



Integration and Service Development Division
(Consultation)
The Scottish Government
2ER, St Andrew's House
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

Date 6 September 2012
Our Ref ABW/IM/aw/0609
Enquiries to Sandy Watson
Extension 40708
Direct Line 01382 740708
Email sandywatson@nhs.net

By email: adulthealthandsocialcareintegration@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

INTEGRATION OF ADULT HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE IN SCOTLAND – CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS - MAY 2012

Perth & Kinross Council and NHS Tayside welcome the opportunity to respond to the proposals on the Integration of Adult Health and Social Care in Scotland. We have each submitted an agency specific response but agreed that we would also like to take this opportunity to submit a joint response highlighting areas where we believe integration will support the development of positive outcomes for our service users in Perth & Kinross.

The continued demographic changes in our communities and unprecedented financial challenges facing public services make Adult Health & Social Care services a key priority for Perth & Kinross Council and NHS Tayside.

We broadly welcome the central ethos of these proposals in terms of focussing on a partnership approach to the delivery of Adult Health & Social Care Services, breaking down organisational and cultural barriers and targeting joint efforts and resources towards improved outcomes.

We are proud of our track record of working in partnership to provide effective, responsive services and positive outcomes for our communities. We are well placed to build upon our successes to date and see this legislation as an opportunity to take forward innovative approaches within a supportive national framework.

We also particularly welcome that the broad ethos of the legislation is to provide a framework which will be enabling in its form, allowing local arrangements to be agreed to best fit local needs and priorities.

We recognise that there is much detailed discussion still to emerge from the ongoing work to develop the legislation and we look forward to engaging positively with our partners in these discussions.

Furthermore, we recognise the particular challenges in drafting legislation which provides both clear direction and allows flexibility for local determination and interpretation.

Cont/...

We believe alignment with community planning is appropriate for the purpose of challenge and support but not as a line of accountability. Accountability should be to Health Boards and Councils for the services they deliver.

We welcome this opportunity to work together to strengthen our population based information and analysis which will lead us to a better understanding of our consumption of resources across and within both agencies. We will pursue the effective sharing of information across both agencies, which we hope will be supported by developments at a national level, by considering further co location and investment in organisational development with a focus on culture and values.

The future of health and social care integration will be very reliant on information technology to share information between partners and in the absence of the National eCare Programme being able to deliver and sustain solutions, it will be important to ensure that this work is not lost in this challenging arena.

Yours faithfully



Sandy Watson OBE DL
Chairman
Tayside NHS Board



Ian Miller
Leader of the Council
Perth & Kinross