

Midlothian Integration Joint Board Audit and Risk Committee



Audit Scotland Reports of Interest

Item number: 5.4

Executive summary

This report highlights audit reports from Audit Scotland of areas of interest to the IJB audit and risk committee

Committee members are asked to:

1. Committee members are asked to note the key messages

Audit Scotland Reports of Interest

1. Purpose

This report highlights audit reports from Audit Scotland on areas of interest to the IJB audit and risk committee.

2. Recommendations

- Committee members are asked to note the publications and the key messages
- Consider if any actions arising from this reports should be brought to the attention of the IJB.

3. Background to main reports

- 3.1 Audit Scotland publish a range of reports some of which relate to matters which relate to the business of the IJB and these reports also require to be brought to this Committee's attention.
- 3.2 Audit Scotland Reports have covered a variety of topics which are summarised below, with the majority of reports focussing on the Covid-19 pandemic. Rather than attach the whole of the appropriate audit report as appendices to this report, the executive summary is included in Appendix 1 which includes a brief summary and a link to the whole report.
- 3.3 Topics included are noted below:
- Impact of Covid-19 on Scottish Councils Benefit Services
 - Christie – It Really is Now or Never
 - Covid-19 Vaccination Programme
 - Covid-19 – Tracking the Impact of Covid-19 on Scotland's Public Finances
 - Social Care
 - Local Government in Scotland Overview 2021
 - Covid-19 Following the pandemic pound : Our Strategy
 - NHS in Scotland 2020
- 3.4 As the Vaccination Programme is a major part of the operational aspects of Midlothian Health & Social Care Partnership a copy of this report has been included in Appendix 2.

4. Policy Implications

- 4.1 The framework focuses on supporting the implementation of the Public Bodies (Joint Working)(Scotland) Act 2014.

5. Equalities Implications

- 5.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report

6. Resource Implications

- 6.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

7 Risks

- 7.1 There are no risks associated.

8 Involving People

- 8.1 There are no direct implications for involving people as a result of this report.

9 Background Papers

- 9.1 None

AUTHOR'S NAME	David King
DESIGNATION	Interim Chief Finance Officer
CONTACT INFO	david.king4@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk
DATE	December 2021

Appendix 1 - Audit Scotland reports:-

Date	Report	Summary	Link
7/10/21	Impact of Covid-19 on Scottish Councils Benefit Services	Most of Scotland's councils have maintained or improved their delivery of vital benefits during the Covid-19 pandemic, despite short-staffing and major disruptions from having to abruptly move to home or remote working.	https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-scottish-councils-benefit-services
4/10/21	Christie – It Really is Now or Never	In 2011, Christie published the well-researched and well-evidenced Christie Commission report. It was welcomed as a blueprint for developing and delivering public services in Scotland, accepting the critical importance of its four pillars of People, Prevention, Performance and Partnership, and how they interconnected.	https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/blog-christie-it-really-is-now-or-never
30/09/21	Covid-19 Vaccination Programme	The Covid-19 vaccination programme is the largest vaccination programme that NHS boards have ever carried out. This briefing paper looks at progress of the Covid-19 vaccination programme to September 2021 and what plans are in place for the next phase of the rollout and for the longer term.	https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/covid-19-vaccination-programme
15/9/21	Covid-19 Tracking the Impact of Covid-19 on Scotland's Public Finances	The Scottish Government estimated it spent over £8.8 billion of the £9.3 billion allocated to support Covid-19 spending in 2020/21. Unprecedented spending to mitigate the harms of the pandemic. Transparency is essential but challenging in a fast-moving and unpredictable environment.	https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/covid-19-tracking-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-scotland%E2%80%99s-public-finances
3/6/21	Social Care Reform	The Scottish Government has committed to putting in place the recommendations of the Feely report, including creating a National Care Service. Although questions remain unanswered on the solutions to how this and other social care changes will be provided.	https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/social-care

27/5/21	Local Government in Scotland Overview 2021	Covid-19 exacerbated existing inequalities across Scotland's communities. This has brought into focus the value and importance of partnership working and empowering communities to deliver services that meet very local needs.	https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/local-government-in-scotland-overview-2021
7/5/21	Covid-19 Following the pandemic pound : Our Strategy	Following the pandemic pound strategy is to provide overall conclusions to the public and the Scottish Parliament on the level of Covid-19 related funding that has been allocated to business, communities, and public services.	https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/covid-19-following-the-pandemic-pound-our-strategy
17/2/21	NHS in Scotland 2020	The Scottish Government acted quickly to prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed by Covid-19, but it could have been better prepared to respond to the pandemic. Service innovation, such as video consultations took place as did pausing of non-urgent treatments. There is now a substantial backlog of patients. Dealing with this backlog alongside the financial and operational challenges already faced by boards will be difficult.	https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/nhs-in-scotland-2020