



## **PERTH AND KINROSS INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD**

### **AUDIT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

**26 SEPTEMBER 2022**

### **ASSURANCES RECEIVED FROM PARTNERS**

**Report by Head of Finance and Corporate Services  
(Report No. G/22/147)**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to provide assurance to the Integration Joint Board (IJB) of the effectiveness of the governance arrangements within Perth and Kinross Council (PKC), NHS Tayside (NHST) and the two Tayside IJBs during 2021/2022.

#### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

- (i) Note the assurance that has been received around the effectiveness of governance arrangements in NHST, PKC and Angus IJB;
- (ii) Note that assurance of effective governance arrangements in Dundee IJB is expected by the end of October 2022.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 On an annual basis the IJB has to include a Governance Statement within its Annual Accounts. Perth and Kinross IJB considered Perth and Kinross IJB's Draft 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement at its June 2022 meeting (paper G/22/103). Perth and Kinross IJB had committed to provide assurances on our governance arrangements to NHS Tayside, Perth and Kinross Council and the other Tayside IJBs (reflecting Perth and Kinross IJB's hosting of Tayside wide delegated services on behalf of these IJBs). This was duly completed in August 2022.
- 2.2 It has been agreed with NHS Tayside that they would share their 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement with Perth & Kinross IJB as the vehicle for providing assurance. NHS Tayside's Annual Governance Statement was

considered within Annual Accounts approved at NHS Tayside's Board meeting of on 30th June 2022. The Annual Governance Statement concluded by noting: - "As the appointed Accountable Officer, and noting the disclosure in relation to the missing case records and the ongoing work in this area, I am able to conclude with the ongoing improvement work undertaken throughout the year, as evidenced above; the governance framework and the assurances and evidence received from the Board's committees, that corporate governance continues to be strengthened and internal controls were operating adequately and effectively throughout the financial year ended 31 March, 2022."

- 2.3 This consequently provides the required assurance, noting the disclosure relating to missing case records and the ongoing work in this area, to Perth & Kinross IJB regarding governance arrangements in place within NHS Tayside and the effectiveness of internal controls including procurement and fraud.
- 2.4 The Convenor of Perth & Kinross Council's (PKC) Audit Committee has written to the Chair of the Audit and Performance Committee providing assurance on PKC governance arrangements for 2021/22. This is attached at Appendix 1. The correspondence states '...The Annual Governance Statement is audited as part of the 2021/22 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 2022, 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 2021/22 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 & Performance Committee on 27 September 2022.'
- 2.5 Formal correspondence regarding assurance has been received from the Chair of Angus IJB confirming that adequate and effective governance arrangements were in place throughout Angus IJB during 2021/22. This is attached at Appendix 2. Formal correspondence concerning the adequacy of Dundee IJB's systems of internal control is expected to be received by PKIJB after the completion of their External Audit, expected by the end of October 2022. A verbal update on this will be provided to this Committee at its next meeting in November 2022.
- 2.6 Regular assurance is provided to the IJB that NHS Tayside are effectively managing and monitoring clinical care and professional risk via receipt of a report at each Audit and Performance Committee meeting. Clinical Care assurance arrangements are currently being concluded with Perth & Kinross Council to provide a similar level of assurance to the IJB.
- 2.7 Annual assurance has been received in relation to Care Governance through the annual assurance report of NHS Tayside's Care Governance Committee as attached at Appendix 3. NHS Tayside's Audit and Risk Committee considered this report at their meeting of 23 June 2022 and confirmed that the Care and Governance Committee met their remits during the year ended 31 March 2022.

- 2.8 In addition, Perth & Kinross IJBs 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement, as approved by the IJB in June 2022, includes an improvement action to further strengthen clinical and care governance arrangements by committing to working with NHS Tayside to introduce assurance arrangements to the IJB for Inpatient Mental Health and Acute Medicine

### **3. CONCLUSION**

- 3.1 The IJB's Audit and Performance Committee should note the assurance that has been received from partners confirming the adequacy and effectiveness of the governance arrangements which were in place during 2021/22, including a specific level of assurance in relation to Clinical Care Governance, and that Perth & Kinross IJB has provided assurance to all parties that adequate and effective governance arrangements were in place during 2021/22.

#### **Author(s)**

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#### **APPENDICES**

1. Letter of Assurance 2021/22 from Perth & Kinross Council
2. Letter of Assurance 2021/22 from Angus IJB
3. Annual Report of the Care Governance Committee 2020/2021