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**Item No: 8**

**Meeting Date: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026**

## **Glasgow City Integration Joint Board**

**Report By:** Pat Togher, Chief Officer

**Contact:** Stephen Fitzpatrick, Depute Chief Officer, Strategy, Innovation and Best Value

**Phone:** 0141 287 8853

### **Strategic Partnership with University of Strathclyde Renewal**

<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To seek agreement of the IJB to a renewal of the Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) with the University of Strathclyde Health and Care Futures Institute.
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<b>Background/Engagement:</b>	In <a href="#">December 2021</a> the IJB approved a SPA between GCHSCP and University of Strathclyde. GCHSCP and University of Strathclyde have benefited by working together to focus on key strategic priorities for the HSCP and Glasgow City using the expertise in University of Strathclyde to support the strategic work.
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<b>Governance Route:</b>	<p>The matters contained within this paper have been previously considered by the following group(s) as part of its development.</p> <p>HSCP Senior Management Team <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Council Corporate Management Team <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Health Board Corporate Management Team <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Council Committee <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Update requested by IJB <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Not Applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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<b>Recommendations:</b>	<p>The Integration Joint Board is asked to:</p> <p>a) Approve a renewal of a Strategic Partnership Agreement with the University of Strathclyde.</p>
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**Relevance to Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan:**

The strategic partnership with University of Strathclyde will support the HSCP to deliver on its vision and all of its strategic priorities.

**Implications for Health and Social Care Partnership:**

<b>Reference to National Health &amp; Wellbeing Outcome:</b>	The strategic partnership with University of Strathclyde will support the HSCP to deliver on all the national health and wellbeing outcomes.
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<b>Personnel:</b>	The strategic partnership will have key benefits across the HSCP staff group, supporting the HSCP to foster a collaborative leadership, strengthen areas of succession planning, talent development, recruitment, and retention.
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<b>Carers:</b>	None
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<b>Provider Organisations:</b>	None
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<b>Equalities:</b>	None
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<b>Fairer Scotland Compliance:</b>	None
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<b>Financial:</b>	None
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<b>Legal:</b>	Section 8 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, (the local authority power to assist other persons in conducting research into any matter connected with their functions in relation to social welfare; and to make financial assistance available in connection with that section 8 function, is delegated to the IJB.
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<b>Economic Impact:</b>	None
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<b>Sustainability:</b>	None
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<b>Sustainable Procurement and Article 19:</b>	None
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<b>Risk Implications:</b>	None
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<b>Implications for Glasgow City Council:</b>	None
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<b>Implications for NHS Greater Glasgow &amp; Clyde:</b>	None
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Direction Required to Council, Health Board or Both	
<b>Direction to:</b>	
1. No Direction Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Glasgow City Council	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Glasgow City Council and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	<input type="checkbox"/>

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To seek agreement of the IJB to renew the Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) with the University of Strathclyde Health and Care Futures Institute.

**2. Background**

- 2.1. In [December 2021](#) the IJB approved a SPA between GCHSCP and University of Strathclyde. GCHSCP and University of Strathclyde have benefited by working together to focus on key strategic priorities for the HSCP and Glasgow City using the expertise in University of Strathclyde to support the strategic work.
- 2.2. University of Strathclyde (UofS) have established a [Health and Care Futures Institute](#) with a vision to support the health and care sector to become fully integrated and data driven. GCHSCP was approached by the Institute in 2020 to explore options around a partnership between GCHSCP and the Health and Care Institute to work together on our strategic priorities. They have strategic relationships with other public bodies.

**3. Proposal**

- 3.1 Glasgow City HSCP and UofS share a joint vision for the future development of the City of Glasgow through innovation and through citizen centred service and empowerment. Aspirations for continuing the formal partnership is that we further harness the significant skills and expertise within GCHSCP and UofS to contribute to the development of a modern, innovative, sustainable and enabling health and care system.
- 3.2 The Strategic Partnership between GCHSCP and UofS has and will continue to facilitate the development and delivery of a joint research and development agenda bringing together teams of multidisciplinary academics to work in partnership with GCHSCP to develop solutions in response to real world challenges. The research and development has and will continue to inform best practice and drive innovation in the health and social care sector. This partnership was built upon existing partnership working predominantly via The Centre for Excellence in Children's Care and Protection (CELCIS) as well as joint PhD studentships between the Glasgow City HSCP and UofS Business School in the field of collaborative leadership.

