

Meeting: NHS Highland Board

Meeting date: 25 March 2025

Title: Board and Governance Committees' Annual Work Plans

Responsible Executive/Non-Executive: Sarah Compton Bishop, Board Chair

Report Author: Ruth Daly, Board Secretary

Report Recommendation:

The Board is asked Approve and take assurance from the Board and Committee workplans for 2025-26.

1 Purpose

This is presented to the Board for:

- Assurance

This report relates to a:

- Local policy

This aligns to the following NHSScotland quality ambition(s):

- Safe, Effective and Person Centred

This report relates to the following Strategic Outcome(s)

Start Well	Thrive Well	Stay Well	Anchor Well
Grow Well	Listen Well	Nurture Well	Plan Well
Care Well	Live Well	Respond Well	Treat Well
Journey Well	Age Well	End Well	Value Well
Perform well	Progress well	All Well Themes	x

2 Report summary

2.1 Situation

This report seeks the Board's approval of Board and Governance Committee Work Plans for the 2025/26 financial year.

2.2 Background

This Board and Committee Workplans are compiled with specific reference to the individual group roles, responsibilities and functions as defined in the Code of Corporate Governance. Workplans cover a range of activities including statutory reporting duties, regular items of business and priority planned pieces of work which support the Board and Committees' remits.

2.3 Assessment

The contents of the individual Board and Committee workplans for 2025-26 have been agreed at the March cycle of Governance Committee meetings and discussed with Chairs and Lead Executives.

The concept of ‘Frugal Governance’ which supports the reduction of duplication and efficient use of committee time is currently being actively pursued. Further consideration is being given to identify how frugal governance can be applied to uphold the standards as described in the Blueprint for Good Governance and deliver the programme of work set out in Committee workplans. Should the workplans require to change because of this work they will be revised accordingly.

The full suite of Workplans for 2025-26 are circulated separately in an Excel file and are presented for the Board’s endorsement.

2.4 Proposed level of Assurance

This report proposes the following level of assurance:

Substantial	<div><div>x</div></div>	Moderate	<div><div></div></div>
Limited	<div><div></div></div>	None	<div><div></div></div>

3 Impact Analysis

3.1 Quality/ Patient Care

3.2 Workforce

3.3 Financial

The provision of robust governance arrangements is key to NHS Highland delivering on its key objectives and to improving workforce, clinical and financial governance.

3.4 Risk Assessment/Management

A risk assessment has not been carried out for this paper.

3.5 Data Protection

This report does not involve personally identifiable information.

3.6 Equality and Diversity, including health inequalities

There are no equality or diversity implications arising from this paper.

3.7 Other impacts

No other impacts

3.8 Communication, involvement, engagement and consultation

Board and Committee Chairs and Lead Executives have discussed the proposed draft workplans for 2025-26.

3.9 Route to the Meeting

The appendices to this report have been considered and agreed at the respective governance Committee meetings as follows:

- Finance, Resources and Performance Committee 14 March 2025.
- Highland Health and Social Care Committee of 5 March 2025
- Clinical Governance Committee of 6 March 2025

- Audit Committee of 11 March 2025
- Staff Governance Committee of 4 March 2025
- Remuneration Committee of 25 February 2025.

4 List of appendices

A separate Excel spreadsheet forms the Appendix to this report and details the full suite of Board and Committee Workplans for 2025-26.