

ABERDEENSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD
AUDIT COMMITTEE
WOODHILL HOUSE, ABERDEEN, 25 OCTOBER, 2017

Audit Committee Members:

Mr E Sinclair (in the Chair), Mrs S Duncan, Councillor FCP Hood (as substitute for Provost W Howatson) and Councillor D Robertson

Apology: Provost W Howatson

Officers: Mr A Coldwells, Chief Officer, Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership; Mr A Wood, Chief Officer, Aberdeenshire Integration Joint Board; Mr C Harvey, Senior Internal Auditor, Aberdeenshire Council; and Mr N David, Senior Committee Officer, Aberdeenshire Council.

1. SEDERUNT, DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND CHAIR

In the absence of Provost Howatson, Mr E Sinclair took the Chair for the meeting. The Chair asked for declarations of interest. No interests were declared.

2. STATEMENT OF EQUALITIES

In making decisions on the following items of business, the Joint Board **agreed**, in terms of Section 149 of the Equality Act, 2010:-

- (1) to have due regard to the need to:-
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- (2) where an Equality Impact Assessment was provided, to consider its contents and take those into account when reaching their decision.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF AUDIT COMMITTEE OF 30 AUGUST, 2017

There was circulated and **noted** the Minute of Meeting of the Audit Committee of 30 August, 2017.

4. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

There was circulated a report dated 12 October, 2017, by the Chief Internal Auditor on a completed audit in respect of Post Integration Review.

The report explained that as background that Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership formed in February, 2016, following approval of its Integration Scheme. Publication of its Strategic Plan, and delegation of Service Delivery, by its Partners namely

NHS Grampian and Aberdeenshire Council, was completed to allow the Partnership to commence operations in April, 2017.

The objective of the Audit was to meet the requirement of the Scottish Government Integration Financial Assurance Guidance to provide assurance over whether integration objectives were on line to be achieved. This included evaluation of actual risk and financial performance against pre-integration assumptions; performance on relevant integration milestones; lessons learned; and whether the partnership was on course to deliver the long term benefits.

The report indicated that assurance had been obtained over each of these areas and this was reiterated in the Partnership's Annual Performance Report which was published in July, 2017. The report went on to explain that, whilst in general arrangements were satisfactory, improvements to governance and reporting arrangements had been recommended and actions thereon agreed. The Chief Officer would review and determine the need for a scheme of delegation; risk management strategy; and a process for issuing directions; and would progress work on the development of an asset management plan, as well as revisions to the commissioning plan to provide clearer data on planned and actual progress with transformational change. The report also advised that the Chief Finance Officer was further developing budget monitoring and savings plan progress reporting in order to provide additional assurance to the Integration Joint Board over budget holders' actions. Locality budgets were being finalised for 2017/2018.

Following discussion, the Committee **agreed** to acknowledge the report.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **noted** that the next meeting would be on 20 December, 2017 and, dependent on the business to be transacted, would either begin at 11.00am or 12noon.