event of future management or organisational structural change.

## REQUIREMENT

6. The requirement for every local authority to appoint a Chief Social Work Officer is set out in section 3 of the 1968 Act. This requirement is for the purposes of the local authority functions under the 1968 Act and the enactments listed in section 5(1B) of the Act. The role provides a strategic and professional leadership role in the delivery of social work services. In addition there are certain functions conferred by legislation directly on the CSWO by name.

7. The Scottish Office explicitly recognised that the need for the role was driven by “*the particular responsibilities which fall on social work services in that they affect personal lives, individual rights and liberties to an extent that other local authority services do not.*” (Circular: SWSG2/1995 May 1995)

8. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 provides for the delegation of certain social work functions by a local authority to an integration authority. The CSWO’s responsibilities in relation to local authority social work functions continue to apply to functions which are being delivered by other bodies under integration arrangements. However, the responsibility for appointing a CSWO cannot be delegated and must be exercised directly by the local authority itself.

## THE CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER ROLE

### Overview

9. The CSWO role was established to ensure the provision of appropriate professional advice in the discharge of a local authority’s statutory functions as described in paragraph 6. The role also has a place set out in integrated arrangements brought in through the 2014 Act. As a matter of good practice it is expected that the CSWO will undertake the role across the full range of a local authority’s social work functions to provide a focus for professional leadership and governance in regard to these functions.

10. The CSWO should assist local authorities and their partners in understanding the complexities and cross-cutting nature of social work service delivery – including in relation to particular issues such as corporate parenting, child protection, adult protection and the management of high risk offenders - and also the key role social work plays in contributing to the achievement of a wide range of national and local outcomes. The CSWO also has a contribution to make in supporting overall performance improvement and management of corporate risk.

11. It is for local authorities to determine the reporting and management structures that best meet their needs. Where the CSWO is not a full member of the senior management team or equivalent, elected members must satisfy themselves that the officer has appropriate access and influence at the most senior level and is supported to deliver the complex role described in this guidance.

## **Competencies**

12. Scottish Ministers' requirement is that the CSWO role will be held by a person who is qualified as a social worker and registered as such with the Scottish Social Services Council. Local authorities will also want to require this as they will need to ensure that the CSWO:

- can demonstrate extensive experience at a senior level of both operational and strategic management of social work and social care services and;
- has the competence and confidence required to provide effective professional advice at all levels within the organisation and with the full range of partner organisations
- receives effective induction to support them in full delivery of their role

*(NB At the time of writing, SI 1996/515, which sets out minimum qualifications for a CSWO is being reviewed with a view to amendment so that the social work degree is specifically included.)*

13. Further information on the skills and competencies required of a CSWO is available in the Standard for Chief Social Work Officers (issued by the Scottish Social Services Council in July 2015) which underpins the Level 11 Award for CSWOs which was launched in August 2015 as a further professional accredited qualification aimed at enhancing CSWO competence.

## **Scope**

14. The scope of the role relates to the functions outlined in paragraph 6 whether provided directly by the local authority; through delegation to another statutory body or in partnership with other agencies. Where social work services and support are commissioned on behalf of the authority, including from the independent and voluntary sector, the CSWO has a responsibility to advise on the specification, quality and standards of the commissioned services and support. The CSWO also has a role in providing professional advice and guidance to an Integration Joint Board or NHS Board to which social work functions have been formally delegated.

## **Responsibility for values and standards**

15. The CSWO should:

- (a) promote values and standards of professional practice, including all relevant national Standards and Guidance, and ensure adherence with the Codes of Practice issued by the Scottish Social Services Council for social service employers.

- (b) work with Human Resources (or equivalent function) and responsible senior managers to ensure that all social service workers practice in line with the SSSC's Code of Practice and that all registered social service workers meet the requirements of the regulatory body;
- (c) establish a Practice Governance Group or link with relevant Clinical and Care Governance arrangements designed to support and advise managers in maintaining and developing high standards of practice and supervision in line with relevant guidance, including, for example, - the *Practice Governance Framework: Responsibility and Accountability in Social Work Practice* (SG 2011);
- (d) ensure that the values and standards of professional practice are communicated on a regular basis and adhered to and that local guidance is reviewed and updated periodically.

