

**REPORT TO: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD –
18 FEBRUARY 2026**

REPORT ON: PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR’S ASSURANCE REPORT

REPORT BY: CHAIR, PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

REPORT NO: DIJB9-2026

This assurance report relates to the meeting of the Performance and Audit Committee (PAC) of the 4th February 2026.

Overview of Committee Business:

- The Chief Officer advised the Committee of the options appraisal being progressed by NHS Tayside in relation to mitigation of risks associated with the condition of the roof at Kingsway Care Centre.
- The meeting reviewed the Action Tracker, signing off complete actions. The Committee agreed that the process of reviewing the PAC Terms of Reference should include seeking feedback from PAC members. The Chief Officer advised that a report on Psychological Therapies Services performance will be submitted to PAC in May 2026. The Chair advised the PAC that the joint meeting with Internal Audit, the Chief Finance Officer had been constructive.
- The Committee noted the annual update on the Dundee City Plan, including positive progress made against agreed priorities and actions and demonstrated via case studies included within the report. Members queried whether further data is available on current performance levels. The impact of work undertaken to tackle child poverty and increase household incomes was highlighted, with questions raised regarding the proportion of welfare rights income maximisation benefits accruing to the most deprived areas of the city. Members requested that for future reports consideration is given to recognising unpaid carers as a distinct priority group. The Chief Officer highlighted that strong partnerships are in place to ensure a comprehensive interface between the City Plan and the IJB’s Strategic Commissioning Framework.
- The 2025/26 Quarter 2 Performance Report was noted by the Committee. The report continues to demonstrate significant variation in performance across Local Community Planning Partnership areas, related to underlying deprivation. The Committee noted the wealth of information included within the report.
- Members accepted the reasonable level of assurance provided within the DHSP Clinical, Care and Professional Governance Assurance Report. Areas of concern, including recruitment challenges within Psychological Therapies, were highlighted by the Chair.
- The Committee noted the Quarter 2 2025/26 Drug and Alcohol Services Indicators, including an increase in near-fatal overdose, compliance with waiting time standards and increasing levels of referrals for alcohol treatment. The Chair highlighted the excellent performance against MAT Standards, and the recognition of local work through national bodies and awards. Members were assured that intensive support available via Cowan Grove mother and child recovery house, which is a national resource, is being utilised by local citizens and that DDARs services are being delivered from 13 locations across the city (with further work planned to continue, where possible, to move service delivery away from Constitution House). Officers advised of ongoing work to address the harms associated with cocaine use, including training for staff to delivery interventions. Members queried the reduction in ABI (Alcohol Brief Intervention) and the factors driving this; officers agreed to provide further information to member. The Committee requested that a development session be identified to allow further time to consider the work in this area and progress made.
- The Quarter 2 2025/26 Mental Health Service Indicators reported was noted by the Committee. The Chief Officer highlighted that there is some evidence that post-covid increases in referral levels are now starting to ease in some areas of the service. Members requested further information regarding the support available to parents whose children are supported via child protection processes due to concerns about parental mental health (61 children as at 20 September 2025) and in relation to the impact of Hope Point.

- The Committee noted the current position and improvement actions related to the management of Unscheduled Care Services and Discharge Management. Officers highlighted the impact of current financial pressures on the HSCP's ability to maintain current performance levels, including continued performance within the top 5 Partnerships within Scotland in relation to national delayed discharge performance indicators. Members noted that performance has been reliant on budget overspend which cannot continue and must be resolved through the 2026/27 budget setting process.
- The Chief Social Work Officer presented the Our Promise 2023-2026 Annual Update, which was noted by the Committee. A number of areas of progress were highlighted, including reducing numbers of care experienced children and young people and missing episodes, and improvements in school attendance and attainment. Members noted concerns regarding the longer-term impact of care experience on outcomes into adulthood and related national developments to improve monitoring of outcomes. Whilst welcoming progress made, members acknowledged the helpful information in the report about continued areas for improvement and planned approaches. Members highlighted risks relating to funding to third sector organisations which are subject to proposals within Dundee City Council's Budget Consultation.
- Progress to deliver the actions contained within the Governance Action Plan was noted. Members received assurance that where relevant collaboration takes place between the Tayside IJBs to share relevant materials and reduce duplication of effort. Members noted that reasons for substantial delays to some actions included internal staffing capacity within relevant teams, timelines for reviews of key governance arrangements (such as annual reviews) and dependence on contributions from partners outwith the HSCP / IJB.
- Internal Audit presented the Internal Audit Plan Progress Report, highlighting progress against the IJB's own plan as well as recent reports completed by Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside (Adverse Event Management and Data Breaches Learning Review). The Committee noted that 2 reports recently completed by NHS Tayside offered limited assurance and that IJB Internal Control Evaluation report is planned to be submitted in May 2026.

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

05 February 2026