

NHS Ayrshire & Arran



Meeting:	Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board
Meeting date:	Monday 5 October 2020
Title:	Audit and Risk Committee meeting on 23 September 2020 report to NHS Board
Responsible Director:	Derek Lindsay, Director of Finance
Report Author:	Michael Breen, Non-Executive Director/Committee Chair

1. Purpose

This is presented to the Board for: Discussion.

This paper relates to: Local policy to ensure good governance practice in reporting from board committees

This aligns to the NHS Scotland quality ambitions of Safe, Effective and Person Centred. Good governance practice supports the effective delivery of services across the organisation.

2. Report summary

2.1 Situation

This report provides information to Board Members on key issues discussed within the Governance Committee's remit, in order to provide assurance to the Board that those matters have been identified and are being addressed, where required.

2.2 Background

The Board Model Standing Orders advises that Board meeting papers will include the minutes of committee meetings which the relevant committee has approved. To ensure that there is no delay in reporting from committees this paper provides a timely update on key issues from committees.

2.3 Assessment

Key issues agreed by Committee are noted below.

- The Head of Counter Fraud Services (CFS) attended the meeting and provided the Committee with an overview of the work carried out by the service during 2019/20 and plans for 2020/21. The Committee were appraised of the areas where an increase in fraudulent activity had been observed by CFS arising out of Covid-19.

- The Fraud Liaison Officer had received an invitation from CFS to pilot a new model of best practice which would focus on proactive leadership and preventative actions. CFS would provide some on-site resource to take forward proactive programmes, the principle of which would be to reduce the Board's potential exposure to fraud. The Head of Counter Fraud Services noted that Ayrshire and Arran had been selected due to its commitment and positive engagement with the service in the past.
- It was agreed that it would be necessary for the Internal Audit plan for 2020/2021 to be flexible and that the Internal Auditor should discuss with management which of the audit reviews could be carried out given Covid restrictions as well as any additional/alternative areas which needed to be covered. Any changes should not impact on the ability of Internal Audit to provide assurance for the Governance Statement at the end of the year.
- The annual audit reports for 2019/20 and audit plans for 2020/21 were received from East and South Ayrshire Integration Joint Boards.

2.4 Recommendation

The Board is asked to be aware of and discuss the key issues highlighted and receive assurance that issues are being addressed, where required.