NHS Ayrshire & Arran



Meeting: Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board

Meeting date: Tuesday 21 May 2024

Title: Audit and Risk Committee meeting on 16 May 2024

Chair's 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 items 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 items from committees.

2.3 Assessment

Key items discussed/agreed by Committee are noted below.

Internal Audit

 The Internal Audit Plan 2023/24 Progress and Management Action Follow-up Reports were discussed. Committee noted that the final 2 audits for 2023/24 are slightly delayed but will report in June together with the Annual Audit Opinion. Reasonable progress has been made in addressing aged actions. Members received three Internal Audit Reports – Performance Monitoring Report (graded Minor Improvement Required (Yellow)) and Performance Monitoring (Integrated Joint Boards- Allied Health Professionals) and Financial Management and Reporting (both graded Significant Improvement Required (Amber)). All three were discussed by the Committee who were assured that the actions identified were already being progressed. The Performance Monitoring Reports with be submitted to the Performance Governance Committee to monitor implementation with ARC handling the Financial Management Report.

National Finance System

 The Annual Audit Report by BDO of the National Finance System which is managed by NHS AA for all Boards in Scotland received a clean audit with no exceptions. This was approved for submission to all NHS Scotland Boards.

2.4 Recommendation

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