

NHS Ayrshire & Arran



Meeting: Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board

Meeting date: Monday 5 February 2024

Title: Healthcare Governance Committee meeting on 15 January 2024 – Chair’s report to NHS Board

Responsible Director: Ms Jennifer Wilson, Nurse Director

Report Author: Ms Linda Semple, 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 15 January 2024. Key items agreed by Committee are noted below. Identification of organisational risks, stakeholder considerations and other impacts were included in papers to the Committee.

- **Healthcare Governance Committee Terms of Reference annual review** – Committee members reviewed and supported the Terms of Reference with no changes made, for onward submission to the NHS Board for approval.
- **Patient Experience – themed report on Patient Journey** – The Committee noted this informative and positive update and requested that the full survey report be shared with Committee members. Members recognised the important work being done through the survey and how learning is being shared with Acute teams and used to bring about improvement in identified areas, such as, discharge planning. Committee members recommended that all Board Members read the report.
- **Best Start Strategy update** - Committee members welcomed the range of work being taken forward and positive results achieved to date. Members were informed of areas of risk related to this work and received reassurance that while many of these risks are on the operational risk register, discussion has taken place with the Risk and Resilience Scrutiny and Assurance Group which is considering if any risks require to be escalated to the strategic risk register.
- **Improvements in Acute complaint handling** - Committee members commended the team involved for the important work being done to improve complaint handling performance and the significant improvements made within a short time period. Members were supportive of plans to extend the recovery period to allow all complaint handling targets to be recovered.
- **Screening of prison population** – The Committee received an update on work being done to improve uptake of bowel screening, diabetic eye screening and abdominal aortic aneurysm screening among prisoners eligible for screening. Members received assurance that there will be a continued strong focus to improve screening uptake and reduce health inequalities. Future progress updates will be provided through the relevant annual screening report.
- **Adoption of Recommended Emergency Summary Plan for Emergency Care and Treatment (ReSPECT)** – The Committee received an update on local progress in adopting ReSPECT plans. These plans create clinical recommendations for future emergency care, based on the person’s values and priorities. ReSPECT planning develops a shared understanding of an individual’s health and its outlook, thus enabling the individual to receive the right emergency care, in the right place at the right time. The project provides access for patients in Ayrshire to have their values and priorities heard, and a framework through which to share this information confidentially to support future care that fits with their personal priorities.

ReSPECT creates compassionate partnerships between patients, their families and those delivering health and care services which respect individual needs and values. Patient and family feedback has been very positive.

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.