NHS Highland



SUMMARY REPORT OF GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Name of Committee	Area Clinical Forum
Date of Meeting	11 09 2025
Committee Chair	Allyson Turnbull-Jukes

KEY POINTS FROM DISCUSSION AND ESCALATION

ALERT

The Chair would highlight to the board:

- Discussion on the visibility, role, and remit of the Area Clinical Forum (ACF).
- Members highlighted the need for greater clarity on the forum's advisory role, membership, and its relationship with operational and management structures.
- Agreement that the ACF should have a stronger, more proactive advisory voice to the Board and operational teams, not just respond to Board requests.
- NHS Highland Annual Review scheduled for 18 November 2025 at Aviemore.
- Members are asked to suggest topics for discussion with the Chair and Chief Executive.
- Attendance (in-person or virtual) to be confirmed by members.
- Advisory committees reported challenges with representation especially from Secondary Care.
- Recruitment issues raised; plan to improve filtering and use of "knock out questions"
- Bid submitted to Scottish Government to expand Long Covid service.

ASSURE

ADVISE

RISKS

ACTIONS

- Members to provide feedback on topics for the annual review.
- NMAHP group to trial splitting and update terms of reference.
- Recruitment team to issue guidance on filtering applicants.
- Chair to follow up on vacant representative roles and clarify committee structures.
- Further discussion on prevention and public health to be included in future agendas.

LEARNING

- Ongoing issues with high applicant numbers and lack of effective filtering in the recruitment system.
- Discussion with Gareth Adkins (NHS Highland) about national and local solutions, including the use of "killer questions" and clearer personal specifications.
- Agreed to pilot improved filtering in selected areas and report back at the next meeting.