



## **PERTH & KINROSS INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD**

### **AUDIT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

**24 JUNE 2024**

### **BEST VALUE: OUTCOME OF SELF ASSESSMENT**

**Report by Chief Finance Officer  
(Report No. G/24/93)**

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide the Audit & Performance Committee with a report on the IJBs compliance with the principles of Best Value and the results of a Best Value self-assessment undertaken by the Executive Management Team.

#### **1. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

It is recommended the Audit & Performance Committee:

- i. Notes the report on the IJB's compliance with the principles of Best Value and the results of the recent self-assessment exercise.
- ii. Notes the actions and improvements identified in Appendix 1.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Audit Scotland completed the audit of the IJB's 2022/23 Annual Accounts and made the following assessment and recommendation:

"The IJB clearly recognises the importance of securing Best Value with the building blocks to achieve this being set out in its Annual Performance Report. It acknowledges that more needs to be done, however, to demonstrate it is securing Best Value from available resources and has committed to conducting a self-assessment against the Best Value characteristics in 2023/24.

The IJB should ensure it completes its self-assessment against the Best Value characteristics and report the outcome to the Audit and Performance Committee."

- 2.2 IJB's have a statutory duty to make arrangements to secure best value. Best Value is about ensuring that there is good governance and effective

management of resources, with a focus on improvement, to deliver the best possible outcomes for the public.

- 2.3 Statutory [Best Value Guidance](#) was updated in 2020 and it is framed around seven themes. IJB's must be able to demonstrate a focus on continuous improvement in performance around each of the themes.

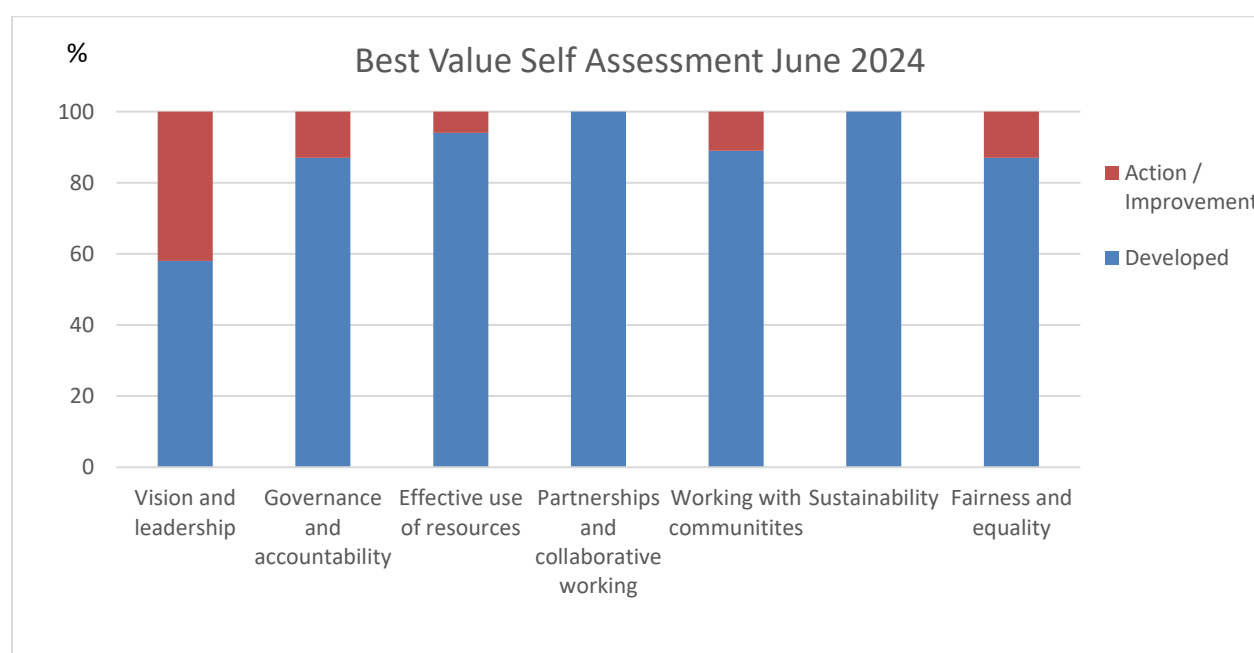
**Best Value Themes:**

1. Vision and leadership
2. Governance and accountability
3. Effective use of resources
4. Partnerships and collaborative working
5. Working with communities
6. Sustainability
7. Fairness and equality

**3. SELF ASSESSMENT**

- 3.1 The Health & Social Care Partnership Executive Management Team have now carried out a Best Value self-assessment exercise. Relevant senior staff across the service were asked for an assessment of performance against the criteria of the seven Best Value themes.

- 3.2 There are 87 criteria<sup>1</sup> across the themes. Against each criteria, evidence was added to support the assessment and proposals for improvement were provided, where appropriate. Evidence supported that 76 of the criteria are being met by the IJB and 11 criteria identified action or improvement, some of which is already underway. The areas requiring action or improvement are detailed in appendix 1 of this report. A summary of the results is shown in the table below.



<sup>1</sup> [Section 1 – Overview - Best Value: revised statutory guidance 2020 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

3.3 The assessment shows that the IJB is able to demonstrate that the criteria is either being met or has actions identified across all of the seven themes. As a result of the exercise, actions and improvements will be brought together to form a Best Value improvement plan and will be monitored and reported on throughout the year.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

4.1 The self-assessment has identified the IJB can demonstrate that the majority of Best Value characteristics are being met. The assessment has recognised that some actions and improvements are required, but that a number of these are already underway. Progress against these actions will be monitored and regular self-assessment will be built in to ensure Best Value continues to be delivered.

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**NOTE:** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

Appendix 1 – Best Value Self-Assessment Actions and Improvements