MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

Thursday, 26 March 2026

Council Chambers, Council Office, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX

PRESENT

Councillor Peter Bloomfield, Professor Duff Bruce, Mrs Sheila Brumby, Ms Miriam Connor, Ms Jane Ewen, Councillor Scott Lawrence, Dr Robert Lockhart, Mr Jim Lyon, Ms Aimee McIntosh, Mr Derick Murray, Councillor Bridget Mustard, Ms Deborah O'Shea, Ms Judith Proctor, Mr Sandy Riddell, Mr Alex Stephen, Mrs Christine Stevens, Councillor Ben Williams

APOLOGIES

Mr Sean Coady, Ms Sonya Duncan, Ms Karen Greaves BEM, Mr Michael Ritchie, Mr Dennis Robertson, Ms Elizabeth Robinson, Ms Laura Skaife-Knight

IN ATTENDANCE

Lead Pharmacist and Caroline O'Connor, Committee Services Officer

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Sandy Keith

1. Chair

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Bridget Mustard, as Depute Chair of the Board.

2. Pre-Election Period

The Chair reminded the Board the meeting was taking place during the pre-election period and that there are restrictions on the Council over publishing material which could show support for a particular party. As Board meetings are webcast, they fall within these restrictions.

The Chair stated the advice from the Monitoring Officer was that, whilst the Board can continue to deal with "business as usual" items, should debate become overtly political then the Chair may require to intervene.

3. Declaration of Member's Interests

Mr Riddell stated for transparency that he was Chair of the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland.

The Board noted there were no other declarations of member's interests.

4. Minute of meeting of 29 January 2026

The minute of the meeting of 29 January 2026 was submitted and approved.

5. Action Log of 29 January 2026

The Action Log of the meeting of 29 January 2026 was discussed and updated accordingly.

6. Minute of meeting Clinical and Care Governance Committee of 28 August 2025

The Board noted the minute of the meeting of the Clinical and Care Governance Committee of 28 August 2025.

7. Minute of meeting Audit Performance and Risk Committee of 29 October 2025

The Board noted the minute of the meeting of the Audit, Performance and Risk Committee of 29 October 2025.

8. Moray Integration Joint Board Draft Strategic Risk Register

The meeting had before it a report by the Chief Officer presenting the Strategic Risk Register to the Board for approval, following scrutiny by the Audit, Performance and Risk Committee at their meeting held on 26 February 2026.

Following consideration the Board unanimously agreed:-

i) to approve the Board Strategic Risk Register included at Appendix 1, noting the current risk ratings, controls, assurances and areas of ongoing exposure;

ii) to note that future reports will reflect scrutiny and feedback provided by the Audit, Performance and Risk Committee on 26 February 2026; and

iii) that a dedicated Board session be scheduled to review and refresh the Moray Integration Joint Board Risk Appetite Statement, including consideration of the relationship between risk ratings and the Board’s tolerance for risk.

9. Revenue Budget and Recovery Plan 2026/27

The meeting had before it a report by the Chief Financial Officer outlining the budget allocations to the Moray Integration Joint Board and asking the Board to consider the revenue budget for 2026/27, the estimated funding gap and the charges.

In introducing the report, the Chair asked that any questions on the covering report be considered following which each of the individual Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs) in Appendix 2A would be considered in order to ensure the Board fully scrutinised and understood the impacts of each of the savings.

Mr Murray, acknowledging the budget was balanced as a result of the funding from partners and the delivery of savings as set out in Appendix 2 was critical to achieve that balanced budget, expressed concern whether the savings identified were deliverable, stating that of the proposed savings, 4 were rated Red and 14 were rated Amber and savings planned in previous years had not been delivery resulting in a significant overspend. In response, the Chief Officer provided assurance that resources would be allocated to support and monitor the delivery of savings for those highlighted as being difficult to deliver along with grip and control measures previously described to monitor operational and financial performance and identify emerging pressures at an early stage.

Mr Riddell noted the need for transformation which he acknowledged takes time, expressed concern that it would not deliver savings at the required pace and queried whether action on longstanding operational issues such as sickness absence management would provide opportunities for efficiency. In response, the Chief Officer acknowledged the challenges in delivery transformation however advised positive progress was being made in terms of staff absence along with work being undertaken with other IJBs on a once for Grampian approach, to be the subject of a report to a future meeting of the Board for any decisions required within the Board's remit.

Councillor Bloomfield and Mr Riddell sought assurance that the grip and control measures would ensure early visibility and planning to mitigate impact on services. The Chief Financial Officer confirmed measures were in place to ensure more rigorous consideration of the budget in liaison with budget managers along with ongoing other possible savings and identified efficiencies to help impact on any growth which would be reported to the Board on a regular basis.

