

**MINUTES of MEETING of ARGYLL AND BUTE HSCP AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE held  
BY MICROSOFT TEAMS  
on TUESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2022**

**Present:** Councillor Sandy Taylor (Chair)

Susan Ringwood  
Sarah Compton-Bishop

Councillor Kieron Green  
John Stevens

**Attending:** Fiona Davies, Chief Officer, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
James Gow, Head of Finance and Transformation, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Moira Weatherstone, Interim Chief Internal Auditor, Argyll and Bute Council  
Charlotte Craig, Business Improvement Manager, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Lynsey Innis, Senior Committee Assistant, Argyll and Bute Council  
John Cornett, Audit Director, Audit Scotland  
Dafydd Jones, Trainee Auditor, Audit Scotland

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and general introductions were made.

There were no apologies for absence intimated.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (IF ANY)**

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**3. MINUTES**

The minute of the previous meeting of the Argyll and Bute HSCP Audit and Risk Committee, held on 10 December 2021, was approved as a correct record.

**4. DRAFT AB HSCP 2022/23 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN**

The Committee gave consideration to a report presenting the draft 2022/23 Argyll and Bute HSCP Internal Audit Plan. The report also provided an indicative audit plan for 2023/24.

Discussion was had in relation to issues such as workforce planning and social care staffing issues which members felt should be reflected in the plan and going forward, the need for the Committee to be alert to risks and opportunities for learning.

**Decision**

The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed the draft 2022/23 HSCP Internal Audit Plan and agreed to provide feedback to the Interim Chief Internal Auditor in advance of a finalised plan being presented to the Committee at its meeting on 12 April 2022.

(Reference: Report by Interim Chief Internal Auditor, dated 15 February 2022, submitted)

## **5. AUDIT SCOTLAND - SOCIAL CARE BRIEFING**

Consideration was given to a report which presented a briefing note recently published by Audit Scotland on the social care sector. The report highlighted a number of challenges facing the sector, its staff and those in need of care and carers. The report also provided a copy of the Account Commission's proposed work programme and highlighted other Audit Scotland publications that may be of interest.

### **Decision**

The Audit and Risk Committee –

1. Noted that Audit Scotland have published a briefing in respect of social care.
2. Noted that their report notes a series of severe challenges facing the sector and indicates that service delivery is at risk.
3. Noted that Audit Scotland suggest that urgent action is required by Government and the sector to address the risks and challenges raised in the report.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation, dated 15 February 2022, submitted)

## **6. AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22 - DRAFT**

The Committee gave consideration to a draft report providing an assessment of their work throughout the last financial year. The report contained information on the activity of the Committee, the self-evaluations completed by the Committee in February 2021 and the Committee membership and remit.

### **Decision**

The Audit and Risk Committee –

1. Considered the draft annual report for 2021/22.
2. Requested that the report is updated once the Annual Internal Audit Report is available.
3. Requested that a final version is considered by the Committee prior to issue to the Integration Joint Board.

(Reference: Report by Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, dated 15 February 2022, submitted)

## **7. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

The Audit Director advised that under International Standards for Auditing he was required to make enquiries regarding any known incidents of fraud. He took the opportunity to enquire as to whether the Committee were aware of any incidents within the last 12 months. The Committee advised that they were not aware of any incidents.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Audit and Risk Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 12 April 2022.