

### Follow up of Internal Audit Recommendations

There were three in-progress Internal Audit recommendations for the IJB within the Internal Audit Annual Assurance Report 2022/23 that was presented to the IJB Audit Committee on 19 June 2023. Two of which were brought forward as still in progress from the previous years' reports 2020/21 and 2021/22, and one new recommendation in 2022/23. Since then, good progress has been made by Management on implementing improvements and the current status as at October 2023, shown below, indicates that all three recommendations have been completed, with satisfactory evidence of this provided.

Recommendation	Current Status, and Agreed action owner and timescale, as applicable
<b>(2020/21) Corporate Governance – MSG Actions / Best Value Areas of Improvement</b>	<b>Medium</b>
<p>Updates on progress against the MSG Self Evaluation HSCP Action Plan and Best Value Areas of Improvement should be provided to the IJB Audit Committee every 6 months. (AUDIT.141)</p>	<p>The Improvement Service carried out a facilitated evaluation in April 2023 covering (a) IJB and (b) partnership including NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council. The IJB Chief Officer, presented reports on 'Ministerial Steering Group Self-Evaluation' to IJB Audit Committee on 19 June 2023 and the IJB on 19 July 2023 to demonstrate oversight and monitoring.</p> <p><i>Complete</i></p>
<b>(2021/22) Corporate Governance – Communications/Consultation</b>	<b>Medium</b>
<p>The Communications Strategy requires review (last reviewed 2018) to ensure that it remains relevant in the current environment. (AUDIT.175)</p>	<p>The key principles of stakeholder consultation and engagement and new approach have been applied during the development of the Strategic Framework 2023-2026, which is working well. The IJB has commented on the notable improvement in communications and engagement.</p> <p>The Communications and Engagement Framework (item 5.2) was approved by the IJB on 20 September 2023 to formalise the new approach.</p> <p><i>Complete</i></p>
<b>(2022/23) Strategic Commissioning – Workforce Planning</b>	<b>Medium</b>
<p>The Partnership Joint Staff Forum monitoring and reporting mechanism regarding cross sector organisational development should be established and documented. (AUDIT.203)</p>	<p>The reporting schedule for workforce has been amended by the IJB Chief Financial Officer to include provision of oversight to the Joint Staff Forum.</p> <p><i>Complete</i></p>