

Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board
Minutes of a public meeting on Monday 28 November 2022
9.30am, Hybrid meeting

- Present:
- Non-Executive Members:
 Mrs Lesley Bowie, Board Chair – attended to item 8.5
 Mr Bob Martin, Vice Chair - took over Chair from item 8.5
 Mrs Margaret Anderson
 Cllr Marie Burns
 Mr Adrian Carragher
 Ms Sheila Cowan
 Dr Sukhomoy Das
 Miss Christie Fisher
 Mrs Jean Ford
 Mr Ewing Hope – attended part of meeting
 Cllr Lee Lyons
 Mr Marc Mazzucco
 Cllr Douglas Reid – attended part of meeting
 Ms Linda Semple
- Executive Members:
 Ms Claire Burden (Chief Executive)
 Mr Derek Lindsay (Director of Finance)
 Dr Crawford McGuffie (Medical Director/Deputy Chief Executive)
 Mrs Lynne McNiven (Director of Public Health)
 Ms Jennifer Wilson (Nurse Director)
- In attendance:
- Mr Fraser Bell (Assistant Director, Programmes, Estates and Capital Planning) items 9.4 and 9.5
 Ms Caroline Cameron (Director of Health and Social Care, North Ayrshire)
 Mrs Vicki Campbell (Head of Primary Care and Urgent Care Services)
 Mrs Kirstin Dickson (Director for Transformation and Sustainability)
 Mr Tim Eltringham (Director of Health and Social Care, South Ayrshire)
 Ms Nicola Graham (Director Infrastructure and Support Services)
 Ms Sarah Leslie (Human Resources Director)
 Mr Jim Murdoch (Senior Manager, Wellbeing, Planning and Performance, East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (EAHSCP) item 8.3
 Ms Marion MacAulay (Head of Children’s Health, Care and Justice Services and Chief Social Work Officer, EAHSCP) item 8.5
 Mrs Shona McCulloch (Head of Corporate Governance)
 Ms Lianne McNally (Allied Health Professions Senior Manager, EAHSCP) item 6.1
 Ms Attica Wheeler (Associate Nurse Director and Head of Midwifery, Women and Children’s Services) item 6.4
 Mrs Angela O’Mahony (Committee Secretary) minutes

1. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Mrs Joanne Edwards and Mr Craig McArthur.

2. Declaration of interests (141/2022)

Mrs Jean Ford declared an interest in relation to item 7.2, Medical Education Governance update, as a Non-Executive Board Member at NHS Education for Scotland.

3. Minute of the meeting of the NHS Board held on 3 October 2022 (142/2022)

Board Members approved the minute of the meeting on 3 October 2022, subject to the addition of a sentence under item 8.2, Financial Management Report, to clarify discussion related to closure of unfunded additional beds.

4. Matters arising (143/2022)

Paper 2 - Action Log

The Board action log was circulated to Board Members in advance of the meeting. All actions had been completed.

5. Chief Executive and Board Chair report

5.1 Chief Executive's report (144/2022)

- The Chief Executive reported that the health and care system continued to be busy and winter planning arrangements were well underway. The Chief Executive was grateful for the support being provided by partners across the system. A two-week event had recently taken place with Acute Services and the Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs) about how to work together to support services through the winter. The Chief Executive confirmed that learning from this event has been shared broadly with system partners. The Staff Wellbeing programme has been well designed to support staff moving towards the winter period.
- Significant background work is taking place to prepare the organisation for possible industrial action, with updates awaited from the Scottish Government.
- The Chief Executive thanked colleagues within the vaccination programme for the good progress made and flexible approach adopted to meet the advanced target for delivery of COVID-19 and Influenza vaccinations.
- The Chief Executive had attended the opening of the newly refurbished Rainbow House which provides paediatric community services. The service had worked in partnership with the Crosshouse Children's Fund charity to deliver this excellent facility.
- Two media walkabout events had recently been led by the Chief Executive with the intention to provide a whole system view of the organisation's winter planning approach. The Chief Executive was grateful for the support provided by the media following these visits, for example, the offer by local radio to raise the profile of vacancies and encourage recruitment within healthcare. The Chief Executive would continue to work with the media and had offered visits to other parts of the healthcare system.