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### 3.3 Some examples of what the strategic partnership has achieved:

- Joint seminar with the HSCP Executive Leadership team and academics to discuss future challenges and priorities
- Strathclyde University has had university wide strategic sessions looking at engagement in healthcare research as a priority under their 2030 strategy
- Provided the opportunity for 10 funded places for officers to study to MPhil level supporting research into health and social care
- Informal Carers Involved in Hospital at Home (H@H) and Virtual Ward (VW) Services Project
  - This joint project sought to investigate the role that informal carers have in patients in receipt of H@H or VW services, particularly those who would be considered frail. More can be found out here [Hospital at home/virtual wards: service delivery, integration, evaluating impact on health and social care | NIHR](#).
  - The project aimed to understand caregiver experiences, identify unmet needs, and co-design practical resources to support them. Engagement with sites across Lanarkshire, Glasgow, and the Western Isles, contributed to:
    - Facilitated access to caregivers and professionals for interviews and co-design workshops
    - data collection and service insights
    - Collaboration on the development and testing of caregiver support tools
    - Helped to ensure findings are relevant and scalable across diverse communities
- Healthy Ageing Class - Tutorial focussed on the Digital Divide:
  - Officers from the HSCP supported learning at the university by delivering part of the Healthy Ageing Class. Officers also helped to develop the module on Healthy Ageing for Masters candidates.
- Citizen Social Care Groups:
  - GCHSCP have facilitated research interviews and data gathering with its networks of engagement to help inform current and future needs of for social care research and service delivery.
  - Helping to make research more approachable and accessible and reach a more diverse and representative patient / service user group.
- Carer Support:
  - HSCP officers supported research that the university were conducting into carers looking at themes like improving carer identification and ensuring it is as early as possible in the caring journey, routes for carers to access support, and codesigning a chat bot support app for carers.
  - University of Strathclyde asked HSCP to partner them in a grant proposal to the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council to establish a Strathclyde Healthy Society Hub in the area of technology and Stroke prevention, detection, treatment and self management.

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### **4. Governance and Next Steps**

- 4.1 The SPA is directed via the Strategic Partnership Board chaired by Professor David Littlejohn, Special Advisor to the Principal's Office, with key officers and academics as members.
- 4.2 The SPA will continue to develop the partnership working and research focus on:
- Leadership
  - Service Prioritisation
  - Challenges facing the Health and Social Care sector
  - Multiple and Complex Needs

### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 The Integration Joint Board is asked to:
- a) Approve a renewal of a Strategic Partnership Agreement with the University of Strathclyde.



## Direction from the Glasgow City Integration Joint Board

1	Reference number	210126-8
2	Report Title	Strategic Partnership with University of Strathclyde Renewal
3	Date direction issued by Integration Joint Board	21 January 2026
4	Date from which direction takes effect	21 January 2026
5	Direction to:	Glasgow City Council only
6	Does this direction supersede, revise or revoke a previous direction – if yes, include the reference number(s)	Yes (reference number: 011221-12) - Supersedes
7	Functions covered by direction	The Direction covers activity at a strategic level related to the development of a modern, innovative, sustainable and enabling health and care system. The Direction will have benefits for all delegated functions through an initial focus on priorities around service prioritisation, leadership and addressing multiple and complex needs.
8	Full text of direction	Glasgow City Council is directed to carry out the required activity to renew a formal Strategic Partnership Agreement between Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership and University of Strathclyde, taking into account the priorities outlined in section 4.2
9	Budget allocated by Integration Joint Board to carry out direction	The Direction should be carried out using existing resources allocated to Glasgow City Integration Joint Board and Health and Social Care Partnership.
10	Performance monitoring arrangements	Performance monitoring arrangements will be considered and built into the detail of the Strategic Partnership Agreement and will, where appropriate, include existing performance monitoring arrangements used within the Health and Social Care Partnership.
11	Date direction will be reviewed	January 2027