Update on plans for establishment of Safer Drug Consumption Facility - Presentation noted etc.

3 The Forum and Board heard a presentation by Lynn MacDonald, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (GCHSCP), providing an update on GCHSCP's plans for the establishment of a Safer Drug Consumption Facility (SDCF) in the city centre, advising of

(1) various background information in relation to the proposed establishment of the facility, including appropriate health data in relation to the Glasgow City area and information on reported injecting locations in 2022/23 and the number of needle complaints submitted to Glasgow City Council in relation to various locations within the Calton/Trongate area;

(2) changes to the legal framework in relation to the matter;

(3) the benefits of a SDCF, which provided a hygienic environment where illicit drugs (purchased off the premises) could be consumed under clinical supervision;

(4) the proposal for a SDCF to be located at Hunter Street Health and Social Care Centre, which would be managed by the GCHSCP Alcohol and Drug Partnership with running costs for the pilot to be met by the Scottish Government and building re-design works to be funded by GCHSCP; and

(5) the oversight and governance arrangements, with the SDCF implementation plan agreed by the GCHSCP Integration Joint Board on 27th September 2023 and of the establishment of a SDCF Implementation Board and 4 sub-groups in Communications & Engagement, Properties, Workforce and Evaluation.

After consideration and having heard further from Lynn MacDonald and Gillian Ferguson in response to a number of members' questions, the Forum and Board noted

(a) the presentation;

(b) the following comments in relation to the proposal:-

  (i) the level of investment in the local area was highlighted and that there was a need for ongoing community engagement in relation to the facility, both with local businesses and residents; and

  (ii) that monitoring arrangements should be considered in relation to the wellbeing of service users of the facility who had stopped attending; and

(c) that the Clerk to the Forum would arrange for the presentation slides to be emailed to all members after the meeting.