



Item No: 12

Meeting Date: Wednesday 28th August 2024

Glasgow City Integration Joint Board

Report By: Margaret Hogg, Assistant Chief Officer, Finance.

Contact: Margaret Hogg

Phone: 0141 287 8258

Payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to Providers in the Purchased Sector

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to update the IJB on the payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to providers in the purchased sector; and to note the approval by the Interim Chief Officer and Chief Officer, Finance and Resources under delegated authority, on the grounds of urgency.

Background/Engagement:

In August 2023, Scottish Government introduced the Scottish Recommended Allowance (SRA) for foster and kinship carers. This allowance has been paid to our in-house providers of foster carers however the position in respect of providers in the purchased sector was unclear. National discussions have now concluded with the outcome that providers of purchased services should receive payment to enable them to pay the SRA.

Governance Route:

The matters contained within this paper have been previously considered by the following group(s) as part of its development.

- HSCP Senior Management Team ☐
- Council Corporate Management Team ☐
- Health Board Corporate Management Team ☐
- Council Committee ☐
- Update requested by IJB ☐
- Other ☐
- Not Applicable ☒

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Recommendations:	The Integration Joint Board is asked to: a) Note approval by the Interim Chief Officer and Chief Officer, Finance and Resources under delegated authority, on the grounds of urgency; b) Note the approval was undertaken in consultation with the IJB Chair and Vice Chair.
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Relevance to Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan:

Partnership Priority 1: Prevention, early intervention, and well-being
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Implications for Health and Social Care Partnership: None.

Reference to National Health & Wellbeing Outcome(s):	Outcome 9: Resources are used effectively and efficiently in the provision of health and social care services.
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Personnel:	None.
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Carers:	None.
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Provider Organisations:	The recommendations in this report will result in fostering providers being allocated additional funding.
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Equalities:	None.
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Fairer Scotland Compliance:	None.
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Financial:	The cost of the uplift is currently unknown as providers pay different rates, some of which are above the SRA, however, funding has been provided by Scottish Government and payment will be managed within the Children and Families budget.
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Legal:	None.
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Economic Impact:	None.
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Sustainability:	None.
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Sustainable Procurement and Article 19:	None.
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Risk Implications:	None.
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Implications for Glasgow City Council:	None.
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Implications for NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde:	None.
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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. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update the Integration Joint Board on the payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to providers in the purchased sector; and to note the approval by the Interim Chief Officer and Chief Officer, Finance and Resources under delegated authority, on the grounds of urgency.
- 1.2. As IJB approval could not be obtained within the required timescale, and in view of the urgent requirement to make these payments, the Interim Chief Officer of Glasgow City IJB and Chief Officer, Finance and Resources are asked to approve under the delegated authority set out in the [IJB Scheme of Delegation](#) to officers.

2. Background

- 2.1. In August 2023, Scottish Government introduced the Scottish Recommended Allowance (SRA) for foster and kinship carers.
- 2.2. This was to introduce a standard allowance to achieve a greater degree of consistency and transparency in allowance payments and information. It was also to ensure that children in foster and kinship care get the support they need to thrive and ensure there is parity in the financial support provided to kinship and foster carers, regardless of where they live in Scotland.

3. Current Payments

- 3.1. Carers who are paid directly by Glasgow HSCP are in receipt of the SRA, however the issue of making payments to providers in the purchased sector was unclear and has been discussed widely nationally and with COSLA. These discussions have now concluded with the outcome that providers of purchased services should receive payment to enable them to pay the SRA.
- 3.2. Payment will be based on whether providers are already paying the SRA or above, which they will need to demonstrate and will be backdated to 1st April 2024.

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3.3. The current SRA rates are as follows:

Age of child	0-4	5-10	11-15	16+
SRA	£168.31	£195.81	£195.81	£268.41

3.4. This does not include contracts through Scotland Excel, as this is being dealt with directly, with an implementation date of 1st July 2024.

4. Funding

4.1 Funding has been provided by Scottish Government to make these payments, which forms part of the Children and Families budget.

4.2 The cost of the uplift is unknown as we need to engage with providers to understand what rates they currently pay as some pay above the SRA.

5. Recommendations

5.1. The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

- a) Note approval by the Interim Chief Officer and Chief Officer, Finance and Resources under delegated authority, on the grounds of urgency; and
- b) Note the approval was undertaken in consultation with the IJB Chair and Vice Chair.



