NHS Ayrshire & Arran



Meeting: Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board

Meeting date: Tuesday 28 March 2023

Title: Audit and Risk Committee meeting on 15 March 2023 report

to NHS Board

Responsible Director: Derek Lindsay – Director of Finance

Report Author: Jean Ford, 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.

An update on progress with the audit plan and outstanding audit actions was
provided together with confirmation that all audits planned will be completed by
the end of March/early April. Two advisory reports plus four Internal Audit
reports were presented to the committee for review and onward distribution to
other Governance sub committees for monitoring of actions to conclusion.

Additional assurance is being sought in relation to actions arising from an audit of recruitment processes and the advisory report on organisational culture.

- The external audit plan for 2022-23 was presented to the committee by Audit Scotland.
- Revised committee Terms of Reference and the internal audit plan for 2023-24 was presented to the committee by Azets and approved for onward submission to the Board.
- Derek Hoy and Fiona Lees attended from Audit Scotland to present to the committee the findings of the NHS in Scotland 2022 report.
- The Strategic Risk Register was reviewed and discussed. Suggestions were made with regard to the reviewing of risks and the committee agreed it would be helpful to add an overarching risk with regard to recruitment and retention of staff.

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.