In order to strengthen assurance around the Board's financial position, Mr Stephen suggested it may be helpful to set out clearly the financial context including reserves, current position and trajectory into a financial recovery strategy which would be reported through Audit, Performance and Risk (APR) Committee to evidence grip and control and recovery and increasing the frequency of APR meetings to allow for timely review of any such strategy. In response, the Chief Officer agreed such an approach would be beneficial and agreed to prepare updates for APR and consider increased frequency of meetings.

The Board considered and discussed each of the undernoted Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs) and agreed the requested changes be made:-

Ref	Title	Requested Change(s)
51.	Change to procurement process for palliative care equipment	

52.	Cease Housing Support Payments for Very Sheltered Housing Services	
53.	Review of Adult out of Area and Ordinary Residence Packages	Section 10 "Justification" - wording to be reconsidered to meet with person-centred principles rather than just financial assistance
54.	Review of contributions and charging policies for health and social care services	Section 9 "Mitigating Actions" - add information on actions taken/referrals made in terms of benefits following completion of financial assessments. Add information on consultation to be undertaken on any proposal for changing charges.
55.	Nutritional Prescribing	Section 6 "Protected Groups - add more detail of impact on carers Section 9 "Mitigating Actions" - add information on support to be given in terms of income maximisation relating to potential financial impact Should be subject to Stage 2 IIA.
56.	Supplies and Procurement	
57.	GMED Skills Mix Review	
58.	Review of Clinical Leadership provision	
59.	HSCM Minor Surgery	More detailed report to be prepared for the Board providing clarity on funding, full impacts (ie pregnancy if removing support for vasectomies), numbers involved, increased waiting lists etc
60.	Review of Commissioned contracts - Childrens services	
61.	Re-design of childcare social work teams	
62.	Accommodation Review - Social Work Office Community Hub	
63.	Review of OOA Care and Return to Local Community	Section 9 "Mitigation Actions" - suggest strengthening
64.	Cessation of all interim management arrangements	

Following the suggestion from Mr Stephen to strengthen assurance on the Board's financial position which the Chief Officer agreed to action, the Chair moved adding an additional recommendation (viii) "increased reporting and scrutiny arrangements through the Audit, Performance and Risk Committee."

Following lengthy consideration and there being no one otherwise minded, the Board unanimously agreed:-

i) to note the funding allocations proposed by NHS Grampian and Moray Council, detailed at 5.8;

ii) to note the anticipated budget pressures detailed in 5.12;

iii) to approve the 2026/27 proposed savings plan at 5.27 and detailed in Appendix 2;

iv) to formally approve the Revenue Budget for 2026/27 as detailed in Appendix 1, following consideration on risks highlighted in 5.36;

v) to direct the Chief Officer to formally write to partners to request the additional in year funding, totalling £9m;

vi) to approve Directions for issue as set out at Appendix 5 to NHS Grampian and Moray Council;

vii) to note no amendments to the reserves policy, as detailed in Appendix 6; and

viii) increased reporting and scrutiny arrangements through the Audit, Performance and Risk Committee.

10. Medium Term Financial Framework 2026/27 - 2030/31

The meeting had before it a report by the Chief Financial Officer asking the Board to approve the updated Medium Term Financial Framework 2026/27 to 2030/31.

Following consideration the Board unanimously agreed:-

i) to approve the updated Medium Term Financial Framework (MTFF) as set out in the report and at Appendix 1; and

ii) that a review of the Framework be carried out on an annual basis.

11. Membership of Board and Committees

The meeting had before it a report by the Corporate Manager informing the Board of changes to membership of the Moray Integration Joint Board; Audit, Performance and Risk Committee and Clinical and Care Governance Committee.

The meeting, in noting that this would be the last meeting of the Board prior to Councillor Ben Williams, Chair of Audit, Performance and Risk Committee stepping down, joined the Chair in paying tribute to Councillor Williams for his contributions and wished him well for the future and thanked Councillor Scott Lawrence for taking on the role of Chair of Audit, Performance and Review Committee.

Following consideration the Board unanimously agreed:-

i) Councillor Ben Williams will stand down as member of the Moray Integration Joint Board, effective 27 March 2026

ii) Councillor John Divers will join the Moray Integration Joint Board, effective 27 March 2026;

iii) the appointment of a new Chair to the Audit, Performance and Risk Committee, effective 27 March 2026; and

iv) the updated membership of the Board and its Committees, attached at Appendix 1.