- The Chief Executive had spent an enjoyable evening with Rotary Club members on 22 November 2022 which had provided the opportunity for communication and engagement.
- The quarterly engagement session with MSPs and MPs had taken place on 25 November 2022 to update on areas of progress and further work planned from winter up to Easter 2023.

5.2 Board Chair's report

(145/2022)

- The Board Chair reported on several events recently attended:
 - Menopause Awareness launch event on 14 October 2022. This informative event had highlighted that 46% of NHS Ayrshire & Arran's workforce comprised of women aged over 45 years and underlined the need to support women going through menopause.
 - Volunteer Awards ceremony at the Carlton Hotel in Prestwick on 7 November 2022, to celebrate the important role that volunteers play within NHSAA.
 - Caring for Ayrshire (CFA) launch event held in Kilmarnock on 15 November 2022. A successful event with good ideas and support for the CFA strategic vision.
 - Official opening of Harper House in Saltcoats by the First Minister on 21 November 2022. This is the first family rehabilitation facility of its kind in Scotland which will accommodate 20 families and help keep children and their parents together.
 - The Board Chair had opened the newly refurbished Volunteer's Café at University Hospital Crosshouse on 21 November 2022.

6. Quality

6.1 Patient story

(146/2022)

The Allied Health Professionals (AHP) Manager for EAHSCP, Ms Lianne McInally, presented the patient story which was provided in written format.

Patient Elle2 had contacted the Board via Care Opinion to share her story. Elle2 highlighted issues encountered while trying to access blue badge parking bays outside Physiotherapy Department at University Hospital Crosshouse when an outpatient appointment finished after 5pm. As a result of this feedback, access to the door has been extended for patients to exit after appointments. New signage has been prominently displayed on external doors to the car park and internal corridor doors to highlight access and times available.

This story highlighted the difficulties that some patients could encounter when mobility is comprised, the importance of listening to patient experience and allowing the Board to learn and put improvements in place to prevent a similar situation in the future.

Outcome: Board Members thanked Elle2 for sharing the story as well as colleagues for the actions taken in response.

6.2 Patient Experience themed report

(147/2022)

The Nurse Director, Ms Jennifer Wilson, presented a themed report on Inpatient Surveys. A version of the report was discussed at the Healthcare Governance Committee (HGC) meeting on 7 November 2022.

Ms Wilson advised that following the conclusion of the Ward Experience programme in 2020, a new approach to gathering regular inpatient experience was developed and implemented in January 2022. The report provided assurance on the work progressed to date and planned improvements to ensure that the patient's own voice is central to using patient experience, to progress learning and improvement.

Board Members commended the new inpatient survey, the simplicity of its format and the localised information that the survey will provide to enable learning and improvement.

Outcome: Board Members received the themed report on feedback from inpatient surveys.

6.3 Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI) report

(148/2022)

The Nurse Director, Ms Jennifer Wilson, presented the HCAI report with the current verified position against each HCAI standard for the year ending March 2022. The position was unchanged since 15 August 2022. Year ending June 2022 verified data will be presented to the Board in January 2023.

Board Members received an update on an HAI outbreak within Ayrshire Maternity Unit (AMU) in July 2022 and were reassured by the Nurse Director that the outbreak had been identified early and dealt with as a priority by local teams and with support from Scottish Government colleagues.

Outcome: Board Members discussed and were assured of current activity to manage HCAI across NHS Ayrshire & Arran and noted the effective management of an HAI outbreak at AMU.