16. The CSWO must be empowered and enabled to provide professional advice and contribute to decision-making in the local authority and health and social care partnership arrangements, raising issues of concern with the local authority Elected Members or Chief Executive, or the Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board as appropriate (or the Chief Executive of a Health Board if appropriate in the context of a lead agency model), in regard to:

- (a) effective governance arrangements for the management of the complex balance of need, risk and civil liberties, in accordance with professional standards.
- (b) appropriate systems required to 1) promote continuous improvement and 2) identify and address weak and poor practice.
- (c) the development and monitoring of implementation of appropriate care governance arrangements;
- (d) approaches in place for learning from critical incidents, which could include through facilitation of local authority involvement in the work of Child Protection Committees, Adult Support and Protection Committees and Offender Management Committees where that will result in the necessary learning within local authorities taking place;
- (e) requirements that only registered social workers undertake those functions reserved in legislation or are accountable for those functions described in guidance;
- (f) workforce planning and quality assurance, including safe recruitment practice, probation/mentoring arrangements, managing poor performance and promoting continuous learning and development for staff;



- (g) continuous improvement, raising standards and evidence-informed good practice, including the development of person-centred services that are focussed on the needs of people who use services and support;
- (h) the provision and quality of practice learning experiences for social work students and effective workplace assessment arrangements, in accordance with the SSSC Code of Practice for Employers of Social Service Workers;

## Decision-Making

17. There are a small number of areas of decision-making where legislation confers functions directly on the CSWO by name. These areas relate primarily to the curtailment of individual freedom and the protection of both individuals and the public. Such decisions must be made either by the CSWO or by a professionally qualified social worker, at an appropriate level of seniority, to whom the responsibility has been formally delegated and set out within local authority arrangements. Even where responsibility has been delegated, the CSWO retains overall responsibility for ensuring quality and oversight of the decisions. These areas include:

- deciding whether to implement a secure accommodation authorisation in relation to a child (with the consent of a head of the secure accommodation), reviewing such placements and removing a child from secure accommodation if appropriate;
- the transfer of a child subject to a Supervision Order in cases of urgent necessity;
- acting as guardian to an adult with incapacity where the guardianship functions relate to the personal welfare of the adult and no other suitable individual has consented to be appointed;
- decisions associated with the management of drug treatment and testing orders
- carrying out functions as the appropriate authority in relation to a breach of a supervised release order, or to appoint someone to carry out these functions.

18. In addition to these specific areas where legislation confers functions on all CSWOs, there will be a much larger number of areas of decision-making which have been assigned by individual local authorities to Chief Social Work Officers reflecting *“the particular responsibilities which fall on social work services in that they affect personal lives, individual rights and liberties to an extent that other local authority services do not”* noted in paragraph 7. These areas may include responsibilities assigned through guidance or other routes. For example:

- the 2014 guidance on Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) makes explicit reference to the role of the CSWO in responsibility for joint arrangements, in co-operation with other authorities.
- although mental health services are delegated to Integration Joint Boards, some of these functions require to be carried out by local authority officers with a social work qualification (Mental Health Officers). Local authorities will want to be reassured via the CSWO that these functions are discharged in accordance with professional standards and statutory requirements

It is for each local authority to make transparent which additional specific areas of responsibility in regard to their social work functions they have assigned to their CSWO

## **Leadership**

19. The CSWO is responsible for providing professional leadership for social workers and staff in social work services. The CSWO should:

- (a) support and contribute to evidence-informed decision making and practice – at professional and corporate level – by providing appropriate professional advice;
- (b) seek to enhance professional leadership and accountability throughout the organisation to support the quality of service and delivery;
- (c) support the delivery of social work's contribution to achieving local and national outcomes;
- (d) promote partnership working across professions and all agencies to support the delivery of integrated services;
- (e) promote social work values across corporate agendas and partner agencies.

