



**REPORT TO: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD -
24th FEBRUARY 2021**

**REPORT ON: PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR'S ASSURANCE
REPORT**

REPORT BY: CHAIR, PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

REPORT NO: DIJB8-2021

This assurance report relates to the meeting of the Performance and Audit Committee of the 3rd February 2021.

Instructions Issued by the Committee

The committee issued the following instructions and made the following decisions in relation to the business laid before it:

- Item VIII – instructed the Chief Finance Officer to report progress in delivering the actions of the internal audit report on Finance through the Governance Action Plan presented to each Performance and Audit Committee meeting.

Issues to highlight to the Board

- The committee had a good discussion around the Health and Social Care Partnership's Quarter 2 performance report which led to a focus on good discharge from hospital performance but relatively high readmission rates. Members were assured that earlier reports on this issue noted no concerns around whether discharges from hospital were inappropriate. The committee also heard about developments in online exercise classes to prevent falls, particularly due to the effect the lockdown is having on elderly people and asked that these be published on the partnership's website.
- The committee also heard more detail of the content of the national Health and Care Experience Survey for 2019/20 and how it reflects the experience of Dundee citizens. The survey showed a mixed picture for Dundee with some responses better than other areas in the same benchmarking group with others not as good. While the committee was advised that some caution should be taken in interpreting the results of the survey given it is a general questionnaire of how people feel at a specific time, nevertheless the information is helpful to inform the revised strategic needs assessment for the IJB.
- As part of the Governance Action plan progress report the committee discussed the slow progress in relation to a number of outstanding items and sought assurances on the action being taken to bring these to a conclusion. This tied in with the Finance Internal Audit report where it is recommended that all the outstanding actions are pulled under a themed, holistic action plan to support completion of these actions. It was noted that the action plan had now been enhanced to include recommendations from the Transformation Programme Audit and Audit Scotland's recent annual report. It was also acknowledged that due to the Covid pandemic the risk profile of a number of elements will have changed. It was agreed that further discussions outwith the meeting would take place to determine whether a short life working group on risk was required.
- The Chief Internal Auditor, Tony Gaskin, took the committee through the outcome of the internal audit review of finance. This followed a similar theme to other recent reviews where limited assurance was provided, largely due to the lack of progress with a number of previous audit recommendations. Out of the 3 action points identified, one of these has progressed in relation to recording of actions arising at IJB and PAC meetings.
- A report was tabled providing moderate assurance to the committee in relation to Clinical and Care Governance. It was noted that some of the inherent risks and residual risks

looked out of balance in that actions taken to reduce risk appeared to be increasing risk. It was explained that this is largely due to system recording of risk in that the inherent risk can never be adjusted to reflect a change in circumstances (e.g. Covid19) and this would be explored further.

- The committee was pleased to see performance in relation to both the number of complaints and in responding to complaints about health and social care services had continued to show good improvement although acknowledged that the number of complaints received have been partly impacted by the Covid19 pandemic.
- An updated report on the IJB's Strategic Risk Register was also discussed with "newer" risks relating to Covid19 and the UK's exit from the EU added to the register for further monitoring.

Trudy McLeay
Chair

17 February 2021