

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP BOARD AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

At a Hybrid Meeting of the West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Board Audit and Performance Committee held in the Civic Space, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton on Wednesday, 25 June 2025 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Michelle Wailes, Lesley McDonald and Libby Cairns; NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; Fiona Hennebry, and Martin Rooney; West Dunbartonshire Council.

Attending: Beth Culshaw, Chief Officer; Julie Slavin, Chief Financial Officer; Lesley James, Head of Children's Health, Care and Criminal Justice and Chief Social Work Officer, Fiona Wilson, Clinical Director; David Smith, Unpaid Carers Representative, Fiona Taylor, Head of Health and Community Care; Helen Little, Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Manager and Val Tierney, Chief Nurse.

Also Attending: Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation; Sylvia Chatfield, Head of Mental Health, Addictions and Learning Disabilities; Tom Reid, External Auditors – Forvis Mazars, Andi Priestman, Chief Internal Auditor; Anne McDougall, Chair of the Locality Engagement Network – Clydebank; Andrew McCready Staff Representative (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde); and Natalie Roger, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Michelle McGinty, West Dunbartonshire Council; John Kerr, Housing Development and Homeless Manager; Kim McNab, Service Manager - Carers of West Dunbartonshire; Dr Saied Pourghazi, Clinical Director.

Fiona Hennebry in the Chair

STATEMENT BY CHAIR

Fiona Hennebry, Chair advised that the meeting was being audio streamed and broadcast live to the internet and would be available for playback.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

RECORDING OF VOTES

The Committee agreed that all votes taken during the meeting would be done by roll call vote to ensure an accurate record.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Board Audit and Performance Committee held on 18 February 2025, were submitted and approved as a correct record.

ROLLING ACTION LIST

A Rolling Action List for the Committee was submitted for information and relevant updates were noted and agreed.

AUDIT PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

A report was submitted by Andi Priestman, Chief Internal Auditor, enabling Members to monitor the performance of Internal Audit and gain an overview of the Board's overall control environment.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Internal Auditor, Chief Financial Officer and Head of Strategy and Transformation in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed that the Audit and Performance Committee note the progress made in relation to the Internal Audit Annual Plan for 2024/25.

GLOBAL INTERNAL AUDIT STANDARDS

A report was submitted by Andi Priestman, Chief Internal Auditor, informing the Committee of the new Global Internal Audit Standards (UK public sector) that came into effect from 1 April 2025.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Internal Auditor, in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed that the Audit and Performance Committee considers and notes the contents of this report and that further update reports will be provided during 2025/26 in relation to the new Global Internal Audit Standards (UK public sector).

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

A report was submitted by Andi Priestman, Chief Internal Auditor, providing Members with the Audit and Performance Committee Chair's 2024/25 Annual Report on the Audit and Performance Committee.

After discussion the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that members review and endorse the Chair's Annual Report on the Audit and Performance Committee for 2024/25; and
- (2) that the report should be presented to a future meeting of the West Dunbartonshire HSCP Board in line with best practice guidance.

INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

A report was submitted by Andi Priestman, Chief Internal Auditor, providing information on the internal audit work carried out for the year ended 31 March 2025, which contains an independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of West Dunbartonshire's Health & Social Care Partnership Board's internal control environment that can be used to inform its Annual Governance Statement.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Internal Auditor in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed that the West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership Board note the contents of this report.

MINISTERIAL STRATEGIC GROUP FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CARE: MEASURING PROGRESS UNDER INTEGRATION

A report was submitted by Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation, providing an update on the status of the "Progress with Integration of Health and Social Care, West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Action Plan"

After discussion and having heard the Head of Strategy and Transformation in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the "Progress with Integration of Health and Social Care, West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Action Plan", September 2023 (Appendix I); and
- (2) to agree that given the advanced nature of this work that no further update reports are required.

BEST VALUE STATEMENT

A report was submitted by Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation, providing a statement in relation to how the HSCP Board has delivered Best Value during the previous financial year.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Officer, the Chief Financial Officer and Head of Strategy and Transformation in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed that the HSCP Audit and Performance Committee approve the Best Value Statement, which can be found in Appendix 1 to the report.

EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT AND INFORMATION REQUEST TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

A report was submitted by Tom Reid, External Auditor, Forvis Mazars and Julie Slavin, Chief Financial Officer, presenting a progress update from Forvis Mazars on their responsibilities as external auditors for the HSCP Board.

After discussion and having heard the External Auditor and Chief Financial Officer in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to approve the response to our external auditors on compliance with International Standards for Auditing in relation to fraud, litigation, laws and regulations by the 18 July 2025 deadline.

