



North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership
Minute of Integration Joint Board meeting held on
Thursday 14 November 2024 at 10.00 a.m.
involving participation by remote electronic means and physical attendance
within the Council Chambers, Irvine.

Present (Physical Participation)

Voting Members

Councillor Margaret Johnson, North Ayrshire Council (Chair)
Joyce White, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Anthea Dickson, North Ayrshire Council
Councillor Tom Marshall, North Ayrshire Council
Tom Hopkins, NHS Ayrshire and Arran

Professional Advisers

Caroline Cameron, Director of Health and Social Care Partnership
Thelma Bowers, Head of Service (Mental Health)
Darren Fullarton, Associate Nurse Director/ Lead Nurse
Scott Hunter, Chief Social Work Officer
Sharon Hackney, Lead Allied Health Professional
Paul Doak, Section 95 Officer

Stakeholder Representative

Linda McFarlane, Staff Representative
Loretta Galloway, Unity Enterprise

Present (Remote Participation)

Voting Members

Jean Ford, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
Marc Mazzucco, NHS Ayrshire and Arran

Professional Advisers

Iain Jamieson, Clinical Director

Stakeholder Representative

Vicky Yuill, Third Sector Representative

In Attendance (Physical Participation)

Elizabeth Stewart, Head of Service (Children, Families and Justice)
Kerry Logan, Head of Service (Health and Community Care)
Eleanor Currie, Principal Manager, (Finance)
Arthur Coutts, Team Manager (Children, Families and Justice)
David Jamieson, Audit Scotland
Angus Brown, Audit Scotland
Fiona Mitchell-Knight, Audit Scotland

Hayley Young, Senior Committee Services Officer
Claudia Cheung, Digital, Media and Marketing Analyst

In Attendance (Remote Participation)

Raymond Lynch, Senior Manager, (Legal Services)

Apologies

Councillor Nairn Angus- McDonald, North Ayrshire Council
Lynne McNiven, Public Health Representative
Lorna Sim, Staff Representative NHS Ayrshire and Arran
Wendy Van Riet, Director of Psychological Services
Aileen Craig, IJB Monitoring Officer

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in terms of Standing Order 7.2 and Section 5.14 of the Code of Conduct for Members of Devolved Public Bodies.

3. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2024 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7(10 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

4. 2023/24 Audited Annual Accounts

Submitted report by Paul Doak, Head of Service (HSCP Finance and Transformation) on the audited annual accounts for 2023-24. The audited annual accounts for 2023-24 were set out at Appendix 1 and letter of representation set out at Appendix 2 to the report.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

The Board agreed to (a) note that Audit Scotland have completed their audit of the annual accounts for 2023-24 and have issued an unqualified independent report auditor's report; and (b) approve the Audited Annual Accounts to be signed for issue.

5. External Audit Report 2023/2024

Submitted report by Audit Scotland on the External Audit Final Report of the audit Financial Statements.

The key messages of the report were:

- the 2023/24 IJB budget was overspent by £7.464 million, reduced to £5.464m after a contribution of £2.0 million from earmarked reserves with reserves are now only £5.510 million;
- £10.290 million of 'achievable' savings need to be realised to balance the 2024/25 budget;
- uncommitted reserves of £0.357 million (0.1% of budget) are below the IJB's Reserves Strategy target of 2-4% of budget. It is forecast that uncommitted reserves will be depleted by 31 March 2025; and
- Medium-Term Financial Outlook has been prepared to forecast the IJB's financial position for 2025-26 and 2026-27. Current modelling shows a worst-case scenario of £17.116 million of required savings over the two-year period.

The Chair thanked Audit Scotland for their work in auditing the IJB.

Noted.

6. Director's Report

Submitted report by Caroline Cameron, Director (NAHSCP) on the developments within the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

Noted.

7. Meeting Dates 2025

Submitted report by Caroline Cameron, Director (NAHSCP) on the proposed timetable for meetings of the Integration Joint Board, Performance and Audit Committee and Strategic Planning Group for 2025, set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Board agreed to approve the timetable for the meeting for the Integration Joint Board, Performance and Audit Committee and Strategic Planning Group for 2025, set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

8. Brighter Pathways: Remodelling Care Options

Submitted report by Elizabeth Stewart, Head of Service (Children, Families & Criminal Justice) on the work of the Brighter Pathways transformation work which was to address the current pressure on placement availability and accommodation for care leavers, to shift the balance of care from high-cost external residential resources to family-based care or internal residential resources and to build capacity and provide more local resources and choice to young people who require to be looked after with increased family-based care.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

Noted.

9. Social Work Duties, Available Resource and Ethical Considerations

Submitted report by Scott Hutner, Chief Social Work Officer (NAHSCP) on the breadth of Social Work duties and of the current and future impact on these given the financial context.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

Noted.

10. 2024-25 – Month 6 Financial Performance

Submitted report by Paul Doak, Head of Service (HSCP Finance and Transformation) on the Integration Joint Board's financial performance as at month 6 (September). Appendix A to the report detailed the financial overview of the Partnership position, while Appendix B provided an overview of those service changed which did not have financial savings attached. Appendix C highlighted the movement in the budget position following the initial approved budget.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

The Board agreed to (a) note (i) the overall integrated financial performance report for the financial year 2024-25 and the current overall projected year end overspend of £5.611m, reduced to £2.905m through already identified financial recovery actions; (ii) the progress with delivery of agreed savings; (b) approve the actions being taken to progress financial recovery and a further recovery plan to be presented to the next meeting of the IJB; (c) notes the remaining financial risks for 2024-25; and (d) approve the budget reductions set out at section 2.10 of the report.

The meeting ended at 12:00pm.

The full meeting proceedings can be viewed at
<https://north-ayrshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>