6.4 Women and Children's Services - Neonatal

(149/2022)

The Associate Nurse Director and Head of Midwifery, Women and Children's Services, Ms Attica Wheeler, provided a report on quality improvement activity in Neonatal services, and the modified approach in the way the service drives the quality improvement programme. A version of the report was discussed in detail at the HGC meeting on 7 November 2022.

Ms Wheeler provided an overview of progress against Maternity and Children Quality Improvement Collaborate (MCQIC) core measures combined with current activity and performance related to the four key deliverables of Excellence in Care:

- Sustained improvement in reduction of "term" admissions to the Neonatal Unit (NNU).
- Compliance with the perinatal wellbeing package was variable but in keeping with Boards of a similar size and reflected the small data set.

- Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infection (CLABSI) had reported two cases since June 2019. Although no babies had acquired this locally, the service required to report this within their data.
- Neonatal temperature recording – performance remained above the national target since February 2018, with 100% mostly observed.

Ms Wheeler referred to the HAI outbreak in the AMU NNU in July 2022 and reiterated that this had been managed swiftly and effectively to its conclusion.

The Nurse Director, Ms Jennifer Wilson, added that a combined approach was being adopted in relation to quality aspects of EIC and assurance and improvements through the SPSP programme. Members were encouraged by the quality improvement approach adopted and the evidence based improvements made, and commended Ms Wheeler and the team for the positive work being done.

Outcome: Board Members received the report on quality improvement and safety activity in Neonatal Services.

7. Corporate Governance

7.1 Whistleblowing (150/2022)

The Nurse Director, Ms Jennifer Wilson, presented the Whistleblowing information for quarter 2. The report was discussed in detail at the Staff Governance Committee meeting on 1 August 2022. Ms Wilson highlighted:

- An anonymous concern was received in Quarter 2 in which the matters raised were appropriate to be reviewed as whistleblowing. As anonymous concerns cannot be reviewed under The National Whistleblowing Standards, this is being investigated in accordance with whistleblowing principles.
- An update on improvement plans. Members were reassured that of the plans which remained open, action progress was being monitored.
- A successful Speak Up Week was held from 3-7 October 2022 with engagement events across Ayrshire and Arran.
- Agreed changes to training requirements for whistleblowing, which continues to be mandatory for all management level staff, supervisors, line managers, those who may receive concerns, Speak Up Advocates, and those involved in Whistleblowing investigations. For remaining staff the awareness training is no longer mandatory although staff are encouraged to complete the awareness module if they wish.
- A review of Confidential Contacts and local processes had been completed and a report outlining proposals would be discussed later on the agenda.

The Whistleblowing Champion, Dr Sukhomoy Das, emphasised that, given the significant pressures currently facing services, it was more important than ever to have the right arrangements and processes in place and for staff to have the confidence to raise issues. The Board Chair added that now that the Whistleblowing Standards had bedded in, this was a good opportunity to re-assess arrangements as part of the learning about this new process.

Outcome: Board Members received the whistleblowing report for quarter 2.

7.2 Medical Education Governance

(151/2022)

The Medical Director, Dr Crawford McGuffie, provided the six monthly update on activity in relation to medical education and training, including performance against the standards required by the regulator, the General Medical Council (GMC) and by NHS Education for Scotland (NES), Scotland Deanery.

Postgraduate Medical Training had experienced unprecedented pressures post-pandemic within unscheduled care services at both acute sites which had impacted on training, particularly within medicine and emergency medicine. Despite the challenging training environment, feedback through the GMC annual trainee survey and NES Scotland trainee survey was highly positive for a number of specialties which were seen as high performers. Two departments remain in GMC Enhanced Monitoring process. Improvements were noted at both sites following GMC/NES training quality management visits this year. Work was taking place at national level to look at Boards with enhanced monitoring in place as pro rata this was significantly higher than in other parts of the UK.

