

**MINUTES of MEETING of ARGYLL AND BUTE HSCP FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE  
held in the BY MICROSOFT TEAMS  
on FRIDAY, 5 AUGUST 2022**

**Present:** Councillor Amanda Hampsey (Chair)

Kenny Mathieson  
Graham Bell

Sarah Compton-Bishop  
Councillor Gary Mulvaney

**Attending:** James Gow, Head of Finance and Transformation, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Stephen Whiston, Head of Planning, Performance and Technology, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Jillian Torrens, Head of Adult Services, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Charlotte Craig, Business Improvement Manager, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Caroline Cherry, Head of Adult Services, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Evan Beswick, Head of Primary Care, NHS Highland  
David Gibson, Chief Social Worker/Head of Children, Families and Justice, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Kirstie Reid, Carers Representative, NHS Highland  
Fiona Thomson, Lead Pharmacist, NHS Highland  
Fiona Broderick, Staffside, Argyll and Bute HSCP  
Hazel MacInnes, Committee Services Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Fiona Davies and Elizabeth Higgins.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 27 May 2022 were approved as a correct record.

**4. BUDGET MONITORING - 3 MONTHS TO 30 JUNE 2022**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing a summary of the financial position of the Health and Social Care Partnership as at 30 June 2022 and an early forecast for the year. The report also provided an update in respect of the delivery of the savings programme and utilisation of reserves.

**Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted that the transition to a new ledger system within the Council has had an impact on the Quarter 1 financial reporting as transaction processing has been prioritised.
2. Noted that the current position is a small overspend in respect of NHS budgets.
3. Noted that there is a small forecast revenue overspend of £346k as at 30 June 2022 and that it is anticipated that the HSCP will operate within budget in the current year.
4. Noted progress with the savings programme and confirmation of £3.5m in savings delivered, 42% of target.
5. Noted that earmarked reserves of £2.6m has been committed to date for spend in 2022/23.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated 5 August 2022, submitted)

## **5. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023-2026**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing the current medium term financial plan for the HSCP covering 2023/24 to 2025/26. The report provided the basis for detailed financial planning which would be used to inform the savings target for 2023/24.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the draft Financial Plan and budget outlook for 2023-24 to 2025-26.
2. Noted the risks and uncertainties regarding the Financial Plan.
3. Noted the forecast budget gap and endorsed the proposal that the HSCP seeks to develop a Value for Money Strategy aimed at addressing the budget gap.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated 5 August 2022, submitted)

## **6. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing a progress overview and update in respect of the Transformation Programme following on from the July meeting of the Transformation Board.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee noted the progress with the Transformation Programme and provided scrutiny in connection with progress and direction of the programme and its priorities.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated 5 August 2022, submitted)

## **7. FINANCIAL RISKS**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an update on the perceived financial risks facing the HSCP which could have an impact upon financial performance during 2022/23.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the 2022/23 financial risks identified for the HSCP as at 30 June 2022 and noted the mitigations.
2. Noted that financial risks would be reviewed and reported every two months.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated 5 August 2022, submitted)

## **8. SAVINGS PROGRESS UPDATE - CORPORATE**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing a summary of the Corporate Services savings 2021/22 year end position, the 2022/23 position as at 26 July 2022, the current challenged to delivery of savings, and planned actions to progress the outstanding savings.

### **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted the year end position 2021/22 of the corporate savings programme.
2. Noted the progress in respect of the 2022/23 corporate savings programme.
3. Noted the challenges to achieving savings in 2022/23.
4. Noted the Digital Modernisation Newsletter.

(Reference: Report by Head of Strategic Planning, Performance and Technology dated 5 August 2022, submitted)

## **9. PRIMARY CARE DEEP DIVE REPORT - TO FOLLOW**

The Committee were advised that no report would come forward for this meeting and noted that the Head of Finance and Transformation had provided an update on this under item 6 of the agenda (Transformation Programme Update).

## **10. AUDIT SCOTLAND IJB FINANCIAL ANALYSIS 2020/21 - FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing a summary of findings from Audit Scotland's analysis of the financial performance of IJB's across Scotland based on data relating to the 2020/21 financial year.

## **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee noted the Audit Scotland Financial Analysis report for the year ended 31 March 2021, published in June 2022.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated 5 August 2022, submitted)

## **11. UNAUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2021/22 - FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an opportunity to review the unaudited annual accounts for the year 2021/22 which had been produced in line with the agreed timetable.

## **Decision**

The Finance and Policy Committee –

1. Noted that the Audit & Risk Committee had approved the Unaudited Annual Accounts and Report.
2. Noted the unaudited accounts and the opportunity to feedback any suggested amendments.
3. Noted the earmarking of reserves being carried forward (note 7 of the Annual Accounts) as endorsed by the Audit & Risk Committee.

(Reference: Report by Head of Finance and Transformation dated 5 August 2022, submitted)

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was noted as Friday 28 October 2022.