

SUMMARY REPORT OF GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Name of Committee	Clinical Governance Committee
Date of Meeting	2 July 2026
Committee Chair	Karen Leach

KEY POINTS FROM DISCUSSION AND ESCALATION

ALERT

- An emerging issue was identified in relation to how we ensure safe, effective, consistent but bespoke services on our islands. Work is underway in specific areas to improve our care and governance and this will now be explored as a board wide project.

ASSURE

- **Pharmacy Service Update** – moderate
- **Operational Improvement Plan** – moderate
- **Patient experience and feedback** – moderate; positive improvement in SAERS activity, complaints response times and ability to respond to Care Opinion submissions.
- **Clinical Governance and performance data** – moderate
- **Infection Prevention and Control Update** – moderate
- **Organ & Tissue Donation Committee Update** – substantial
- **Information Assurance Group Update** – substantial
- **Transfusion Committee Update** – moderate

ADVISE

- **Cancer Service – SACT** – limited as the service continues to deliver safe, patient-centred cancer care and is making progress towards compliance with the new national SACT framework; however, significant workforce shortages, leadership gaps, service fragility and reliance on mutual aid arrangements continue to present risks to sustainability and service resilience.
- **Dental Services and Oral Health Update** – limited due to ongoing access and workforce challenges but welcomed the actions being taken to improve capacity and service resilience.
- **A&B Child Protection Nurse Resourcing Update** – limited due to workforce capacity and resilience risks within the child protection service.
- **Argyll and Bute** – moderate to limited for Health and Community Care due to ongoing workforce, service resilience and patient safety risks, including concerns regarding community services, island provision and clinical capacity. Improvement actions and strengthened governance arrangements are in place to address these challenges. System wide capacity issues and workforce fragility were noted.

- **Highland Health and Social Care Partnership** – moderate whilst noting several services continue to report limited assurance within the overall report.
- **Acute Services** – moderate recognising progress in service stabilisation, governance, patient safety monitoring and performance improvement. However, significant pressures remain in relation to patient flow, delayed discharge, workforce sustainability, emergency care performance and planned care delivery.
- **Infants, Children and Young People’s Clinical Governance Group** – moderate recognising progress in key areas including implementation of the Child Health System, CAMHS improvement work and governance oversight of children’s services. There are ongoing concerns relating to child protection and paediatric workforce pressures, which continue to be monitored through separate governance arrangements.

RISKS

- No risks were identified

ACTIONS

- There were no actions

LEARNING

- No matters were highlighted in discussion