

NHS Ayrshire & Arran



Meeting:	Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board
Meeting date:	Monday 12 October 2026
Title:	Performance Governance Committee meeting on 01 October 2026 – Chair's report to NHS Board
Responsible Director:	David Stonehouse, Interim Director of Finance
Report Author:	Sheila Cowan, Committee Chair

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.

This supports the following Corporate Objective:

- Better Value – Delivering innovative and sustainable services for everyone. 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 issues from committees.

2.3 Assessment

Key items agreed by Committee are noted below. Identification of organisational risks, stakeholder considerations and other impacts were included in papers to the Committee.

- Members reviewed the Performance Report for month 5 which showed a mixed picture across the specialties. Challenges were noted in terms of Endoscopy which shows deteriorating performance and challenges were also seen within ED and new outpatient waiting lists however assurance was given that work is being undertaken to turn these areas around. Improvements were recognised in MSK which is an area that has experience on going challenges as well as mental health which is still seeing a sustained level of performance above trajectory. The same can be said for Cancer services. Members also heard that there has been an improvement in results across Imaging services which has led to the service being the top in the country in terms of their trajectories.
- A performance deep dive was presented into the transfer of care programme work. Although a low level of assurance was being expressed at this stage members felt verbally assured with the update on the work taking place, including status on bed closures to date and the recovery actions being undertaken within this area. Members also commended the ongoing strong collaboration with partners.
- The committee received the month 5 Financial Management report and Best Value Savings Plan position which showed a deficit of £18.8m and savings of £18.8m. The overall total savings have increased from £50.1m to £53.8m with £36m of these being recurring and £13.9m being non-recurrent. This equates to 72% of savings and is one of the highest ratios at national/board level. As well as this the committee reviewed the timings and initiatives for the 2027/28 Best Value Plan which will be reviewed further at the December committee.
- A Best Value Deep Dive was presented into Medical Workforce as requested by the committee due to the red status of this programme of work. Members understood the rationale of the savings and workforce sizing against capacity and were assured from the work taking place within this programme.
- Members were advised that all actions in relation to the CRES Internal Audit have now been completed. The committee commended the work that has taken place to complete these actions within the tight timescales given.

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.