Undergraduate medical education continued to excel, with mainly positive feedback from students in nearly all clinical sites. The purchase of three town houses had been completed in Kilmarnock which would increase the capacity for undergraduate teaching.

Dr McGuffie highlighted that the Clinical Teaching and Development Fellows programme continued to be very successful with recruitment growing to over 100 doctors this year. The positive experience of fellows had enhanced the training reputation of NHSAA and led to improve recruitment into the Board's training programmes, including general practice.

Board Members discussed the report and were encouraged by the positive work and improvements taking place. Dr McGuffie reassured Members that continuous efforts are being made nationally related to trainee surveys to encourage uptake and response rates.

Outcome: Board Members received assurance on activity in relation to medical education and training.

7.3 Corporate Governance learning and improvement plan

(152/2022)

The Head of Corporate Governance, Mrs Shona McCulloch, provided an assurance report on the learning and improvement plan. The plan was subject to detailed scrutiny through the Integrated Governance Committee (IntGC).

Mrs McCulloch reported progress against all actions and reassured Members that although some actions had taken longer than expected to complete, progress continued to be made. Internal audit recommendations had been closed by the internal auditors who were content with the plan to complete internal audit actions by the end of March 2023. A revised Blueprint for Good Governance was expected from the Scottish Government which may require additional improvement actions.

Outcome: Board Members received the update on the learning and improvement plan.

7.4 Audit and Risk Committee (153/2022)

The Committee Chair, Mrs Jean Ford, provided a report on key areas of focus and scrutiny at the meeting on 23 November 2022. The Chair presented the minute of the meeting held on 15 June 2022.

Outcome: Board Members considered and noted the update and minute.

7.5 Healthcare Governance Committee Minutes (154/2022)

The Committee Chair, Ms Linda Semple, provided a report on key areas of focus and scrutiny at the meeting on 7 November 2022. The Chair presented the minutes of the meetings held on 20 and 22 September 2022.

Outcome: Board Members considered and noted the update and minutes.

7.6 Information Governance Committee (155/2022)

The Committee Chair, Mrs Jean Ford, provided a report on key areas of focus and scrutiny at the meeting on 14 November 2022. The Chair presented the minute of the meeting held on 29 August 2022.

Outcome: Board Members considered and noted the update and minute.

7.7 Integrated Governance Committee (156/2022)

The Committee Vice Chair, Mr Bob Martin, provided a report on key areas of focus and scrutiny at the meeting on 7 November 2022. The Vice Chair presented the minute of the meeting held on 1 August 2022.

Outcome: Board Members considered and noted the update and minute.

7.8 Performance Governance Committee (157/2022)

The Committee Chair, Mr Bob Martin, provided a report on key areas of focus and scrutiny at the meeting on 3 November 2022. The Chair presented the minute of the meeting held on 1 September 2022.

Outcome: Board Members considered and noted the update and minute.

7.9 Staff Governance Committee (158/2022)

The Committee Chair, Mrs Margaret Anderson, provided a report on key areas of focus and scrutiny at the meeting on 1 November 2022. The Chair presented the minute of the meeting held on 8 August 2022.

Outcome: Board Members considered and noted the update and minute.

8. Performance

8.1 Performance Report (159/2022)

The Director of Transformation and Sustainability, Mrs Kirstin Dickson, provided an assurance report on the management and provision of unscheduled and planned

care for the period up to September 2022. The report provided a high level summary of COVID-19 community and hospital data to add additional context in relation to the Board's performance. The remainder of the report has been structured to provide an update on NHSAA performance against waiting times measures, in addition to wider Unscheduled Care and Delayed Transfers of Care data.

