

SUMMARY REPORT OF GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Name of Committee	Highland Health and Social Care
Date of Meeting	02 July 2025
Committee Chair	Gerry O'Brien

KEY POINTS FROM DISCUSSION AND ESCALATION

ALERT

The IPQR highlighted that while delayed discharge figures have improved, they remained a significant pressure point linked to care home and care-at-home service delays with concern being raised about potential unmet need in the community.

ASSURE

Assurances taken on:

- Annual Delivery Plan 2025/26 Update (Substantial)
- Finance Report – Month 12 2024/2025 Year End position & 2025/2026 Financial Plan Summary (Limited)
- Highland Health and Social Care Partnership - Integrated Performance and Quality Report (IPQR). (Limited)
- Transformation Overview 2025/26. (Moderate)
- Learning Disability Services. (Moderate)
- Primary Care Services Update, including an update on the current position on the Primary Care Improvement Fund. (Moderate)
- Sutherland Care at Home (Moderate)
- Sir Lewis Ritchie Report Final Report. (substantial assurance that report identified the current position and the actions and moderate assurance that the Board will continue to make progress in line with the outcomes.)

ADVISE

The Sir Lewis Ritchie Final Report was received by the Committee and they were advised of the Boards plans for continued implementation of the original report recommendation and response to additional points referenced by Sir Lewis Ritchie

RISKS

In relation to the Financial Plan for 2025/26, the Head of Finance for HHSCP advised funding allocation short fall risks were being monitored at both Board and National levels.

ACTIONS

It was noted that the Committee would receive further updates on Highland at Home and the Care Home Commissioning Report later in the year.

A Development session on enhanced services in General Practice would be planned prior to December 2025, after highlighting the complexity and opportunities within the current commissioning framework.

LEARNING

The Committee received an overview of learning disability services in NHS Highland and including the range of support available, including community nursing teams, specialist medical staff, and a joint transition social work team for young adults.

A Primary Care update was received from the Head of Primary Care to highlight progress made in Community Optometry, Dentistry and General Practice.