

NHS Ayrshire & Arran



Meeting:	Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board
Meeting date:	Monday 4 December 2023
Title:	Healthcare Governance Committee meeting on 6 November 2023 – Chair’s report to NHS Board
Responsible Director:	Ms Jennifer Wilson, Nurse Director
Report Author:	Mrs Jean Ford, Non-Executive Director

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

The Committee meeting took place on 6 November 2023. Key items agreed by Committee are noted below. Identification of organisational risks, stakeholder considerations and other impacts were included in papers to the Committee.

- **The Ayrshire Mental Health Conversation (AMHC)/Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy update** - The Committee received an update following

publication of the new national Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Core Mental Health Quality Standards. Benchmarking will be required related to local outcomes and priorities through self-assessment and implementation of the Scottish Government Mental Health and Wellbeing Workforce Action Plan. Committee members recognised the complex and wide ranging work involved in benchmarking against the new strategy, covering Acute, Primary Care and Third Sector partners, to accurately reflect what is happening across the system. This should include engagement and input from the Board's Professional Committees to ensure it reaches a wide audience within the Board.

- **Quality and Safety report for Neonatal Services and Pregnancy and Newborn Screening (PNBS) annual report** - Committee members welcomed the range of positive results, work being taken forward across these programmes of work and robust oversight arrangements in place, including identifying issues and taking action to improve outcomes.
- **Winter Vaccinations Programme** - Committee members acknowledged and thanked the team involved for the significant work being done to deliver the vaccinations programme. The Board had been asked by the Scottish Government to bring forward delivery of the programme due to an emerging COVID-19 variant, with Boards required to deliver the majority of the programme by 11 December 2023. The Committee looked forward to receiving an update following delivery of the vaccinations programme at the Committee meeting in March 2024.
- **Community Nursing Review** – The Committee received an update on the review's progress, key themes identified and improvements put in place to try to deliver services differently. Members acknowledged the importance of the work being done to explore new ways of working, support people closer to home and reduce congestion at hospital front doors, aligned to the Board's Caring for Ayrshire ambitions.
- **Cancer Quality Performance indicators (QPIs)** - Committee members received a detailed report on cancer QPIs, as well as an exception report for Acute Leukaemia. A new group has been set up, chaired by the Director of Transformation and Sustainability, to provide Director level oversight of cancer performance as well as QPIs, with clinical leads involved for each tumour type. Going forward, the group will provide an annual exception report to the Committee.
- The Committee also received a themed report on Patient Experience related to waiting times and appointments; the Healthcare Associated Infection report; a progress report on implementation of Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) guidelines; a report on Litigation activity; and the Clinical and Care Governance annual report for North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership. A suite of Risk reports was provided, including the Risk register report, Significant Adverse Event Review report and Adverse Event Review Groups annual report.

2.4 Recommendation

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