

## **AC8. Governance Action Plan**

The committee considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer presenting an update on the Governance Action Plan for the Falkirk IJB.

Guidance produced by the Integrated Resources Advisory Group stated that the IJB had responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of governance arrangements including the system of internal control. The 2016/17 Annual Internal Audit Report recommended that a governance action plan, setting out a timetable for implementation, should be prepared and approved and monitored by the IJB or Audit Committee. It was agreed that an update on the governance action plan would be presented to the Audit Committee on a six monthly basis.

A review on the progress of the integration of health and social care services was completed by a Leadership Group led by the Ministerial Strategic Group (MSG) and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA). The purpose of the review was to help ensure there was an increase in pace in delivering all of the integration principles and national health and wellbeing outcomes. The proposals produced by the MSG and a self evaluation template focussed on 6 areas which Audit Scotland identified as being critical to support integration. These were:-

- Collaborative leadership and building relationships
- Integrated finances and financial planning
- Effective strategic planning for improvement
- Agreed governance and accountability arrangements
- Ability and willingness to share information
- Meaningful and sustained engagement

In terms of next steps as there was a clear overlap between the areas included in the governance action plan and the proposals set out in the MSG self evaluation template. It was proposed that each area of the current governance action plan was treated as follows:-

Corporate Governance	Part of MSG action plan
Audit	Action points complete – no further action required
Planning & Performance	Actions mainly complete – remainder within MSG action plan
Clinical & Care Governance	Separate arrangements now in place; Clinical & Care Governance Committee has oversight of the framework etc.
Financial Governance	Part of MSG action plan

Risk Management	Audit Committee receiving, and will continue to receive, quarterly update reports on progress; no further action required
Information Management	Action points complete – no further action required

### **Decision**

#### **The IJB Audit Committee:-**

- (1) noted the contents of the report, and**
- (2) agreed that the action plan flowing from the self evaluation template required by the Ministerial Strategic group would replace the Governance Action Plan.**