



There may be some words you don't know in this document. When you see them for the first time they will be in **bold**.

There is a word list with the meanings of these new words at the end of the document.



Primary Care Services include:

- **General practice** (local doctors)
- **Community pharmacy**
- **Dental services**
- **Optometry** (eye health) services



Primary care involves caring for people, rather than specific diseases. Primary care includes services for:

- Minor illnesses
- Long-term conditions
- **Vaccinations**
- Screening programmes



A **strategy** is a document that sets out the things that an organisation wants to do over a few years.



The aim of **Fife Health and Social Care Partnership** is to help the people of Fife live independent and healthier lives. The **Primary Care Strategy** helps us to do this by improving the quality of the services that we provide.



This means that people who need primary care know about the services available. They can also access these services when needed.



Where possible we will provide primary care services in our local communities. This will make it easier for people to get the care that they need.



We will work with other care providers in Fife to make sure that primary care is joined-up. This will improve people's health. It will also make things fairer for people.

Challenges



Many people in Fife are living for longer. Some older people have long term illnesses or injuries, and they may need additional help for longer.



Some people may need support for their mental health as well as their physical needs.



The recent coronavirus pandemic and the **cost-of-living crisis** have made things harder for people.



Some groups of people find it difficult to access primary care services. They may need extra help to get the services that they need.

Workforce



The Primary Care Strategy will help us overcome these challenges. We will recruit more workers so that we can help more people.



We will work together in new ways to improve the quality of the primary care services we provide.



We will provide training for our employees so that they can do a good job.



We will help employees get the skills they need to keep working in Fife.

Finance



Primary care services are responsible for making the best use of the money that they have. These are called budgets.



Our budgets show the amount of money we have and the things that we need to buy.

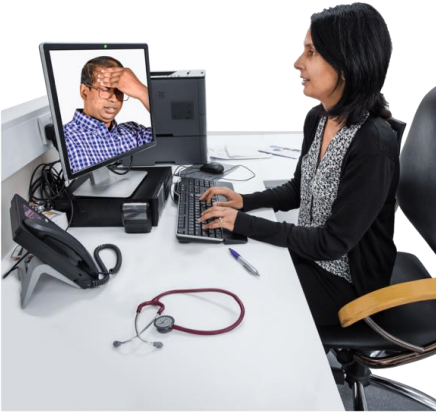


We will keep measuring our budgets closely over the next few years.



This will help us to manage our primary care services well. And will help us deliver high quality services in the future.

Technology



We will use technology to increase the number and quality of primary care services that we can offer people.



Computer systems can help our Teams:

- Share information about new services
- Speak to people in their own homes using video calls
- Plan visits



New technology can also support people with their own health.



Digital services can help people manage their own long-term conditions. They can also help people recover from short illnesses and injuries.

Premises



We will provide support to local doctors and dentists who have work buildings in Fife.



Over the next few years we will use more shared buildings. This is where lots of public services all work in the same place.



When everything is in one place it is easier for people to get the services they need.



We will also make sure that new buildings are close to where people need them.

Communication



Things work better when the people who provide primary care services all talk to each other.



This includes doctors, dentists, pharmacists and optometrists (eye health). As well as other care providers in hospitals and in the local community.



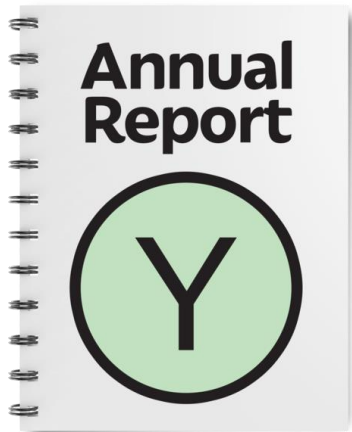
We will improve communications between all of these services. This will help people get the right services when they need them.



We will also listen to your views so that we can keep making things better.



This Primary Care Strategy will last for 3 years.



We will keep measuring the quality of the services that we provide. We will provide a report every year to show how we are doing.



The report will be shared with the Scottish Government and other groups that monitor how well we are doing.



We will also share the report with you, and the people who use our services. This will help us to keep making things better.

What the words mean.

Fife Health and Social Care Partnership	When the local council and NHS work together to deliver services.
Primary Care Services	Primary care involves caring for people, rather than specific diseases. Primary care includes services for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor illnesses • Long-term conditions • Vaccinations • Screening programmes
Strategy	The things that an organisation wants to do over a few years.
Dentistry	Dentists care for people’s teeth and gums.
General practice (GP)	Doctors who provide general medical help for people in a local community. They treat lots of different types of illness and injuries.
Optometry	Optometrists are trained to examine, diagnose, and treat eye conditions.
Pharmacy	Community pharmacists help people to get the right medicines. They also provide advice on some health problems and wellbeing issues.
Vaccinations	Vaccines are types of medicine that protect people against harmful diseases.
Cost-of-living crisis	Where the amount you have to pay for things you need keeps going up.