

Midlothian Integration Joint Board



26 August 2021 at 2pm

Midlothian Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020/21

Item number:

Agenda number: 5.3

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the MIJB Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020/21 which sets out how it is performing against its remit based on self-assessments carried out in April 2021.

The MIJB is asked to approve the MIJB Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020/21 (Appendix 1) which sets out how it is performing against its remit.

Midlothian Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020/21

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the MIJB Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020/21 which sets out how it is performing against its remit based on self-assessments carried out in April 2021.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The MIJB is asked to approve the MIJB Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020/21 (Appendix 1) which sets out how it is performing against its remit.

3 Background and main report

- 3.1 It is important that the MIJB's Audit and Risk 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 Midlothian Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board.
- 3.2 The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) issued an updated guidance note Audit Committees Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police 2018 Edition (hereinafter referred to as CIPFA Audit Committees Guidance) which is deemed relevant to integration authorities' audit committees for corporate governance purposes. It incorporates CIPFA's 2018 Position Statement which sets out CIPFA's view of the role and functions of an Audit Committee. The CIPFA Audit Committees Guidance includes the production of an annual report on the performance of the Audit Committee against its remit for submission to the IJB.
- 3.3 The Members of the MIJB Audit and Risk 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 21 April 2021 facilitated by the MIJB's Chief Internal Auditor. The MIJB Audit and Risk Committee has agreed the content of its self-assessments and the resulting Annual Report 2020/21 at its meeting on 10 June 2021. The MIJB Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020/21 is appended to this report as Appendix 1 for approval to adopt this best practice.
- 3.4 The outcome of the self-assessments was a medium degree of performance against the good practice principles and a medium degree of effectiveness. Areas of improvement have been identified by the Committee.

- 3.5 The MIJB Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020/21 is designed both to provide assurance to the members of the MIJB's Board and to provide some actions for the Committee to improve its effectiveness.

4 Directions

- 4.1 There are no direct implications on the Directions.

5 Equalities Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

6 Resource Implications

- 6.1 The self-assessment included the consideration of the resources that are in place to support the Committee to fulfil its remit.

7 Risk

- 7.1 There is a risk that the MIJB Audit and Risk 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.

8 Involving people

- 8.1 This report relates to Members of the MIJB Audit and Risk Committee. The Members of the MIJB Audit and Risk 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 21 April 2021 facilitated by the MIJB's Chief Internal Auditor. The MIJB Audit and Risk Committee has agreed the content of its self-assessments and the resulting Annual Report 2020/21 at its meeting on 10 June 2021 in advance of the presentation of its Annual Report to the MIJB by the Chair of the MIJB Audit and Risk Committee.

9 Background Papers

- 9.1 CIPFA Audit Committees Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police 2018 Edition

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