



**REPORT TO:** HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD –  
22 OCTOBER 2025

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

**REPORT BY:** CHAIR, PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

**REPORT NO:** DIJB67-2025

This assurance report relates to the meeting of the Performance and Audit Committee (PAC) of the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

Overview of Committee Business:

- An updated draft PAC Terms of Reference was presented to Committee for consideration. The revised document incorporated some additional responsibilities following the introduction of Global Internal Audit Standards earlier in the year, as well as some other minor wording amendments. A query was raised in terms of how PAC members would have the ability to highlight any significant concerns and it was advised that this would be escalated to IJB via Chair's Assurance Report. The draft Terms of Reference will now be presented to IJB for approval.
- The Annual Performance Report 2024/25 was submitted to PAC for noting following publication on 31 July 2025 (in line with statutory timescales) and following approval by IJB on 20 August 2025. The document was welcomed and praised the good work across the services areas delegated to the IJB and also by staff collating the information into the published version. A point was raised noting concern that the document is presented to IJB for review and approval after the statutory publication date – this was acknowledged and advised the tight timescales and inability to obtain full IJB approval has previously been fed-back to Scottish Government colleagues on a number of occasions.
- The 2024/25 Q4 Performance Report was presented and members raised questions regarding some key aspects including the latest falls data indicated a deteriorating position in Dundee, however after some discussion it was noted the pathway and patient journey after a fall for Dundee citizens differed from other areas and may adversely affect the captured data but actually provide better care. The Falls group are looking into this further.
- The latest Clinical, Care and Professional Governance report recommended acceptance of a Reasonable level of assurance while also noting risks associated with increasing demand and strains on clinical capacity.
- Mental Health Service Indicators Q4 2024/25 was presented for noting and scrutiny. Members highlighted points relating to the number of people on waiting lists who were discharged without being seen by CMHT, and were subsequently assured that those people were provided with signposting to alternative supports as well as duty worker contact while on the waiting list which, for some, had been sufficient to resolve issues resulting in them no longer needing CMHT treatment and care. It was also noted that Tayside Psychological Therapies Service continues to be placed in Enhanced Support due to not meeting 18-week waiting time standard – the Improvement Plan was discussed, highlighting efforts to enhance capacity in targeted specialties to address areas of poorest performance.
- Drug & Alcohol Service Indicators Q4 2024/25 was shared and noted performance against the agreed suite of indicators. Members noted the small reduction in drug-related deaths in the latest published report and also strong performance in the implementation of MAT standards in the latest benchmarking report.

- An update report on Unscheduled Care performance was presented for noting. It was highlighted that Dundee (and Tayside) continues to perform very well in comparison to other HSCP areas in terms of Delayed Discharge. However it was also recognised that the current levels of performance and activity are financially unsustainable within the IJB's delegated resources.
- The annual report of Care Inspectorate Gratings was provided for assurance purposes. The inspection reports from Care Inspectorate show a generally improving position in Care Home and Other Adult Services for 2024/25 when compared to the previous year. Where weak gradings were published, details of improvement actions were also noted. Members queried how HSCP staff are able to support and influence efforts to improve gradings and were assured that teams have built up strong working relationships with providers and collaborate to support continuous improvement actions with enhanced monitoring arrangements where required.
- The Strategic Risk Register Update noted the ongoing and emerging strategic risks currently being faced by the IJB. It was also agreed that a review should be undertaken to consider arrangements relating to the recording, managing and reporting of strategic risks, incorporating the rationalised risk categories and agreed risk appetite levels.
- The annual report on Best Value arrangements & assessment was presented for review and assurance purposes and provided a self-assessment review of the IJB best value governance arrangements and activities during 2024/25
- Governance Action Plan progress report was presented to provide PAC with an update on progress of the actions. It was noted that since the last report 6 actions have been completed, 23 remain ongoing and 11 have been added following receipt of Internal Audit Annual Report 2024/25.
- Internal Audit Plan 2024/25 Progress Report was presented noting that 5 of the 6 substantive workplan audits have been completed with the final audit currently in progress. A summary of internal audits undertaken for Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside that are considered relevant to IJB for assurance purposes were also noted.
- The proposed Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2025/26 was presented along with a recommendation to approve the continued appointment of Chief Internal Auditor and Fife, Tayside and Forth Valley Audit Internal Audit (FTF) for 2025/26 – these were both approved. The Chair also requested an invite to attend a planning meeting between CFO and Internal Audit colleagues, dates to be arranged.

In summary, as Chair I am content that the range of issues presented to the Committee in relation to performance, audit and governance provides the IJB with a reasonable level of assurance that overall risks and performance are being managed effectively.

Bob Benson  
Chair

24 September 2025