

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>NHS Grampian Board</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>11 April 2024</b>
<b>Item Number:</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>NHSG Corporate Parenting Action Plan</b>
<b>Responsible Executive/Non-Executive:</b>	<b>Geraldine Fraser, Portfolio Executive Lead</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>Caroline Clark, Chief Nurse</b>

## 1 Purpose

### **This is presented to the Board for:**

- Assurance — review and scrutinise the information provided in this paper and confirm that it provides assurance that NHS Grampian (NHSG) is meeting its corporate parenting legal responsibilities as set out by Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and progressing with the Scottish Government’s aspirations set out in The Promise 2020.

### **This report relates to a:**

- Government policy/directive
- Legal requirement

### **This aligns to the following NHSScotland quality ambitions:**

- Person Centred

## 2 Report summary

The NHSG Corporate Parenting action plan 2024-2027 is provided and sets out the actions that will be taken to support NHSG corporate parenting legal responsibilities. Some actions are developmental and as such actions will be iterative throughout the period 2024-2027.

### 2.1 Situation

The corporate parenting annual report 2023 was presented at the December 2023 Board meeting. This action plan comes periodically to NHSG board to provide assurance on compliance with corporate parenting responsibilities. NHS Grampian became a statutory corporate parent in April 2015 under part 9 of the Children and

Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (Corporate Parenting). The statutory obligations impact well beyond child health services to all the functions of NHS Grampian.

## **2.2 Background**

The Promise sets out Scottish Government strategic direction for meeting corporate parenting responsibilities. Published in 2020 The Promise aspires to support shifts in policy, practice and culture so Scotland can **#KeepThePromise** it made to care experienced infants, children, young people, adults and their families - that every child grows up loved, safe and respected, able to realise their full potential.

NHS Grampian's strategic plan, 'Plan for the Future 2022 – 2028' recognises that by paying particular attention to children, young people and families we can enable healthier and happier future generations. NHS Grampians Children's Board provides the governance and assurance on child health priorities and as such the NHSG Corporate Parenting Group who created the 2024-2027 action plan reports to the Children's Board.

## **2.3 Assessment**

A key risk for NHSG is around our contribution and support to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC). In 2022 NHS Grampian received requests for 22 Initial Health Assessments (IHA) for UASC and in 2023 this increased to 80. So far, in the first 2 months of 2024 10 requests have been received.

The Promise self-evaluation requires focussed attention on addressing any key gaps in the NHSG response.

### **2.3.1 Quality/ Patient Care**

None

### **2.3.2 Workforce**

This unique cohort of children and young people are particularly vulnerable and are likely to have complex physical and mental health, and social needs. Meeting the needs of these children is an additional strain on what is a very small team.

### **2.3.3 Financial**

No known financial impact.

### **2.3.4 Risk Assessment/Management**

The risk identified around support to unaccompanied asylum seeking children is mitigated by a whole system and partnership approach.

### 2.3.5 Equality and Diversity, including health inequalities

Corporate parenting is a key strand of the Plan for the Future and tackling health inequalities.

### 2.3.6 Other impacts

None

### 2.3.7 Communication, involvement, engagement and consultation

This action plan has been developed with the support of the NHSG Corporate Parenting Group which has membership from across NHS Grampian, including all three HSCPs and local authorities.

### 2.3.8 Route to the Meeting

The attached action plan has been endorsed by:

- Children's Board Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- Chief Executive Team Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024

## 2.4 Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- **Assurance** – review and scrutinise the information provided in this paper and confirm that it provides assurance that  
NHS Grampian is meeting its corporate parenting legal responsibilities as set out by Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and progressing with the Scottish Government's aspirations set out in The Promise 2020.

## 3 Appendix/List of appendices

None