

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Title of report | Convener's Report |
| Public/Confidential | Public |
| Summary/purpose of report | Update on Convener's activity since last Council meeting on 27 May 2021 |
| Recommendations | The Council is asked to note the summary of recent key issues and activities from the viewpoint of the Convener. |
| Author | Sandra Campbell Convener |
| Responsible Officer | Lorraine Gray, Chief Executive |
| Link to Strategic Plan | <p>The information in this report links to:</p> <p>Outcome 1: People who use services are protected by ensuring the regulated workforce is fit to practise.</p> <p>Outcome 2: The SSSC supports and enhances the development of the registered workforce to deliver high standards of practice and drive improvement.</p> <p>Outcome 3: Our workforce planning activities support employers, commissioners and policy makers to deliver a sustainable, integrated and innovative workforce.</p> <p>Outcome 4: The social work, social care and early years workforce is recognised as professional and regulated and valued for the difference it makes to people's lives.</p> |
| Link to Risk Register | <p>Risk 1: We fail to ensure that our system of regulation meets the needs of people who use services and workers.</p> <p>Risk 2: We fail to ensure that our workforce development function supports the workforce and employers to achieve the rights standards and qualifications to gain and maintain registration.</p> <p>Risk 3: We fail to meet corporate governance, external scrutiny and legal obligations.</p> |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| | <p>Risk 4: We fail to plan and resource our activities to deliver our digital strategy.</p> <p>Risk 5: We fail to provide value to stakeholders and demonstrate our impact.</p> <p>Risk 6: We fail to develop and support SSSC staff appropriately to ensure we have a motivated and skilled workforce to achieve our strategic outcomes.</p> <p>Risk 7: The SSSC fails to secure sufficient budget resources to fulfil the financial plans required to deliver the strategic plan.</p> <p>Risk 8: The current business continuity plan in place, is not up to date, for the SSSC.</p> <p>Risk 9: The SSSC is unable to operate due to effects of global pandemic COVID-19.</p> |
| Impact assessments | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An Equalities Impact Assessment was not required. 2. A Data Protection Impact Assessment was not required. 3. A Sustainability Impact Assessment was not required. |
| Documents attached | None |
| Background papers | None |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarises the activity of the Convener from 27 May 2021 to date.

Meetings with partner agencies

1. As an ex-officio member of the board of the Care Inspectorate I attended two meetings during this period. The first on 2 June was a Board Development Session on the Strategic Risk Register and a review of Board Governance. On 17 June I also attended a public board meeting. By the time of this Council meeting I will also have attended a meeting of the Audit Committee and another public Board meeting on 12 August. A number of items of common interest to the SSSC were covered at the June Board meeting, chiefly the formal agreement on Shared Services and a revision of the Partnership Agreement.
2. Together with our Chief Executive, Lorraine Gray, on 14 June I attended the annual Chairs meeting of Skills for Care and Development, at which it was agreed that the membership would be expanded to include seven regulatory organisations across the UK and there would be a name change to reflect this – the new name being Alliance. The aims of Alliance are strongly aligned to our own, for example “to speak with a strong common voice to influence decision-makers and the public, and to effect positive change via improvement of practice, development and regulation for the social care, social work and Early Years workforce.” The intention is to develop communications across the UK to promote these positive messages.
3. The regular partnership meeting with NHS Education for Scotland (NES) was held on 12 July and there was significant discussion about the number and remit of multiple partnership groups which meet, in the context of likely changes arising from the Independent Review of Adult Social Care. It had been agreed at a previous meeting to review the partnership and Memorandum of Understanding with NES, and this work is ongoing, led by the respective Chief Executives. We agreed that was still a key task but that it should be set alongside a review of our respective involvement in a range of other key partnerships.
4. I have been invited, along with Lorraine, to meet with the Chair and Chief Executive of Public Health Scotland on 23 August to discuss common areas of interest.
5. I have also been approached by the new Chair of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), Sir David Warren and a date is being agreed for this, once again to discuss common areas of interest for our two organisations.

Meetings with the Scottish Government

6. I have continued to have regular meetings with Iona Colvin, the Chief Social Work Adviser and my key link with our Sponsor. These have been helpful as always, and particularly in the context of the development of plans arising from the Independent Review of Adult Social Care.
7. On 4 August, Lorraine and I will meet with Mr. Joe Griffin, Director General, in an introductory meeting since Mr. Griffin took up post.
8. On 17 June, we also met with Ms. Clare Haughey, Minister for Children and Young People. This was an introductory meeting and provided an opportunity to illustrate the positive developments undertaken by the SSSC in recent months.

Council Members

9. On 15 July the Council met in an informal Development Session which provided an update on the activity of Development and Innovation Directorate in the SSSC, which was very useful and interesting to Members. We aim to cover the other Directorates at a future session and I look forward to that. Particularly during this time when neither the Members nor I are able to meet people in our offices, this session was very welcome in giving us an insight into the progress being made and also the level of knowledge and ability across the various sections. The afternoon session was dedicated to the development of our financial strategy in a context of a changing landscape. Again, the afternoon provided much food for thought and debate, and the level of detailed information was much appreciated.
10. I have met with Members to carry out annual appraisals during the last few weeks, a task that also gives me an opportunity to speak on an individual basis with Members, which rarely happens through normal activity and I enjoy hearing their insights into our organisation. We also collectively reflected on the lack of informal opportunities to catch up with each other during the pandemic, a view shared, I'm sure, by many staff.
11. Supported by our Communications team, the Members and I have begun to contribute to the Spotlight theme, starting with Peter Murray, Linda Lennie and myself. The plan is to gradually include all of our Members and hopefully this will give everyone a chance to find out more about us.
12. Finally, I am pleased to confirm in relation to Paul Edie, Council Member and Chair of the Care Inspectorate, that Ministers have approved a further extension to Paul's term until the end of August next year. This will provide the Council with valuable continuity over the next year when Paul's knowledge and insight into the strategic landscape in public services will be very useful. Congratulations too to Alan Baird and Theresa Allison,

Council Members. We now have confirmation of Ministerial approval of a second term for both, by Ms. Clare Haughey, Minister for Children and Young People.