Item No: 2

Meeting Date: **Wednesday 5th August 2020**

Glasgow City Integration Joint Board

Report By: **Susanne Millar, Interim Chief Officer**

Contact: **Susanne Millar**

Tel: **0141 287 8853**

GLASGOW CITY IJB - TEMPORARY GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Purpose of Report:	To update the IJB on the current working context in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic and, following review of the temporary governance arrangements that were adopted by the IJB in March 2020, to propose discontinuing those temporary governance arrangements.

Background/Engagement:	In response to Government advice on the Covid 19 pandemic, the IJB on 25th March 2020 approved temporary governance arrangements to reduce the need for face-to-face meetings during the pandemic. These temporary governance arrangements were reviewed at the IJB on 24th June 2020 where it was agreed to continue under these arrangements pending a further review six weeks hence.

Recommendations:	The Integration Joint Board is asked to: a) Approve ending temporary governance arrangements with effect from 1st September 2020; and b) Note the decision to re-convene the Finance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee in September and Public Engagement Committee in December 2020.

Relevance to Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan:

None, matter relates to governance

Implications for Health and Social Care Partnership:

Reference to National Health & Wellbeing Outcome:	None, matter relates to governance
Personnel:	None
Carers:	None
Provider Organisations:	None
Equalities:	None
Fairer Scotland Compliance:	None
Financial:	None
Legal:	None
Economic Impact:	None
Sustainability:	None
Sustainable Procurement and Article 19:	None
Risk Implications:	None
Implications for Glasgow City Council:	None
Implications for NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde:	None

Direction Required to Council, Health Board or Both	Direction to:	
	1. No Direction Required	✓
	2. Glasgow City Council	
	3. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	
	4. Glasgow City Council and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	

1. Background

1.1 Members will be aware that in response to Government advice on the Covid 19 pandemic, the IJB on 25th March 2020 approved the temporary suspension of normal governance arrangements during the pandemic. Alternative decision making arrangements were enacted to meet immediate operational demand, if required.

1.2 The IJB delegated authority to the Interim Chief Officer and the Chief Officer, Finance and Resources in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the IJB and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Finance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee.

1.3 Temporary governance arrangements were reviewed at the IJB on 24th June 2020 where it was agreed to continue under these arrangements pending a further review six weeks hence.

2. Purpose of Report

2.1 The purpose of this report is to update the IJB on the current working context in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic and to propose discontinuing temporary governance arrangements adopted by the IJB in March 2020,

2.2 During the period of the temporary governance arrangements, reports pertaining to all decisions taken under delegated authority following consultation with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the IJB and Finance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee have been made available on the HSCP website: https://glasgowcity.hscp.scot/meeting/ijb-temporary-decision-making-arrangements.

3. Contextual Considerations in Relation to Appropriate Governance

3.1 The temporary governance arrangements were agreed at a time where Government restrictions on movement placed significant pressure on the HSCP to meet operational delivery obligations within the context of severe disruptions caused by factors such as social/physical distancing, shielding, and staff absence.

3.2 In order to meet the requirement to develop innovative solutions for delivering services differently within the context of a rapidly and constantly evolving landscape, with new and developing formal guidance, legislation and expectations, the decision to move to delegated authority gave the HSCP the scope, if needed, to make quick and effective operational decisions.

3.3 The vast majority of decisions which have had to be made during this time have been operational decisions related to staffing the most urgent services, utilising technology more as an enabler for service delivery, redeploying staff to meet critical needs etc.

3.4 Whilst services continue to experience significant disruption the HSCP has moved in line with the Scottish Government Route Map to a focus on renewal/recovery, with a corresponding and gradual reduction of the frequency of local, board wide and national emergency planning structures and resumption of the local governance and decision making structures within the HSCP.

3.5 The HSCP is now implementing local operational recovery plans through the Operational Recovery Group, with a focus on re-opening buildings and re-starting suspended services. However this is within the context of the on-going pandemic which continues to necessitate an element of restriction to movement and physical distancing, and continued pressures on the workforce as a result of staff absence and the ongoing impact caused by underlying health conditions and redeployments to critical services that continue to restrict our ability to return to business as usual.

3.6 As the health and social care system generally recovers and there is an increasing focus on resumption of "business as usual" activity in support of the strategic objectives of the IJB as laid out in the Strategic Plan and other local and national obligations placed on the IJB, there is a requirement now to consider re-starting the governance structures of the IJB to support this increase in routine activity.

4. Review of Current Arrangements

4.1 As agreed at the IJB in June, temporary governance arrangements now require to be reviewed. It is proposed that in considering the governance arrangements within the current renewal context stated at 3 above that temporary arrangements should end with effect from 1st September 2020 and routine governance arrangements re-instated.

4.2 Subject to approval of 4.1 above, the Finance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee will reconvene for the first time since the pandemic on Wednesday 9th September as scheduled.

4.3 Subject to approval of 4.1 above, following cancellation of the Public Engagement Committee scheduled for Wednesday 26th August, the Committee will reconvene on Wednesday 2nd December. Meeting schedules for the IJB and Committees can be viewed on the HSCP website.

4.4 It should be noted that for the time being, to continue to facilitate progressing the business of the IJB within a safe and responsible environment and in line with Government advice, meetings will continue to include a "virtual" element until and unless any decision otherwise is taken.

4.5 As an operational service we are still responding to the pandemic, and in the light of the continuing need to manage a flexible response to it should there be any subsequent increase in the prevalence of the virus in the community, it is acknowledged that this position will continue to be monitored and may be revisited in future if it is felt necessary to respond to any future change in the external environment.

5. Recommendations

5.1 The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

a) Approve ending temporary governance arrangements with effect from 1st September 2020; and
b) Note the decision to re-convene the Finance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee in September and Public Engagement Committee in December 2020.