Mrs Dickson highlighted the following areas:

- Performance against the new national target to eliminate long waits for planned care and improvement actions being taken.
- Access funding – to be substantially lower than expected this year. This will impact on the Board's ability to deliver against performance targets.
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) performance had reduced significantly compared to previous months and years. Demand continued to outstrip capacity and a number of mitigating actions were in place to improve performance.
- Emergency Department (ED) attendances during 2022 remained lower than before the pandemic. However, compliance with the four hour ED target and 12 hour breaches was variable.
- Average length of acute stay was higher in NHSAA compared to Scotland as a whole.
- Work was taking place with Health and Social Care Partnerships and Acute Services working together to improve processes for delayed discharge and transfer of care.

Board Members discussed CAMHS performance and issues related to the unprecedented level of patients cancelling or not attending appointments. The Director of Health and Social Care for North Ayrshire, Ms Caroline Cameron, explained that there were normally a significant amount of referrals during the summer and a high number of "did not attends" which required re-appointment. Ms Cameron highlighted the significant investment from Scottish Government and ongoing proactive improvement work by CAMHS to build capacity to meet increasing demand.

The Chief Executive advised in response to a question from a Board Member that learning and improvement from the two week event recently undertaken with HSCPs and Acute Services to reduce avoidable hospital admissions and support transfer of care would feed into the live and ongoing Discharge without Delay programme in Acute Services. Ms Cameron gave assurance that the HSCPs were committed to resourcing this programme on an ongoing basis over the winter period.

The Medical Director, Dr Crawford McGuffie, recognised the unscheduled care challenges being faced and described the learning network approach being taken with regional West of Scotland Boards and more widely across Scotland. Dr McGuffie added that there had been national agreement for processes to allow mutual aid and shared learning through winter. Board Members were reassured by the level of work being done locally and with other Boards to bring learning and improvement.

In response to a question from a Member related to capacity within HR services, the HR Director, Ms Sarah Leslie, advised an HR oversight group had been established

and a review of the HR function undertaken including a local consultation process. Ms Leslie welcomed the opportunity the review provided to consider operational issues with the current service configuration, establishment, systems and processes. A report will be presented to Corporate Management Team in January 2023, with outputs reported as appropriate through the Area Partnership Forum and Staff Governance Committee.

Members discussed the reported MRI scanner system upgrade and Mrs Dickson confirmed it was not possible for the upgrade to be completed in the out of hours period. Members were reassured that plans were in place to ensure MRI services would be available to patients through mobile services while the upgrade took place.

The Director of Infrastructure and Support Services, Ms Nicola Graham, clarified that reported digital and connectivity issues within MSK services would be addressed through the Digital Transformation programme.

Outcome: Board Members received an update and assurance on management and provision of unscheduled and planned care.

8.2 Financial Management Report for Month 7 (160/2022)

The Director of Finance, Mr Derek Lindsay, presented a report on the Board's financial position at Month 7 to 31 October 2022. The Board's Revenue Plan for 2022-2023 was a deficit of £26.4 million. The position after seven months was an overspend of £17.3 million with a projected outturn for the year of a £30.4m deficit. Mr Lindsay underlined that the Scottish Government expected the Board to achieve the position as agreed in the Revenue Plan as a minimum and Members were advised that work was taking place through CMT to bring the deficit to the previously agreed level.

Mr Lindsay advised that planning assumptions included all COVID-19 spend being funded during 2022-2023. The Board had received £16.5 million from Scottish Government which covered the majority of COVID-19 costs.

Board Members were advised of cost pressures related to nursing agency spend which had reached its highest level of £1 million in October 2022. Medical agency spend was £460,000 for the same period.

Mr Lindsay highlighted a potential overspend of £5 million for Primary Care prescribing and explained that whilst this budget was delegated to the Integration Joint Boards, risk sharing arrangements meant that the Board would pick up the full cost of any overspend. The potential overspend had been factored into the projected £30.4 million outturn. The position would continue to be monitored through the year.

In regards to nursing agency overspend, the Nurse Director, Ms Jennifer Wilson, outlined a range of initiatives being taken forward to reduce this overspend. In answer to a question from a Board Member, the HR Director advised that whilst these longer term initiatives were being progressed on a basis of spend to save, it was unlikely that they would impact the Board's financial position in the short term.

