

**HIGHLAND NHS BOARD
MEETING OF BOARD**

**Tuesday 27th January 2026 at 9.30am
Virtual Meeting Format (Microsoft Teams)**

- All Board Member cameras should be turned on
- Use raise hand facility to discuss items – do not use MS Teams chat

Distribution 20th January 2026

AGENDA

Time	1.	Standing Items	
09:30	1.1	Welcome and Apologies	
	1.2	Declarations of Interest Members are asked to consider whether they have an interest to declare in relation to any item on the agenda for this meeting. Any Member making a declaration of interest should indicate whether it is financial or non-financial and include some information on its nature. Advice may be sought from the Corporate Governance office prior to the meeting taking place.	
09:35	1.3	Minute of Previous meeting of 25th November and Action Plan The Board is asked to approve the minutes of meeting of 25 th November 2025 and note the action plan.	
09:40	1.4	Matters Arising	
09:45	2.	Chief Executive's Report Fiona Davies, Chief Executive The Board is asked to note the update	
10:00	3.	Spotlight Sessions	
	3.1	Drug & Alcohol Recovery Service Lesley Campbell, Professional Lead Drug & Alcohol Recovery Service	
10:30	4.	Governance and other Committee Assurance Reports Escalation of issues by Chairs of Governance Committees	
	a)	Finance, Resources and Performance Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed minutes of 14th November and 5th December 2025 • Summary of meeting of 9th January 2026 	
	b)	Staff Governance Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed minutes of 3rd November 2025 • Summary of meeting of 13th January 2026 	
	c)	Highland Health and Social Care Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed minutes of 5th November 2025 • Summary of meeting of 14th January 2026 	
	d)	Clinical Governance Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed minutes of 6th November 2025 • Summary of meeting of 15th January 2026 	
		Area Clinical Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed minutes of 6th November 2025 • Summary of meeting of 15th January 2026 	

	e)	Population Health & Planning Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed minutes of meeting of 2nd October 2025 Summary of meeting of 14th January 2026 	
	f)	Audit Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed minutes of meeting of 9th September 2025 Summary of meeting of 12th January 2026 	
	g)	Argyll & Bute IJB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of 19th November 2025 	
		<p>The Board is asked to:</p> <p>(a) Confirm adequate assurance has been provided from Board Governance Committees and Area Clinical Forum.</p> <p>(b) Note the minutes and agreed actions from the Argyll and Bute Integration Joint Board.</p>	

11:00

COMFORT BREAK**PERFORMANCE AND ASSURANCE**

11:15	5.	Integrated Performance and Quality Report Report by David Park, Deputy Chief Executive Assurance Level Proposed – Moderate The Board is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To take Moderate Assurance on performance reporting and Note the continued and sustained pressures facing both NHS and commissioned care services. Consider the level of performance across the system. 	
11:45	6.	Operational Improvement Plan (OIP) Deliverables Report Report by David Park, Deputy Chief Executive Assurance Level Proposed – Substantial The Board is asked to Note the content of the report and take Substantial Assurance on NHS Highland's delivery against the Scottish Government Operational Improvement Plan (OIP) deliverables.	
12:00	7.	Finance Assurance Report – Month Eight Position Heledd Cooper, Director of Finance Assurance Level Proposed – Limited The Board is asked to Examine and Consider the content of the report and take Limited Assurance .	
12:30	8.	Public Bodies (Joint Working) (S) Act 2014 – Annual Performance Reports: Argyll & Bute Health and Social Care Partnership Report by Evan Beswick, Chief Officer, Argyll & Bute HSCP Assurance Level Proposed – Moderate The Board is asked to Note the content of the report and take Moderate Assurance .	

<u>CORPORATE GOVERNANCE</u>			
12:45	9.	Review of Argyll & Bute Integration Scheme – Approval of Final Revised Document	
		<p>Report by Gareth Adkins, Director of People and Culture</p> <p>Assurance Level Proposed – Substantial</p> <p>The Board is asked to take Substantial Assurance and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the detail of the 36 responses received during the 8-week consultation period, set out in appendix 1; • Agree the revised Integration Scheme (Appendix 2), which has been further updated to take account of feedback received as part of the consultation process; • Note that this report will also be tabled at the NHS Highland Board on 28 January 2026 for approval; and • Agree that the Chief Executives of the two partner bodies jointly submit the revised Scheme to the Scottish Government for their consideration and approval, at the appropriate time. 	
13:00		LUNCH	
13:30	10.	Quarter 2 Health & Care Staffing Act Report	
		<p>Report by Gareth Adkins, Director of People and Culture</p> <p>Assurance Level Proposed – Moderate</p> <p>The Board is asked to Note the content of the report & taken Moderate Assurance.</p>	
13:50	11.	Corporate Risk Register	
		<p>Report by David Park, Deputy Chief Executive</p> <p>The Board is asked to Note the content of the report & taken Substantial Assurance.</p>	
14:10	12.	Board & Committee Membership Review	
		<p>Update by Nathan Ware, Deputy Head of Corporate Governance on behalf of Sarah Compton-Bishop, Board Chair</p> <p>The Board is asked to Approve the changes to Governance Committee membership</p>	
14:15	13.	Blueprint for Good Governance Improvement Plan 6-Monthly Update	
		<p>Report by Nathan Ware, Deputy Head of Corporate Governance</p> <p>The Board is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take Substantial Assurance • Note that informal oversight of progress delivery of the improvement plan continues to be undertaken by the Chairs group and Governance Committees and 6-monthly updates are presented to Board for oversight. • Note that a Board Development Session took place in November 2025 to begin reviewing and refreshing NHS Highland's approach to implementing the Blueprint for Good Governance. 	

14:25	14.	NHS Highland Code of Conduct Update	
		Update by Nathan Ware, Deputy Head of Corporate Governance	
		The Board is asked to Note the update	
14:30	15.	Any Other Competent Business	
		Date & Time of Next Meeting	
		31st March 2026	
		Close of meeting	