1. Purpose of Paper:

The purpose of this paper is to inform the NHS Board on key items of discussion at NHSGGC Public Health Committee.

2. Recommendation:

The Board is asked to note the key items of discussion at the recent meeting of the Public Health Standing Committee on 6th July 2021 as set out below and seek further assurance as required.

3. Key Items of Discussion:

3.1 COVID-19 Update

- This update was for Awareness
- Professor de Caestecker provided an update on the pandemic and advised the committee that there had been an increase in positive cases since May, partly due to the Delta variant and also easing of restrictions. On Monday, 5th July there were 628 positive cases, a reduction from 1,100 cases at the end of June. There has been a small reduction in
numbers of cases within all local authorities. The age breakdown remains the same i.e. the young adult population and also children. There has also been an increase in hospital cases. The vaccination programme is progressing well. Regular drop in clinics are continuing and the ambulance bus is in areas where vaccine uptake is known to be lower. Planning is underway for COVID boosters starting in September to take place at same time as flu vaccination.

- The Committee was content to note the update.

3.2 Local Child Poverty Action Reports

- This paper was for approval from the committee
- Discussion took place on increasing levels of child poverty and what actions could be taken to support, promote and reduce the burden of illness caused by poverty. There was recognition of the partnerships required with other organisations.
- The Committee was content to approve the Local Child Poverty Action Reports for East Renfrewshire HSCP, Renfrewshire HSCP and Inverclyde HSCP and also note NHSGGC’s response during 2020/21 and plans for 2021/22, including the commitment within the Public Health remobilisation plan to review child poverty work.

3.3 Community Wealth Building

- This paper was to raise Awareness
- There was discussion around barriers which included the sale of land or property to the highest bidder and also a central procurement system which often meant that local companies could not be used. Workshop arranged for August and key stakeholders have been asked to map out their current situation, any gaps and their aims. A new action plan is being developed and Scottish Government have indicated its consideration of a Community Wealth Building Bill but want to understand the legislative barriers in place that prevent work on community wealth building.
- The Committee was content to note the paper ‘Community Wealth Building: Considering the potential for NHSGGC to further develop its role as an “Anchor Organisation” and its contribution to Community Wealth Building’.

3.4 Future Priorities for the Public Health Committee

- This paper was to raise Awareness
- Discussion around the Public Health Strategy, Turning the Tide, agreed a few years ago before the pandemic and that issues may have been made worse by the pandemic. Public Health still involved in the pandemic response so progress has been slow. Committee to consider what has been delivered so far and what has been learned during the pandemic and discuss with the public health team any amendments and combining these with the information provided in Ms Manion’s presentation, produce a document on current strategic priorities and begin to report on these at the next committee meeting. This work will also help influence the annual business cycle.
In summary the Committee was content to note the presentation, Future Priorities for the Public Health Committee and the way forward.

3.5 Review of Terms of Reference
- This paper was for Approval by the committee
- Ms Vanhagen advised that the review of the terms of reference is part of the Board’s active governance and is an annual review undertaken by all the Board’s Standing Committees. The committee was asked to approve the amendments to the Public Health Committee Terms of Reference.
- The Committee was content to approve the recommendations in this paper.

3.6 Annual Cycle of Business
- This paper was to raise Awareness
- The Chair advised that the draft annual cycle of business highlighted the priorities and the dates for submission to the committee. He told the committee that as in the past, if an item or issue not on the list was deemed appropriate to discuss, then it would be included on the agenda. There will be the opportunity for further discussion on whether these are the correct priorities.
- The committee was content to note the draft annual cycle of business and the suggested way forward.

4. Issues for referral to other Standing Committees or escalation to the NHS Board.

There were no issues for referral to other Standing Committees or escalation to the NHS Board.