Board Members discussed financial planning challenges related to the New Medicines Fund (NMF). Mr Lindsay explained that while the Board was committed

to improving the health of Ayrshire citizens, NMF costs were unpredictable and the Board was regularly required to spend more than the funding received for new medicines. This year, overspend had been explicitly shown in financial reports, with anticipated spend of over £20 million against £7.2 million Scottish Government funding. Board Members expressed frustration at the current national arrangements for planning NMF spend. Members recognised that the issue was being raised regularly with the Scottish Government.

Mr Lindsay confirmed that the Board was in regular contact with the Scottish Government in regard to the financial challenges being faced, with monthly financial performance reports submitted. Members were advised that all measures possible would be done to meet the agreed Revenue Plan.

Outcome: Board Members noted the Board's financial position at Month 7.

8.3 East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (EAHSCP) (161/2022) Annual performance report 2021-2022

Mr Jim Murdoch, Senior Manager, Wellbeing, Planning and Performance presented the EAHSCP Annual Performance Report, as required by the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. The report had previously been and endorsed by the IJB.

The report reflected performance related to the national health and wellbeing outcomes, outcomes for children and young people and justice. It included sections on governance and decision-making; financial performance, best value; inspection findings; the Caring for Ayrshire Programme; Audit and Performance Committee activity; lead partnership and locality planning arrangements.

Mr Murdoch provided a summary of performance which showed a decline in key performance areas compared to previous years and reflected the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic across the health and social care system. There had been an improvement in emergency readmission to hospital within 28 days of discharge. There were challenges related to the rise in emergency bed day rate and delayed discharge bed days for older people. However, this was still an area of sustained strength for the partnership, being considerably lower than the national level.

Board Members discussed the report and while it was recognised that there had been a decline in performance, there were good examples of the excellent work being done by the Partnership, such as, the fostering service increasing adoptions and the number of older people aged 65 and above still able to live in their own homes. Cllr Reid recognised that the areas highlighted would become even more important in taking forward discussion with Scottish Government on plans for a new National Care Service.

Outcome: Board Members received the annual assurance report.

8.4 North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (NAHSCP) (162/2022) Annual performance report 2021-2022

The Director of Health and Social Care for North Ayrshire, Ms Caroline Cameron, presented the NAHSCP Annual Performance Report, as required by the Public

Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. The report had previously been considered and endorsed by the IJB.

The report demonstrated the ongoing progress made by the partnership in delivering against its vision and strategic priorities, as well as the Scottish Government national health and wellbeing outcomes, children's and justice service outcomes and a range of local measures. The partnership had faced considerable challenges during the year and staff had worked tirelessly to keep people safe during the pandemic.

Ms Cameron gave some examples of work being done related to prevention and early intervention; tackling inequalities; engaging communities; bringing services together; improving mental health and wellbeing; and children and justice outcomes. The report detailed NAHSCP performance as Mental Health Lead Partnership. The Partnership continued to perform well in relation to provision of Psychological Therapies; a new Perinatal Service had been set up and there had been a successful proposal to establish an intensive support team for community learning and support.

Board Members commended the excellent work being done by the partnership in spite of post-pandemic challenges, acknowledging in particular the work related to fostering services; improving mental health; employability; and financial inclusion.

Outcome: Board Members received the annual assurance report.

The Board Chair left the meeting and the Vice Chair took over the chair.

8.5 East Ayrshire Children and Young People's Service Plan annual report 2021-2022 (163/2022)

The Head of Children's Health, Care and Justice Services and Chief Social Work Officer for EAHSCP, Ms Marion MacAulay, presented the annual assurance report for 2021-2022 on progress against key priority areas to improve local priorities and outcomes for children and young people in East Ayrshire.

