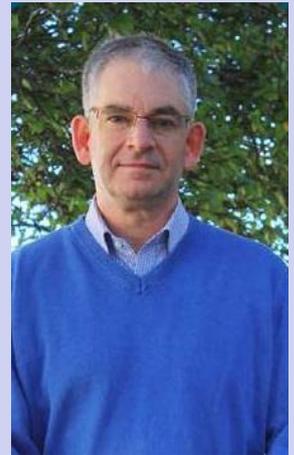


Dear Colleagues,

Well done to all those involved in the Woodview Children and Young People's Service. The external validation of what you are achieving will have come from lots of hard work - a good grade doesn't come easily. More detail further on in today's update.

Fingers crossed that the next two storms this week don't cause disruption in Moray. Seems we are going to have to prepare for an increase in extreme weather events.

Please stay safe whatever you are doing - whether that's travelling to a work base or out and about in the community. If you are old enough, you will remember the forecast for the 1987 major storm - it arrived when we weren't expecting it.



Simon Bokor-Ingram
Chief Officer
Moray Portfolio

Positive inspection report

Following an unannounced inspection by the Care Inspectorate, the Woodview Children and Young People's Service has been evaluated as 5 - very good.

The service provides care and support for up to two young people with autism and complex communication needs. Each young person lives individually and is supported by a 24 hour staff team.

Major strengths were identified in the care and support provided to the young people and this area was recognised as being very good. The manager and staff were committed to ensuring the young people's needs were met and their wishes incorporated into their care.

Care planning was also evaluated as being very good. The team were focused on helping the young people to achieve and goals continued to be built on to help the individuals become more independent.

Weather warning

The Met Office has issued a yellow wind warning across the north of Scotland for Wednesday and Thursday, with an amber warning in place across parts of the UK, including Argyll and the Inner Hebrides.

Here in Moray it is likely that we will not experience the worst of Storm Dudley and Eunice, however Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) has enacted resilience plans and is encouraging customers to be prepared for the possibility of disruption to power supplies.

Anyone who may need extra support during a power cut – including anyone who has a disability, sensory loss or a chronic illness, is over 60 or lives with children under five, uses medical equipment/aids reliant on electricity - is advised to register for SSEN priority services by calling 0800 294 3259 or going to the website <https://www.ssen.co.uk/psr/>

Changes to support for community mental health and wellbeing

In recent years, our partners at Penumbra have provided the Moray Mental Health and Wellness Service, offering short-term support to individuals in distress, information, self-management activity, 1-1 community and peer support.

The service was provided initially via the Wellness Centre at Batchen Street, Elgin. The building has been closed since the beginning of the Covid pandemic in March 2020 and the service moved to online/phone support.

The contract for the Mental Health and Wellness Service runs until the end of March 2022 at which time the service will cease.

Between now and the end of March, individuals will continue to be supported by the service to progress with their self-management activity which includes having an awareness of available community-based mental health and wellbeing supports. No new referrals are being accepted.

Health & Social Care Moray wishes to thank Penumbra for their contribution to mental health and wellbeing in Moray for the duration of this project.

Penumbra will continue to have a presence in Moray going forward with the delivery of Distress Brief Interventions (DBI) - a time limited and supportive problem solving contact with an individual in distress.

A new Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioner service will launch in spring 2022. This service will be aligned to Primary Care and accessed via GP practices, with practitioners taking a 'making every opportunity count' approach to facilitate a holistic perspective and to empower people to move forward in their wellbeing and recovery journeys.

Work is also progressing with the recommissioning of the Drug and Alcohol Direct Access Service to ensure people get the right help through a 'no wrong door' approach. The design of the service is being informed by the active involvement of people with lived experience, supporters and services.

Covid vaccination update

People who have recently tested positive for coronavirus are being reassured that they still have the opportunity to get vaccinated.

Clinics are continuing to run to ensure everyone who may have had to delay getting their booster, or one of their first two doses of the vaccine, can come forward as soon as possible to top up their protection.

Adults can attend for vaccination 28 days after a positive test, meaning anyone who missed out on getting boosted because they had covid over the festive period or early January, would now be eligible.

Young people aged 12 to 17 who have recently tested positive should wait 12 weeks after their test to get the vaccine. However, if they are at increased risk they can have their vaccine after four weeks.

The Fiona Elcock Vaccination Centre in Elgin remains open daily from 10.15am to 5.30pm for walk-ins and booked appointments for first, second, third and booster doses.

Walk-in community clinics are taking place today (Wednesday) at New Elgin Filling Station from 11am to 1pm and at the Lossiemouth Co-op, Coulardbank Road, between 2.20pm and 4.30pm.

Dose coverage among the Moray population aged 12 and over currently stands at:

- Dose 1 – 92.6% (77,875)
- Dose 2 – 87.3% (73433)
- Booster or dose 3 – 71.7% (60,273)

National Care Service

The Scottish Government has published analysis of responses to the National Care Service (NCS) consultation following publication of the responses themselves.

The public consultation attracted nearly 1,300 responses from just over 700 individuals and some 575 organisations.

The analysis found that most respondents believed that the main benefit of the NCS taking responsibility for improvement across community health and care services would be more consistent outcomes for people accessing care and support across Scotland.

The majority of respondents were in support of Community Health and Social Care Boards having responsibility and authority for commissioning, procuring and managing community health care services.

A number of potential risks were also identified by respondents. These included:

- the potential loss of the voices of people accessing care and support and care workers
- the loss of an understanding of local needs and local accountability
- addressing the needs of more rural and remote areas
- staffing concerns with regards to retention and morale.

The consultation process represents the first phase of engagement for the NCS programme. Legislation to establish the service is expected to be introduced in the Scottish Parliament later in the year.

To view the published responses and analysis of responses, head to the Scottish Government [website](#).