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To: Chief Officers Integration Authorities

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Dear Colleagues

UNDERSTANDING PROGRESS UNDER INTEGRATION

We are writing to provide you with an update on our work to develop a plan for sharing progress updates on integration with the Ministerial Strategic Group for Health and Community Care (MSG).

We wanted firstly to thank you for sharing your local objectives on the initial six indicators in February. As you know, we used this information to provide MSG with a summary overview of Integration Authority ambitions around these indicators, progress to date and some of the challenges facing Integration Authorities in delivering on their objectives. MSG appreciated the time you took in developing and sharing your local objectives to support them in their role in providing political leadership for, and oversight of, integration.

Since then we have been considering how best to provide regular progress updates to MSG. With the agreement of the Chief Officer network, we established a small working group comprising lead officers for strategic commissioning and performance in Integration Authorities, Chief Finance Officers, data analysts and SG officials. The group has met three times to discuss possible approaches and suggested a potential framework for providing future updates to the MSG. This framework is outlined below.

During our discussions, we've reflected in some detail on a number of issues, for instance, how best to balance the presentation of a manageable number of common data points for all areas with more bespoke narrative insights that can help to draw out the richness of local variation; how to explore specific themes such as end of life care; how to explore the quality of service user experience; how best to recognise normal fluctuations in performance, particularly between frequent reporting dates. We've also shared experiences on setting local objectives.

Based on these discussions, the working group has suggested the following outline framework for sharing regular progress updates with MSG based on four key elements:

- a) Quarterly data on the six indicators but in time building on these indicators for example to reflect the contribution of primary and social care.
- b) Comparison between progress in Integration Authorities and projections set out in local plans, and also with the likely result had no changes been made
- c) Overarching narrative summary, drawing out emerging themes from across Integration Authorities
- d) Local illustrations, inviting individual Integration Authorities to contextualise their progress with a presentation to the group and opportunity for discussion. Over time we aim to involve a wide range of Integration Authorities depending on the purpose / theme of the MSG meeting.

Taking account of the proposed framework, we have agreed with the working group and Chief Officers that we will co-produce a paper providing an update on progress for the next MSG meeting on 13 December, drawing on the recent annual performance reports, and will invite one or two partnerships to present at the meeting.

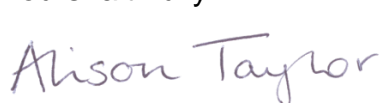
Beyond this meeting, we have agreed with the working group and Chief Officers that it would be helpful to provide MSG with an updated overview of local objectives and ambitions relating to the six indicators. We are aware that some Integration Authorities will have reviewed and updated their objectives since sharing them in February. You are therefore each invited to share your updated objectives for 2018/19 by 31 January 2018, following which we will provide an overview, with input and support from the working group and partnerships, for MSG for their meeting on 21 March 2018. We recognise that, as before, you will want to engage a range of partners in this process.

To support the process, we have developed draft guidance and a suggested format for sharing objectives with advice from the working group, ISD and others. This should help to simplify the task locally and will provide consistency across information shared. As before we would anticipate that there would be local support for developing objectives from the LIST team and other local analysts drawing on collective advice on best practice around developing objectives.

We will work with the working group and Chief Officers to expand the range of indicators used going forward. In view of the move to a single national social care dataset, we have agreed with the working group that we should feed in views around about the social care data collected to ensure that it provides intelligence which supports the planning and delivery of integrated services.

We would be grateful if you would provide your updated 2018/19 local objectives for MSG by 31 January 2018 to be sent to NSS.Source@nhs.net. We recognise that you will want to agree these objectives with your IJB, so if that is not possible within the timescale, we would be happy to accept interim objectives. We would welcome any feedback on this approach and the guidance – please contact my colleague Fee Hodgkiss fiona.hodgkiss@gov.scot or 0131 244 5429.

Yours faithfully



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