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To: **Glasgow City IJB**

From: **Pat Togher, Chief Officer, Glasgow City HSCP**

Date: **21st January 2026**

Subject: **Chief Officer Update – GCIJB 21-01-26**

Delayed Discharges

The delayed discharge position has been very challenging and somewhat volatile since the last IJB meeting. A target of 160 by 21st December 2025 was agreed with the Health Board and thanks to extraordinary efforts, and with financial support for some additionality for services over the run up to Christmas this target was met on 19th December, and indeed exceeded, reaching 155 on our best performing day prior to Christmas. Traditionally there is something of a slow down of additions to delays over the Christmas and New Year period followed by an upturn of activity in January. This year has been even more challenging than usual with no real slow down over the festive period and even higher numbers of January activity than usual. As a result, the position has deteriorated and, despite consistent and high levels of throughput from our services, as of 16th January there are 182 delays. Our teams are working very hard at present on a trajectory back towards the target of 160 however it remains clear that our net delays position is invariably an indication of increased inflow rather than any reduction in actual discharges.

It was noted at the last IJB meeting that HSCP staff had been fully engaged in the Health Board's Acute pre-Christmas reset initiative, with its aim of decompressing hospital sites through the mobilisation of Acute and community resources. This reset work has been repeated, running through most of January, and again the HSCP are fully engaged in Day of Care Audits, additional weekend working and a provision of additional services to support patient flow. Additionally, the HSCP have been undertaking some focussed work with colleagues at Glasgow Royal Infirmary in both their assessment unit and emergency departments, working on site, alongside their clinical teams, with the aim of better understanding care and treatment pathways and potential opportunities to support people to avoid hospital attendances and admissions.

The Adults with Incapacity (AWI) position presents a more positive story and continues to improve. As of 16th January, 54 delays are attributable to AWI cases, down from a high of 79 in June 2025 and on track towards a target of 40 by June 2026. This is of considerable importance to the bed days lost to delayed discharges, given that AWI delays are substantially longer than standard delays, therefore every

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case successfully moved on or avoided, saves a comparatively large number of bed days. In order to continue our good process in this area, the HSCP have developed a proposal to utilise some additional money from Scottish Government to continue to focus on progressing AWI cases and reducing the delays associated with them. Officers expect to hear shortly whether the bid is successful but anticipate a positive response given the Scottish Government's wish to see progress on this area as well.

Homelessness

In 2025/26, Glasgow City HSCP has witnessed a reduction in demand for Homelessness Services with the total number of applications received this year, to date, falling by 6% compared with the same period last year. Previous updates had outlined that demand had reduced by as much as 9% however small increases in the number of applications received in November and December 2025 (compared to the previous year) have impacted on this reduction.

However, despite this welcome reduction in demand, pressure on temporary accommodation continues with the number of households residing in temporary accommodation across the city continues to rise. As of 13th January 2026, 4,867 households were living in temporary accommodation across the city and 2,287 of these households were residing in unsuitable bed and breakfast/hotel type accommodation. This represents an increase of 189 households across our temporary accommodation estate.

To date in 2025/26, 44.4% of new demand for homelessness assistance has been from refugee households (who are disproportionately more likely to require temporary accommodation) leading to the increase witnessed above in temporary accommodation.

Refugee households make up 49.4% of the total live caseload (3,520 refugee applications from a total of 7,121 applications), 61% of the total number of households within temporary accommodation and 76% of households within in bed and breakfast/hotel accommodation.

Rough Sleepers (week commencing 05/01/26) - Total: 20 (N.B. this figure can fluctuate on a weekly basis):

4 x long term rough sleepers (male & female) - UK Nationals
12 x UK Nationals – declining support to access accommodation
3 x No Recourse to Public Funds (male)
1 x has accommodation in another local authority, sporadically returning

Looking at the weekly reporting figures commencing from 29th September 2025 to 5th January 2026 the lowest figure noted was 18 whilst the highest figure noted was 26.

Ongoing Initiatives:

- In line with the HSCP's focus on homelessness prevention, the online Housing Options Explorer (<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/housingoptions>) has now launched which provides users with detailed information on the range of housing options available in the city along with advice and assistance in relation to housing issues which they may be facing (e.g. eviction, anti-social behaviour, financial worries). Phase 2 of the Housing Options Explorer is currently being developed which will

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allow users to input their individual circumstances receiving in-depth, bespoke advice which is most relevant to their current situation.

- Homelessness Services are currently developing a consultation framework for their ten-year Temporary Accommodation Strategy. A report is being submitted to the Glasgow City IJB Public Engagement Committee on 18th February 2026 which will set out the consultation undertaken to date, as well as upcoming sessions with key stakeholders including those with lived experience. It is also anticipated that an online survey will be developed.
- Homelessness Services continue to work with Wheatley Homes Glasgow to 'flip' temporary accommodation into permanent homes for families in line with the Cabinet Secretary's Housing Emergency Action Plan. To date, 19 families, containing 30 children, have agreed to flip their temporary accommodation and work is underway to transfer these temporary homes into settled accommodation.

Mental Health Inpatients

- There remains significant pressure on inpatient mental health beds across NHSGGC, particularly for adult acute admissions and contingency beds are all in use.
- There are 18 capped beds in Inverclyde and there are no beds capped in Vale of Leven or Stobhill.
- Ongoing work in relation to anti-ligature capital improvements is progressing at pace.
- To support the delays, work there is an improved system for referrals to Social Work for early identification and formal delay, increasing efficiency in allocation across all MH adult, Older People and Rehab wards.
- A new board wide service manager post is being progressed to support a whole system bed management approach and to work alongside the discharge teams to ensure maximum flow.
- Plans for the introduction of community Clozapine detox and ADHD medication monitoring through the use of DOCCLA are being progressed through the Transforming Together programme, to support more people to receive treatment in the community and create capacity.
- A Mental Welfare Commission report highlighting the lack of mental health officers' consent to emergency detention certificates was published in November 2025. Glasgow City HSCP are currently in the process of developing an improvement plan to address the concerns raised within the report.

Mental Health Summit

<https://onlineservices.glasgow.gov.uk/councillorsandcommittees/viewSelectedDocument.asp?c=P62AFQDNNTUT2UZL81>

- Following an 'all party' request from Glasgow City Council for a Mental Health summit, Officers from the HSCP will provide a briefing to IJB Members, including recommendations.
- The recommendations will reflect the appropriateness, timing and financial implications of a Mental Health summit.

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Budget Announcement 2026/27

- Following the previous weeks Scottish budget announcement, there is a requirement to revise the IJB financial outlook for 2026/27.
- The budget announcement has now confirmed that the gap for Glasgow City IJB will be circa £53m which is a shift from the originally projected £34m.
- This position is largely due to a Scottish budget announcement which does not reconcile the financial challenges associated with homelessness in Glasgow.

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