

Scottish Borders Health & Social Care
Integration Joint Board



Scottish Borders
Health and Social Care
PARTNERSHIP

Meeting Date: 19 June 2019

Report By	Councillor Tom Weatherston, Chair of Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board Audit Committee
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**SCOTTISH BORDERS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD
AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19**

Purpose of Report:	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the IJB Audit Committee Annual Report 2018/19 which presents the Committee's performance in relation to its Terms of Reference and the effectiveness of the Committee in meeting its purpose.
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Recommendations:	<p>The Health & Social Care Integration Joint Board is asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Consider the IJB Audit Committee Annual Report 2018/19 (Appendix 1) on the performance in relation to its Terms of Reference and the effectiveness of the Committee in meeting its purpose and the assurances therein; and. b) Agree to the amended IJB Audit Committee Terms of Reference (Appendix 2) which incorporates the proposed changes set out in the IJB Audit Committee Annual Report 2018/19.
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Personnel:	There are no direct resource implications arising from the proposals in this report.
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Carers:	There are no direct carer implications arising from the proposals in this report.
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Equalities:	There are no direct equalities implications arising from the proposals in this report.
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Financial:	There are no direct resource implications arising from the proposals in this report.
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Legal:	Good governance will enable the IJB to pursue its vision effectively as well as underpinning that vision with mechanisms for control and management of risk.
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Risk Implications:	There is a risk that the IJB Audit Committee does not fully comply with best practice guidance thus limiting its effectiveness as a scrutiny body as a foundation for sound corporate governance. The completion of the annual self-assessment and identification and implementation of improvement actions as evidenced through this Annual Report will mitigate this risk.
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Background

It is important that the IJB's Audit Committee fully complies with best practice guidance on Audit Committees to ensure it can demonstrate its effectiveness as a scrutiny body as a foundation for sound corporate governance for the Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board.

The CIPFA Audit Committees Guidance sets out CIPFA's view of the role and functions of an Audit Committee (Position Statement), includes a self-assessment checklist and an effectiveness toolkit, and recommends as best practice the production of an annual report on the performance of the Audit Committee against its remit for submission to the full Board.

Summary

The IJB Audit Committee carried out self-assessments of Compliance with the Good Practice Principles Checklist and Evaluation of Effectiveness Toolkit from the CIPFA Audit Committees Guidance during an Informal Session held on 12 February 2019 facilitated by the IJB's Chief Internal Auditor. The Annual Report 2018/19, along with the self-assessments, was considered by the Members of the IJB Audit Committee and agreed with amendments at its meeting on 5 June 2019.

The outcome of the self-assessments was a high degree of performance against the good practice principles and a medium degree of effectiveness; the latter in recognition of the maturity of the IJB Audit Committee arrangements and health and social care integration. Improvements have been identified by the Committee.

The IJB Audit Committee Annual Report 2018/19 is designed both to provide assurance to the IJB's full Board and to provide some actions for the Committee to improve its effectiveness.

Appended to this report is the IJB Audit Committee Annual Report 2018/19 as Appendix 1 for consideration to adopt the best practice, and the proposed amended IJB Audit Committee Terms of Reference as Appendix 2 for approval.