The report celebrated the achievements of local children, young people, families and carers in 2021-2022, showcased through art and imagery. The report set out important areas for the 2020-2023 plan, including recovery and renewal from the impact of COVID-19; tackling poverty; improving wellbeing; respecting and promoting children and young people's rights; achieving; and keeping safe.

Ms MacAulay highlighted the significant work done by the partnership during the year, including development of multi-disciplinary community focused work through Help Everyone at the Right Time (HEART); the range of work being done to keep the Promise; early intervention work to support mental health and wellbeing; financial inclusion support; outdoor learning; safety and first aid; and the safe and together care approach being implemented together with Education and Police Scotland.

Outcome: Board Members received the report on delivery of the 2020-2023 plan and acknowledged the good progress being made.

8.6 South Ayrshire Children's Services Plan annual report 2021-2022 (164/2022)

The Director of Health and Social Care for South Ayrshire, Mr Tim Eltringham, provided the annual report on progress against key priority areas to improve local priorities and outcomes for children and young people in South Ayrshire.

The report focused on the key areas of work progressed during the year related to the COVID-19 pandemic; child poverty; taking a rights-based approach to services; whole family wellbeing; and early preparation for the next Plan.

Mr Eltringham highlighted the significant progress being made related to multi-disciplinary work to identify high risk pregnancies; the fall in the number of children and families on the child protection register; fostering; breastfeeding rates; supporting children's mental health; the work of the Champions Board and the Promise; use of the pupil equity fund to support parental engagement to improve literacy, numeracy and play; financial inclusion work; and improvements made through the family whole system approach being adopted in the Belmont Academy cluster. Data published in June 2022 showed that South Ayrshire had the best performance in Scotland for school leavers going to a positive destination.

Outcome: Board Members received the report and acknowledged the good progress being made against delivery of the 2020-2023 plan.

9. Decision/Approval

9.1 Delegation of internal auditor appointment (165/2022)

The Director of Finance, Mr Derek Lindsay, advised Members that the current internal audit contract would end this financial year and the tendering process for the new contract had begun. Mr Lindsay sought Board Members' approval for a derogation to the Standing Orders to delegate the Internal Auditor appointment to Audit and Risk Committee (ARC). This would ensure good corporate governance given the remit and experience of Committee members and that required timescales would be achieved.

Mr Lindsay outlined the joint tendering process being undertaken in conjunction with NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Golden Jubilee National University Hospital and NHS24, with an appointment to be made by Christmas 2022. This would allow the Internal Auditor time to plan for next year's internal audit programme. The Board would be advised of the outcome at the next meeting.

Outcome: Board Members approved a derogation to the Board standing orders for delegation of the Internal Auditor appointment to the Audit and Risk Committee.

9.2 National Whistleblowing Standards and Confidential Contacts (166/2022)

The Nurse Director, Ms Jennifer Wilson, sought Board Members' approval for proposed changes to Confidential Contacts (CCs) and outlined the approach to appoint to these roles. The report also outlined improvements to operational processes following the successful introduction of the Whistleblowing Standards in April 2021. The recommendations had been supported by Corporate Management Team.

The recommendation for a change to CCs followed a wide ranging review of our Confidential Contact arrangements and local processes. The review outcomes described a need to change our CCs to ensure accessibility for all those who may have concerns and that the role delivers the requirements of the National Whistleblowing Standards.

Ms Wilson advised that the Whistleblowing Oversight Group (WBOG) discussed the review outcomes and supported a proposal to recruit a minimum of four new CCs, from across the organisation, one of whom would be aligned to support Primary Care. WBOG also discussed and agreed an open and transparent appointment process to recruit to these roles. Once appointed, the current CCs would stand down.

The report also outlined changes to whistleblowing operational process so that CCs would no longer be involved in any part of how a concern was managed, in accordance with advice from the INWO, and for a more formal decision-making process when a concern was received.