Glasgow City Integration Joint Board

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Payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to Providers in the Purchased Sector

Purpose of Report:	The purpose of this report is to update the Interim Chief Officer and Chief Officer, Finance & Resources (on behalf of the Integration Joint Board) on the payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to providers in the purchased sector; and to request approval under delegated authority, on the grounds of urgency.
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Background/Engagement:	In August 2023, Scottish Government introduced the Scottish Recommended Allowance (SRA) for foster and kinship carers. This allowance has been paid to our in-house providers of foster carers however the position in respect of providers in the purchased sector was unclear. National discussions have now concluded with the outcome that providers of purchased services should receive payment to enable them to pay the SRA.
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Recommendations:	The Interim Chief Officer and Chief Officer, Finance & Resources (acting on behalf of the Integration Joint Board) are asked to: a) Approve the payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to providers in the purchased sector; and b) Approve the backdating of any payment to 1st April 2024.
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Relevance to Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan:

Partnership Priority 1: Prevention, early intervention and well-being

Implications for Health and Social Care Partnership: None
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Reference to National Health & Wellbeing Outcome(s):	Outcome 9: Resources are used effectively and efficiently in the provision of health and social care services.
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Personnel:	None
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Carers:	None
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Provider Organisations:	The recommendations in this report will result in fostering providers being allocated additional funding.
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Equalities:	None
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Financial:	The cost of the uplift is currently unknown as providers pay different rates, some of which are above the SRA, however, funding has been provided by Scottish Government and payment will be managed within the Children and Families budget.
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Legal:	None
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Economic Impact:	None
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Sustainability:	None
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Sustainable Procurement and Article 19:	None
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Risk Implications:	None
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Implications for Glasgow City Council:	None
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Implications for NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde:	None
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Direction Required to Council, Health Board or Both	
Direction to:	
5. No Direction Required	☐
6. Glasgow City Council	☒
7. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	☐
8. Glasgow City Council and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	☐

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update the Interim Chief Officer and Chief Officer, Finance & Resources (on behalf of the Integration Joint Board) on the payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to providers in the purchased sector; and to request approval under delegated authority, on the grounds of urgency.
- 1.2. As IJB approval could not be obtained within the required timescale, and in view of the urgent requirement to make these payments, the Interim Chief Officer of Glasgow City IJB and Chief Officer, Finance and Resources are asked to approve under the delegated authority set out in the [IJB Scheme of Delegation](#) to officers.

2. Background

- 2.1. In August 2023, Scottish Government introduced the Scottish Recommended Allowance (SRA) for foster and kinship carers.
- 2.2. This was to introduce a standard allowance to achieve a greater degree of consistency and transparency in allowance payments and information. It was also to ensure that children in foster and kinship care get the support they need to thrive and ensure there is parity in the financial support provided to kinship and foster carers, regardless of where they live in Scotland.

3. Current Payments

- 5.2. Carers who are paid directly by Glasgow HSCP are in receipt of the SRA, however the issue of making payments to providers in the purchased sector was unclear and has been discussed widely nationally and with COSLA. These discussions have now concluded with the outcome that providers of purchased services should receive payment to enable them to pay the SRA.
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4.1 Funding has been provided by Scottish Government to make these payments, which forms part of the Children and Families budget.

4.2 The cost of the uplift is unknown as we need to engage with providers to understand what rates they currently pay as some pay above the SRA.

5. Recommendations

5.1 The Interim Chief Officer and Chief Officer, Finance & Resources (acting on behalf of the Integration Joint Board) are asked to:

- a) Approve the payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to providers in the purchased sector; and
- b) Approve the backdating of any payments to 1st April 2024.



Direction from the Glasgow City Integration Joint Board

1	Reference number	DA050824
2	Report Title	Payment of the Scottish Recommended Allowance for Fostering to Providers in the Purchased Sector
3	Date direction issued by Integration Joint Board	Approved under delegated authority by Interim CO and CFO on 5 th Aug 2024 and noted by IJB on 28 th Aug 2024.
4	Date from which direction takes effect	8 th August 2024
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)	No
7	Functions covered by direction	The rate for the Scottish Recommended Allowance (SRA) for foster and kinship carers paid to providers in the purchased sector.
8	Full text of direction	Glasgow City Council is directed to ensure that providers in the purchased sector should be provided with new rates of SRA for foster and kinship carers from 1 st April 2024 and a payment should be made to backdate these new rates to 1 st April 2024.
9	Budget allocated by Integration Joint Board to carry out direction	The cost of the uplift is currently unknown, however, funding has been provided by Scottish Government and payments will be managed within the Children and Families budget.
10	Performance monitoring arrangements	In line with the agreed Performance Management Framework of the Glasgow City Integration Joint Board and the Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership.
11	Date direction will be reviewed	July 2025