

NHS Ayrshire & Arran



| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Meeting: | Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board |
| Meeting date: | Monday 7 October 2024 |
| Title: | Healthcare Governance Committee meeting on 9 September 2024 – Chair’s report to NHS Board |
| Responsible Director: | Ms Jennifer Wilson, Nurse Director |
| Report Author: | Mrs Joyce White, Non-Executive Director Mrs Angela O’Mahony, Committee Secretary |

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.

- Patient Experience – The Committee discussed the themed report on communication, staff attitudes and behaviours. Members supported the focused work planned, working with service colleagues to evidence improvements that have been made and enable shared learning to be spread across the organisation. Members looked forward to receiving future themed reports on clinical treatment, waiting times and learning and improvement as a result of complaints.
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Committee members received an update on local work taking place and oversight of short term outcomes. The Committee welcomed the pan-Ayrshire approach being adopted. However, members recognised the difficult financial challenges faced, set against a backdrop of increasing Mental Health challenges in the local community. The Committee was advised that a full report was due in 2025. Members requested that the full report should set out services which the Board would or would not be able to deliver, using red, amber, green (RAG) ratings to enable the Committee to understand areas of challenge.
- The Committee welcomed the new Director of Infection Prevention and Control, Ms Jincy Jerry. Members discussed the HCAI report and were encouraged by specific improvement work planned, such as to reduce Escherichia Coli Bacteraemia infection rates. Members welcomed plans to increase auditing practices and improve HAI surveillance data. The Committee emphasised the need to promote evidence around the need for “bare below the elbow” among clinicians to reduce HAI. Members received an assurance update on key learning and actions taken as a result of the outbreak in the Combined Assessment Unit at University Hospital Ayr.
- Committee members noted the quality and safety report outlining quality improvement actions being progressed within Paediatric services through the Scottish Patient Safety Programme and Excellence in Care.
- Members received an assurance update on the Board’s progress against the Food Fluid and Nutrition Health and Safety Executive visit action plan.
- The Committee discussed the Clinical and Care Governance annual reports from East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP). Members received assurance that there are robust clinical governance structures in place across the three HSCPs. The Committee noted the financial and workforce challenges facing the HSCPs, with increasing demand for services and reduced capacity. Members were encouraged by the positive engagement and quality improvement work being done across the HSCPs to improve outcomes for citizens across Ayrshire.
- NHSAA Framework for Spiritual Wellbeing 2024-2029 – Committee members endorsed the framework which would be presented at the Board meeting for approval.
- Committee members received a suite of annual reports to update on the progress of local Public Health screening programmes. Members noted the reports and were reassured by the collaborative improvement approach

being taken to reduce inequalities and improve uptake across these screening programmes.

- Strategic risk register Quarter 1 report – Committee members discussed the very high risk related to Emergency Department overcrowding. Members looked forward to receiving a revised improvement action plan at the next Committee meeting. The Committee also discussed the Significant Adverse Event Review (SAER) Quarter 1 report. Members received assurance of the improvement work taking place, for example, in relation to progressing overdue reports and to support lead reviewers to improve the quality of SAER reports being provided. An improvement action plan would be developed with key performance indicators and this would be presented for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

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.