## **The CSWO role in the context of partnerships and integration**

20. In the context of Health and Social Care Integration and the 2014 Act, the CSWO is required to be appointed as a non-voting member of the Integration Joint Board (IJB) (or, in lead agency models, the Integration Joint Monitoring Committee). Scottish Ministers are strongly of the view that the influence of high quality professional leaders in the integrated arrangements is central to the effectiveness of improving the quality of care locally and nationally.

21. The CSWO also has a defined role in professional and clinical and care leadership and has a key role to play in Clinical and Care Governance systems which support the work of the Integration Joint Board, as set out in the partnership Integration Schemes and [relevant guidance](#).

22. The local authority should ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to include the CSWO in relevant strategic and operational forums that provide direct access to the Chief Executive and elected members so that the CSWO is in an optimum position to support and advise them in regard to their social work function responsibilities in their partnership contexts.

## Reporting

23. The CSWO has a role in reporting to the local authority Chief Executive, elected members and IJBs – providing comment on issues which may identify risk to safety of vulnerable people or impact on the social work service and also on the findings of relevant service quality and performance reports, setting out:

- implications for the local authority, for the IJB, for services, for people who use services and support and carers, for individual teams/members of staff/partners as appropriate;
- implications for delivery of national and local outcomes;
- proposals for remedial action;
- means for sharing good practice and learning;
- monitoring and reporting arrangements for identified improvement activity.

24. The CSWO should also produce and publish a summary annual report for local authorities and IJBs on the functions of the CSWO role and delivery of the local authority's social work services functions (however these are organised or delivered). A template for this report is available from by the Office of the Chief Social Work Adviser, Scottish Government.

## ACCESS, ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

25. To discharge their role effectively, the CSWO will need:

- (a) direct access to people and information across the local authority, including the Chief Executive, elected members, managers and frontline practitioners and also in partner services, including in Health and Social Care Partnerships. Specific arrangements will vary according to individual councils, but should be clearly articulated locally;
- (b) to be able to bring matters to the attention of the Chief Executive to ensure that professional standards and values are maintained;
- (c) to be visible and available to any social services worker and ensure the availability of robust professional advice and practice guidance;
- (d) to provide professional advice as required to senior managers across the authority and its partners in support of strategic and corporate agendas.

26. Local authorities will need to agree:

- (a) how the CSWO is enabled to inform and influence corporate issues, such as managing risk, setting budget priorities and public service reform;

- (b) the specific access arrangements for the CSWO to the Chief Executive and elected members;
- (c) the relationships, responsibilities and respective accountabilities of service managers and the CSWO;
- (d) a mechanism to include an independent, professional perspective to the appointment of the CSWO;
- (e) procedures for removal of a CSWO postholder, bearing in mind the need for continuity in the provision of the CSWO functions, the value of independent professional advice and the arrangements for the appointment and removal of the local authority's other proper officers;
- (f) clear and formal deputising arrangements (with similar skills and experience available) to cover any period of absence by the CSWO and appropriate delegation arrangements where scale of business requires this.

27. This document complements the wide set of guidance underpinning the delivery of safe, accountable and effective social work practice and high quality social services in Scotland.



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## The Chief Social Work Officer Role within the Renfrewshire Integrated Joint Board

