

NHS Ayrshire & Arran



Meeting:	Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board
Meeting date:	Monday 30 January 2023
Title:	Healthcare Governance Committee meeting on 9 January 2023 - report to NHS Board
Responsible Director:	Ms Jennifer Wilson, Nurse Director
Report Author:	Ms Linda Semple, Non-Executive Board Member

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 issues 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 issues from committees.

2.3 Assessment

The Committee meeting took place on 9 January 2023. Key issues agreed by Committee are noted below. Identification of organisational risks, stakeholder considerations and other impacts were included in papers to the Committee.

- The Committee discussed current service pressures and the impact across the quality and safety agenda, as seen in the papers being presented. Members were reassured that despite the challenges being faced, staff continue to deliver high quality and safe services and the Board has effective systems and processes in place, for example, those related to infection prevention and control and outbreak management.
- Committee members considered several papers from Mental Health services, including a report on the progress of historic Significant Adverse Event Reviews (SAER). The Committee requested two further reports covering themes identified related to systems and processes impacting on completion of SAERs and a robust action plan, as well as themes identified as a result of patients tragically completing suicide and improvements that could be made. The Committee also considered the Quality and Safety report for Mental Health and an update on the Mental Welfare Commission Young People Monitoring Report 2021-2022.
- The Committee received a suite of Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI) reports, including the HCAI performance report; a report on non-respiratory outbreaks and incidents in September and October 2022; Technical Services incident report; Infection Prevention and Control Team (IPCT) risk assessment; and Terms of Reference for the Respiratory Virus Outbreak Oversight Group. The HCAI performance report will also be considered at the Board meeting on 30 January 2023. The Committee asked that RARSAG consider whether IPCT workforce should be added to the strategic and operational risk register.
- Committee members received an update on the Maternity Strategy and progress against Best Start recommendations. The delivery timeframe has been extended by two years with the revised expectation that NHS Boards will implement all of the recommendations by mid-2024, with implementation of continuity of practitioner within the lifetime of this Parliament (by mid-2026). While the Board is fully supportive of the continuity of practitioner model, discussion will need to take place at national level to identify additional recurring funding to allow this model to be developed further.
- The Committee discussed the Care Home Governance report and acknowledged the significant work done and flexible approach adopted to develop care home professional support and oversight arrangements over the last two years. The Committee agreed that a business as usual approach should be adopted, with reports being provided to the Committee twice each year.
- Committee members received the Corporate Parenting report. The first report by the National Promise Oversight Board had recently been published which had highlighted the need for a step change in the pace and scale of improvements being made to keep the Promise by 2030. The report highlighted several areas which require intensified focus, including development of systems to monitor the impact of changes being made on the lives of infants, children and young people who experience the care system. The Committee recognised the significant work undertaken by NHSAA to date, working in partnership with local authorities, to meet our corporate parenting duties.
- Committee members reviewed and supported the Committee's Terms of Reference for onward submission to the NHS Board meeting in March 2023 for approval.