INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD SERVICE UPDATE

Name of Function:	Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership
Date:	13 May 2025
Title of Update:	Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Framework
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UPDATE:

On 25 May 2021 the IJB approved the Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Framework (EOMF) 2021 – 2025 for Aberdeen City. The aim of the EOMF was to embed a culture of equality and human rights across all services. The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012 places a duty on the IJB to report progress and the previous progress report was presented to the IJB on 7 May 2024. The updated EOMF can be found at Appendix A and the updated guidance for Public Engagement can be found at Appendix B.

Progress over the last 12 months can be found in the framework but a key highlight is the progress report showing a clear positive increase in community engagement involvement and development across all Equality Outcomes. This engagement has supported us in service planning and policy change.

The actions for the EOMF 2021 – 2025 are now completed. The EOMF will now undergo a refresh and review to plan ahead for the next four years in line with the new ACHSCP Strategic Plan 2025 – 2029.

In February 2025 the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) concluded a review of Public Sector Equality Duties (PSED) monitoring and improvement work across IJBs in Scotland. The focus of this work was on three areas:

- A report on IJB progress in achieving our equality outcomes from within the last two years.
- A report on how the IJB mainstreams equality into its business and activities from within the last two years.



 Any equality impact assessments of new or revised policies and practices published since 1 April 2023.

The EHRC reported to our ACHSCP Chief Officer "I am pleased to let you know that for Aberdeen City IJB we found all the information listed above. It is reassuring to find the improvements in meeting PSED reporting requirements which we saw during our work with the sector over the last 3 years have been consolidated." On top of being cited by the EHRC as an area of good practice in 2023 this is excellent news for Aberdeen City and recognition of the hard work and progress made across the partnership.

The existing "Our Guidance for Public Engagement, Human Rights and Inequalities" was adopted by ACHSCP in May 2021. This was previously updated and presented to IJB on 7 May 2024. Key updates over the last 12 months include:

- Valuing lived experience (p.20) section added on 'closing the loop', i.e. to
 ensure we go back to those we have engaged with to keep them informed of
 the changes their input has helped to shape.
- New Section (Inclusive Communication, p.21-23) has been added. Whilst the
 information added is quite broad, it supports colleagues to think about and
 prepare for the full involvement of people with specific communication needs
 and preferences. Suggestions to contact specialist local and national
 organisations to help in the planning of meetings and events, as well as seeking
 out the support from the development officer for consultation and engagement
 have been included.
- New section (Place Standard Tool, Appendix 4, p. 50) given the influence of this tool on the recent joint consultation work, it is appropriate to show and describe it, and its applicability in consultation and engagement work with the close linkage it has to health and wellbeing.
- Appendix 5 (p.50) provides a graphic and link to "Service Change: overview
 of engagement process for Integration Joint Boards." This has been included
 to back up the newly added information regarding the 'letter of assurance'.





Guidance for Comm