1. The requirement for every local authority to appoint a Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) is set out in the Social Work Scotland Act 1968. The role of the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) role was established to ensure the provision of appropriate professional advice in the discharge of a local authority's statutory functions.
2. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 provides for the delegation of certain social work functions by a local authority to an integration authority. The CSWO's responsibilities in relation to local authority social work functions continue to apply to functions which are being delivered by other bodies under integration arrangements. However, the responsibility for appointing a CSWO cannot be delegated and must be exercised directly by the local authority itself.
3. As a matter of good practice within the integrated arrangements, it is expected that the CSWO will undertake the role across the full range of a local authority's social work functions to provide a focus for professional leadership and governance in regard to these functions.
4. The CSWO should assist the Integrated Joint Board in understanding the complexities and cross-cutting nature of social work service delivery - including in relation to particular issues such as corporate parenting, child protection, adult protection and the management of high risk offenders - and also the key role social work plays in contributing to the achievement of a wide range of national and local outcomes. The CSWO also has a contribution to make in supporting overall performance improvement and management of corporate risk.
5. The CSWO also has a role in providing professional advice and guidance to the Integration Joint Board. The CSWO should promote values and standards of professional practice, including all relevant national Standards and Guidance, and ensure adherence with the Codes of Practice issued by the Scottish Social Services Council for social service employers.
6. There are a small number of areas of decision-making where legislation confers functions directly on the CSWO by name. These areas relate primarily to the curtailment of individual freedom and the protection of both individuals and the public. Such decisions must be made either by the CSWO or by a professionally qualified social worker, at an appropriate level of seniority, to whom the responsibility has been formally delegated and set out within local authority arrangements.
7. The CSWO retains overall responsibility for ensuring quality and oversight of the decisions. These areas include:
  - acting as guardian to an adult with incapacity where the guardianship functions relate to the personal welfare of the adult and no other suitable individual has consented to be appointed
  - decisions associated with the management of drug treatment and testing orders;
  - the transfer of a child subject to a Supervision Order in cases of urgent necessity;
  - Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) makes explicit reference to the role of the CSWO in responsibility for joint arrangements, in co-operation with other authorities.
  - although mental health services are delegated to Integration Joint Boards, some of these functions require to be carried out by local authority officers with a social work qualification (Mental Health Officers). CSWO has a responsibility to ensure that these functions are discharged in accordance with professional standards and statutory requirements
  - providing professional leadership for social workers and staff in social work services

## **The CSWO role in the context of the Renfrewshire Partnership and Integration**

8. Within Renfrewshire, the CSWO is Peter MacLeod, Director of Children's Services. He acts as CSWO for both Children's Services and for the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (RHSCP). In the context of Health and Social Care Integration, the 2014 Act requires that he is a non-voting member of the Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board (IJB).
9. The CSWO has a defined role in professional and clinical and care leadership and has a key role to play in Clinical and Care Governance systems which support the work of the Integration Joint Board, as set out in the partnership Integration Schemes.
10. Appropriate arrangements are in place to include the Renfrewshire CSWO in relevant strategic and operational forums that provide direct access to the Chief Executive and elected members so that the CSWO is in an optimum position to support and advise them in regard to their social work function responsibilities in their partnership contexts.
11. The CSWO has a role in reporting to the local authority Chief Executive, elected members and IJBs - providing comment on issues which may identify risk to safety of vulnerable people or impact on the social work service and also on the findings of relevant service quality and performance reports.
12. The CSWO is also required to produce and publish a summary annual report for local authorities and IJBs on the functions of the CSWO role and delivery of the local authority's social work services functions (however these are organised or delivered).
13. In the Renfrewshire HSCP context, a CSWO Quality and Performance Sub-group has been established and meets on a 3 monthly basis. The purpose of this meeting is to support the CSWO to evaluate quality of practice across social work services and to analyse performance reports in relation to a range of service areas. In addition to the CSWO, RHSCP Heads of Service attend this meeting along with operational leads responsible for adult protection, mental health, learning disabilities, and locality team services. Areas covered include:
  - Significant events; incidents and alerts
  - Complaints Overview
  - Outcomes from recent Inspections of registered services
  - Professional registration issues
  - Contract monitoring and compliance
  - Mental health officer functions including Guardianship
  - Adult/public Protection
  - Risk – significant events and actions
  - Service Improvement / Redesign
  - Good practice examples
14. Revised guidance on the role of the Chief Social Work Officer was issued by the Scottish Government in July 2016. Analysis of the guidance indicates that Renfrewshire HSCP is compliant with the requirements in respect of the role of the CSWO.