Outcome: Board Members approved a change to the Board's Confidential Contacts and supported the approach to appoint to these roles.

9.3 Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC) (167/2022)

The Medical Director, Dr Crawford McGuffie, presented the updated ADTC constitution for approval, and a proposed new ADTC Chair, Dr Joellene Mitchell. The report had been discussed and supported at the HGC on 6 June 2022.

Dr McGuffie recognised Dr Jon Staines for the excellent work he had done during his time as ADTC Chair and welcome Dr Mitchell to the role.

In response to a query from a Board Member Dr McGuffie provided reassurance that there was explicit understanding of the ADTC's role and responsibility in relation to Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) approval of new medicines.

Outcome: Board Members approved the updated constitution and new ADTC Chair.

9.4 Harbourside and Holmhead Lodge surplus (168/2022)

The Assistant Director, Programmes, Estates and Capital Planning, Mr Fraser Bell, sought approval to declare Harbourside, Irvine and Holmhead Lodge, Cumnock, as surplus to the requirements of NHSAA following withdrawal of services, as no further use had been identified for these properties. The position had been discussed and supported at CMT on 20 September 2022.

Board Members discussed the proposals. In relation to the Harbourside property, Members sought advice on whether it was possible for this property to be refurbished for use as staff accommodation which may aid Board plans for international recruitment and the need to provide staff accommodation for people being recruited from overseas.

Mrs Kirstin Dickson, as Chair of the Infrastructure Programme Board (IPB), provided assurance that the proposal to declare these properties surplus had previously been discussed in detail and approved by the IPB. IPB had agreed it would not be cost effective to repurpose these properties due to the maintenance and refurbishment work that would require to be undertaken.

Following discussion, Members requested that the Harbourside property be re-evaluated in regards to cost effectiveness to refurbish the property for use as staff accommodation.

Outcome: Board Members approved that Holmhead Lodge be declared surplus to the requirements of NHS Ayrshire & Arran. An update on the Harbourside property would be presented to a future Board meeting.

9.5 Arran War Memorial Hospital (AWMH) land surplus (169/2022)

The Assistant Director, Programmes, Estates and Capital Planning, Mr Fraser Bell, sought approval to declare land on the AWMH site as surplus to the requirements of NHSAA. The position had been discussed and supported at CMT on 20 September 2022.

Mr Bell advised that the land was on a steep and heavily wooded slope on the boundary to some domestic properties adjacent to the hospital. Declaring the land surplus would have no detrimental impact on the function of the hospital and would bring benefit in terms of the reduced cost of managing this woodland. There would be no detrimental impact on the overall value of the hospital site.

Mr Bell advised in response to a question from a Board Member that should there be any tree preservation orders in place, legal responsibility for these would pass to the new owner.

Outcome: Board Members approved that Arran War Memorial Hospital land be declared surplus to the requirements of NHS Ayrshire & Arran.

10. For information

10.1 Board briefing (170/2022)

Board Members received the Board Briefing for information and noted the good news stories shared.

10.2 East Ayrshire Integration Joint Board (171/2022)

Board Members noted the minute of the meeting held on 17 August 2022.

10.3 North Ayrshire Integration Joint Board (172/2022)

Board Members noted the minute of the meeting held on 23 September 2022.

10.4 South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board

(173/2022)

Board Members noted the minute of the meeting held on 17 August 2022.

11. Any Other Competent Business

(174/2022)

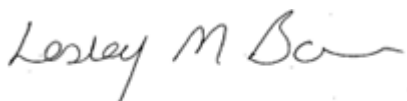
There was no other business.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next public meeting of the Ayrshire & Arran NHS Board will take place at 9.30am on Monday 30 January 2023.

As per section 5.22 of the Board's Standing Orders, the Board met in Private Session after the main Board meeting, to consider certain items of business.

Signed by the Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lesley M Bowie', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

31 January 2023

Lesley Bowie

Chair – Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board