

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Paper No. 25/38
Paper Title:	Standing Committee Chair's Board Report
Meeting:	NHSGGC Board Meeting
Date of Meeting:	29 April 2025
Purpose of Paper:	For Assurance
Classification:	Board Official
Name of Reporting Committee:	Audit and Risk Committee
Date of Reporting Committee:	18 March 2025
Committee Chairperson:	Ms Michelle Wailes

1. Purpose of Paper

The purpose of this paper is to: inform the NHS Board on key items of discussion at the NHSGGC Audit and Risk Committee.

2. Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the key items of discussion at the recent meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee on 18 March 2025 as set out below and seek further assurance as required.

3. Key Items of Discussion

3.1 Fraud Report and Counter Fraud Services Update

- Paper provided for assurance.
- An update was provided on current fraud cases and the actions undertaken to prevent, detect and investigate fraud in the period 1st November 2024 to 31st January 2025.
- There were no new cases of fraud recorded, and 20 allegations received during the reporting period.

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- As at 31st January 2025, there were 12 ongoing fraud cases on the Fraud Register and 14 open allegations on the Enquiries Register. The Fraud Annual Action Plan for 2024/25 has been updated to reflect current progress.
- The Committee were assured by the report.

3.2 Bad Debt Write Off

- Paper presented for approval.
- The Committee approved the write off of 4 debts over £20,000 and noted the write off a further 90 debts under £20,000.

3.3 External Audit Plan

- Paper provided for assurance.
- The Committee noted the Annual Audit Plan for Year ending 31 March 2025 and noted the key risks and audit approach for the 2024/25 audit.
- The Committee noted the key updates to the Audit Plan including sector developments, GP audit approach system changes and audit fees.
- The Committee were assured by the paper.

3.4 External Audit Action Tracker

- Paper provided for assurance.
- The Committee received an update on progress in completing the 15 recommendations made by Ernst Young in their Annual Audit Report for 2022-23 and the 7 recommendations from their 2023-24 Annual Audit Report.
- Discussion regarding outstanding actions has taken place and the tracker updated to reflect comments. Some actions are unable to be closed until this year's audit work was complete, however good progress was being made.
- The Committee were assured by the report.

3.5 Internal Audit Reports

- Papers provided for assurance.
- The Committee received the following Internal Audit Reports: Internal Audit Progress Report, Internal Audit Follow Up Report, Waiting List Management – Mental Health, eHealth Project and Programme Management and the Internal Audit Plan 25/26.
- The Committee noted the work that had been undertaken and noted that good progress continued to be made to clear outstanding actions. It was proposed that the audit of Significant Adverse Event Management was deferred to allow the internal review and action plan to progress.
- The Committee noted that the new Global Internal Audit Standards had been implemented. In order to ensure readiness, an early pilot on the 2024/25 audit of Medicines Governance was being undertaken, currently at fieldwork stage.
- The Committee noted that some effective controls were in place for the DCN Programme, however several weaknesses were identified to be addressed as part of the current tranche of activity and for future stages of the implementation.
- Generally robust systems were in place that contribute to effective management of waiting lists within both Psychological Therapy and Drug and Alcohol teams.
- The Committee were assured by the reports.

3.6 Business Continuity Planning Overview

- Paper provided for awareness.
- The Committee noted that good progress was being made. At the end of January 2025 153 plans were reviewed in the last 12 months, and work remained ongoing to progress outstanding plans.
- The Committee were content to note the report and noted that an annual update would be provided.

3.7 Risk Management Plan

- Paper provided for awareness
- The Committee received a summary of the Risk Management Plan for 2025/26, which highlighted the key steps for delivering the Risk Management Strategy, Policy, and Risk Appetite Statement.
- The Committee were content to note the paper.

3.8 Corporate Risk Register

- Paper provided for approval.
- The Committee noted there were 28 new actions, 15 actions were complete and 13 were overdue.
- There were four Corporate Risk Reviews completed over the last quarter which resulted in a risk score change to two risks and two remained unchanged.
- The Committee noted that a new risk in relation to Climate Change was proposed and included in the paper.
- The Committee were content to approve the paper.

3.9 Freedom of Information Quarter 3 Report

- Paper provided for assurance
- The Committee noted Quarter 3 performance was 85%. Work remained ongoing to achieve the 90% target set by the Commissioner for Quarter 4, however the Committee noted that this was on track to be achieved.
- The Committee were assured by the paper.

3.10 Legal Update Quarter 3 Report

- Paper provided for assurance.
- The Committee received an update on the 2024/25 Quarter 3 position regarding legal claims within the Board.
- The Committee were assured by the paper.

3.11 Whistleblowing Quarter 3

- Paper provided for assurance.
- The Committee noted that no new cases were received in the Quarter and noted Stage 2 cases continued to remain a challenge due to the complex nature.
- The Committee noted that an anonymous Stage 3 outcome report produced by the INWO was received in November 2024 which raised two issues. In light of

the recommendations made, an action plan was developed to further embed Speak Up culture across the organisation.

- The Committee were assured by the report provided.

3.12 Information Governance Steering Group Update

- Paper provided for assurance.
- The paper provided a summary of the key discussions and decisions of the meeting held on Thursday 13th March 2025.
- The Committee were assured by the report provided.

3.13 Committee Annual Cycle of Business 2025/26

- Paper provided for approval.
- The Committee noted the Annual Cycle of Business which details the timetable of topics/discussion, the business items that will be considered, and their Corporate Objective alignment.
- The Committee were content to approve the Annual Cycle of Business.

4. Issues for referral to other Standing Committees or escalation to the NHS Board

There were no issues for referral to other Standing Committees or escalation to the NHS Board.

5. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee will take place on Tuesday, 3 June 2025.