



**PERTH AND KINROSS INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD
AUDIT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

14 SEPTEMBER 2020

ASSURANCES RECEIVED FROM PARTNERS

Report by Chief Financial Officer (Report No. G/20/86)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

In compiling the Integration Joint Board's Annual Governance statement, reference was made to receipt of assurance from NHS Tayside and Perth and Kinross Council regarding their governance arrangements noting that Perth and Kinross Integration Joint Board (IJB) is reliant on both Partners to deliver the IJB's overall aims and objectives. This report provides an update on those assurances.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board Audit & Performance Committee:

- (i) Note that the IJB has issued confirmation of the adequacy and effectiveness of the governance arrangements in place within Perth and Kinross IJB for 2019/20 to NHS Tayside, Perth and Kinross Council and the 2 Tayside IJBs.
- (ii) Note the position re confirmation of the assurance from NHS Tayside;
- (iii) Note the position re confirmation of the assurance from Perth and Kinross Council;
- (iv) Note the position re confirmation of the assurance from Dundee IJB;
- (v) Note the position re confirmation of the assurance from Angus IJB;
- (vi) Note that the status of assurances from NHS Tayside, Perth and Kinross Council, Dundee IJB and Angus IJB is consistent with the contents of the IJB's Governance Statement in the audited Annual Accounts.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On an annual basis the IJB has to include a Governance Statement within its Annual Accounts. Perth and Kinross IJB Audit and Performance Committee considered Perth and Kinross IJB's draft 2019/20 Governance Statement at its June 2020 meeting (paper G/20/68). Paper G/19/68 noted that Perth and Kinross IJB had to provide assurances to both NHS Tayside and Perth and Kinross Council. This was duly completed in September 2020 and are attached at Appendices 1-2.

2.2 It has been agreed with NHS Tayside that they would share their 2019/20 Governance Statement with Perth & Kinross IJB as the vehicle for providing assurance. NHS Tayside's Governance Statement was considered within Annual Accounts approved at NHS Tayside's Board meeting of on 30th July 2020. That Governance Statement concluded by noting:- "As the appointed Accountable Officer, I am able to conclude with the ongoing improvement work undertaken throughout the year, as evidenced above, the governance framework, the assurances and evidence received from the Board's committees, that corporate governance continues to be strengthened and was operating effectively throughout the financial year ended 31 March, 2020." This consequently provides the required assurance to Perth & Kinross IJB regarding arrangements in place within NHS Tayside.

2.3 PKC Scrutiny Committee considered the PKC Governance Statement on 5th August 2020. The Convenor of Perth & Kinross Council's Audit Committee has written to the Chair of this Committee providing assurance on PKC governance arrangements for 2019/20 stating '...The Annual Governance Statement is audited as part of the 2019/20 Annual Accounts by the Council's external auditors, KPMG. In their Draft Annual Audit Report to Members and the Controller of Audit for the year ended 31 March 2020 KPMG conclude that the "Council's governance arrangements operate effectively" and "the Annual Governance Statement shows an appropriate and accurate reflection of the governance arrangements at the Council".

The audit of the 2019/20 Annual Accounts is substantially complete and KPMG plan to issue an unqualified audit opinion following the anticipated approval of the Accounts at the meeting of the Audit Committee on 16 September 2020.

2.4 In 2019/20 formal assurance has been provided by the Tayside IJBs to each other. The Angus IJB Governance Statement 2019/20 was considered at the IJB's Audit Committee of 24th June 2020. It concludes '...that at 31 March 2020, reasonable assurance can be placed upon the adequacy and effectiveness of the IJB's governance arrangements'. The Dundee IJB Governance Statement was considered by the IJB at their meeting on 25th August 2020. It concludes that 'reliance can be placed on the IJBs governance arrangements and systems of internal controls for 2019/20.'

3. CONCLUSIONS

The IJB's Audit and Performance Committee should:

- (i) Note the assurance has been received from all partners;
- (ii) Note that Perth & Kinross IJB has provided assurance to all parties that adequate and effective governance arrangements were in place during 2019/20.

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APPENDICES

1. Letter of Assurance to Perth & Kinross Council from PKIJB
2. Letter of Assurance 2018/19 from Perth & Kinross Council