2024/25 CODE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

A report was submitted by Julie Slavin, Chief Financial Officer, informing the Audit and Performance Committee about the annual self-evaluation of the Board's compliance with its Code of Good Governance and related improvement actions.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Internal Auditor in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the outcome of the annual self-evaluation and the update of the improvement actions; and
- (2) to consider the detail of the Annual Governance Statement and approve its inclusion in the 2024/25 Unaudited Annual Accounts.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT (SCRUTINY)

A report was submitted by Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation, providing an overview on HSCP's performance in planning and

carrying out integrated functions. The Annual Performance Report is produced for the benefit of Partnerships and their communities.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Officer, Head of Strategy and Transformation, Head of Children's Health, Care and Criminal Justice, Chief Social Work Officer in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to recommend to the HSCP Board that the West Dunbartonshire HSCP Annual Performance Report 2024/25 (Appendix 1 to the report) be approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting for a short recess. The meeting reconvened at 3.35 p.m. with all Members listed in the sederunt present.

DRAFT UNAUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

A report was submitted by Julie Slavin, Chief Financial Officer, presenting the unaudited Annual Report and Accounts for the HSCP Board covering the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

After discussion and having heard the Chief Officer and Chief Financial Officer in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to consider the 2024/25 unaudited Annual Report and Accounts;
- (2) to approve their submission to the HSCP Board's external auditors for review by 30 June; and
- (3) to note that the audited Accounts are anticipated to be presented for final approval to the HSCP Board by the 30 September statutory deadline, prior to submission to the Accounts Commission.

ANNUAL CLINICAL AND CARE GOVERNANCE REPORT 2024

A report was submitted by Val Tierney, Chief Nurse, describing the clinical and care governance oversight arrangements in West Dunbartonshire HSCP and the progress made in assuring and improving the quality of health and social care.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Nurse and Head of Children's Health, Care and Criminal Justice, Chief Social Work Officer in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed Members of the IJB approve the report. This report will be sent to NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) Health Board as all Health and Social Care Partnerships are requested to provide an Annual Report covering the role and remit of the group and any future plans for review and evaluation of care quality.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR MUSCULOSKELETAL PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE 2024/25

A report was submitted by Helen Little, Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Manager, presenting the Annual Report for Musculoskeletal (MSK) Physiotherapy Service (Greater Glasgow and Clyde) 2024/25.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Officer and Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Manager in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the content of the report; and
- (2) to note the achievements of the MSK service in regard to performance; priority project work; patient feedback and involvement; use of data and work on digital enhancement within the MSK service.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COLLABORATIVE CARE HOME SUPPORT TEAM ANNUAL REPORT 2024

A report was submitted by Val Tierney, Chief Nurse, providing an update on the work of West Dunbartonshire Collaborative Care Home Support Team [CCHST], and two associated subgroups - The Care Home Practitioners Group & the Care Home Managers Group.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Nurse in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the content of the report.

REGULATED SERVICES REPORT

A report was submitted by Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation, providing an update on Care Inspectorate inspection reports for externally commissioned registered services located within West Dunbartonshire and internally provided services by West Dunbartonshire Council whose service delivery is carried out by the HSCP.

After discussion and having heard the Head of Strategy and Transformation, Chief Nurse, Head of Health and Community Care and Head of Children's Health, Care and Criminal Justice and Chief Social Work Officer in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the content of this report and its appendices.
- (2) to consider the format of this report to ensure it provides sufficient clarity and transparency of information relating to regulated services externally commissioned by the HSCP and regulated services provided by the HSCP on behalf of the Council; and

- (3) to consider dedicating an informal session with the HSCP regarding Commissioning and the Care Inspectorate to further develop the Committee's knowledge.

STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER SIX MONTH REVIEW

A report was submitted by Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation, presenting the Strategic Risk Register to the West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Board Audit and Performance Committee.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Officer and Head of Strategy and Transformation in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to comment on the Strategic Risk Register (Appendix 1 to the report), prior to its submission to the HSCP Board for approval on 19 August 2025; and
- (2) to consider if there are any strategic risks the HSCP Board may wish to consider promoting to either NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and West Dunbartonshire Council for inclusion in their respective strategic risk registers.

IMPLEMENTATION OF DIRECTIONS POLICY

A report was submitted by Margaret-Jane Cardno, Head of Strategy and Transformation, providing an update on the implementation of the Directions Policy, which was approved by the HSCP Board on the 23 September 2020 and implemented on the 30 September 2020.

After discussion and having heard the Head of Strategy and Transformation in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the progress made in respect of the implementation of the Directions Policy.

The meeting closed at 4.45 p.m.