

# NHS Ayrshire & Arran



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>Tuesday 21 May 2024</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Healthcare Governance Committee meeting on 22 April 2024 – Chair’s report to NHS Board</b>
<b>Responsible Director:</b>	<b>Ms Jennifer Wilson, Nurse Director</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>Ms Linda Semple, Non-Executive Director</b>

## 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 agreed by Committee are noted below. Identification of organisational risks, stakeholder considerations and other impacts were included in papers to the Committee.

- **Quality and safety report – Mental Health services** – Committee members received an update on performance with core measures of the Scottish Patient

Safety Programme (SPSP) and Excellence in Care (EiC). As previously reported, there is currently no requirement for the Board to report nationally on SPSP core measures so national benchmarking is not currently possible. At local level, the team continues to meet monthly to review all collated data which indicates that the position is stable with no areas of concern.

Members were updated that discussion is ongoing at national level to develop core SPSP Mental Health standards across Scotland and a new self-assessment tool is being tested at three Boards which will inform the next stage of this national work. The Head of Clinical and Care Governance and the Associate Nurse Director for North Ayrshire HSCP will work together to consider future reporting to provide members with assurance of performance with core quality and safety indicators in Mental Health services.

An inpatient falls risk assessment tool is in the process of being developed to ensure compliance with nationally agreed standards and the timescale for completion will be included in the next quality and safety report. Members received assurance that a range of quality improvement work has been taking place related to falls and care planning which has demonstrated a significant shift in the way falls are managed, particularly for older adult mental health areas.

- **Neonatal services assurance report** – Members received an assurance report, provided in the context of the Lucy Letby case, on systems and processes in place for reporting, managing and escalating concerns raised by staff in the Neonatal Unit which could compromise patient safety. Members were advised that while benchmarking has been done in Neonatal services, this is relevant for all healthcare provision in terms of themes identified. Members discussed this detailed report and were reassured by the escalation protocol set out in the report and significant adverse event reporting arrangements in place locally. Members requested that the Board's response to Scottish Government about patient safety and learning from the Lucy Letby verdict be shared with members for information.
- **Quality and Safety report** – Members received an assurance report, in the context of the Board's difficult financial position, on the key initiatives supported by local and national improvement and assurance programmes, including Excellence in Care; SPSP (Acute Adult); Healthcare Improvement Scotland inspections; infection prevention and control; hospital standardised mortality ratio; complaints and care opinion. Members emphasised the need to be able to triangulate patient care, outcomes and patient experience to evidence quality and safety for patients and staff, and that the system is working effectively.

The Director of Clinical and Care Governance will consider the range of reporting provided to the Committee to give assurance in terms of quality and safety across the healthcare system for areas, such as Primary Care and prescribing, which are not directly reported in detail to the Committee.

- **Healthcare Governance Committee annual report 2023-2024** – Committee members approved the annual report which set out key achievements through the year in discharging its remit. The report will be presented at the Board meeting on 21 May 2024.

- **Patient Experience** – The Committee was encouraged by the current improvement projects taking place. Members welcomed that over 100 Healthcare students from Ayrshire College are currently working in ward areas as volunteers as part of their course work, with positive feedback from students, patients and staff.

## **2.4 Recommendation**

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