Fife Health & Social Care Partnership
Supporting the people of Fife together

CONFIRMED MINUTE OF THE FINANCE, PERFORMANCE & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
FRIDAY 15TH MAY 2026 AT 10.00 AM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Present: Cllr David Alexander (Chair)
Cllr Dave Dempsey
Alistair Morris, NHS Non-Executive Board Member

Attending: Tracy Hogg, Chief Finance Officer
Vanessa Salmond, Head of Strategic Planning & Performance
Roy Lawrence, Head of Culture, Engagement & Communities
Chris Conroy, Head of Integrated Community Care Service
Lisa Cooper, Head of Primary and Preventative Care Services

In Attendance: Karolina Dziubel, Management Support Officer (Minutes)

Apologies for Absence: John Kemp, NHS Non-Executive Board Member
Lynne Garvey, Director of Health & Social Care Partnership
Karen Marwick, Head of Complex & Critical Care
Aylene Kelman, Deputy Medical Director

No.	Item	ACTION
1.	**WELCOME AND APOLOGIES** Cllr David Alexander welcomed members to the meeting and apologies were noted as above. Members were reminded that the meeting was being recorded via MS Teams to support accurate minute taking. The Committee noted the requirement for succinct contributions to support effective time management.	
2.	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** No declarations of interest were made.	
3.	**MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 11th MARCH 2026** The Committee approved previous minutes as an accurate record.	

4.	**MATTERS ARISING / ACTION LOG** The Committee reviewed the action log. All actions noted have been actioned and are either complete or in progress. Updates were provided prior to the meeting. Dave Dempsey raised a query regarding the action dated 14th January 2026 with regards to SMART actions within the Risk Register Deep Dive Review. Tracy Hogg, Chief Finance Officer confirmed further clarification would be sought and reported back.	**TH**
5.	**STANDING ITEMS**	
5.1	**Annual Governance Statement** The Chair invited Vanessa Salmond, Head of Strategic Planning & Performance to speak to the report. Vanessa Salmond presented the Annual Governance Statement report, advising that it provides formal assurance regarding the effectiveness of governance arrangements across 2025-26. Responsibilities have been fulfilled and were fully aligned with the directions issued by the IJB. Vanessa Salmond confirmed that the governance structures operated effectively, committees met on a regular basis, meetings were quorate and compliant with their Terms of Reference. The integration scheme within the governance manual and the use if a work plan ensured a coverage of remit and statutory duties. No material control weaknesses or issues required disclosure. Discussion took place and Cllr Dempsey highlighted the wording within paragraph 2.1 could be interpreted that the Finance, Performance and Scrutiny Committee has other sub-committees. Cllr Dempsey has also brought to attention minor inconsistencies in paragraph numbering. **Recommendation:** Members of the Finance, Performance and Scrutiny Committee were asked to consider this report for review prior submission to the IJB and to take assurance that the Committee structure supports delivery of strategic priorities and that the operation of strategic risks is being managed effectively. **Decision:** 1. The Committee reviewed and commented on the Annual Governance Statement and agreed onward submission to the IJB, subject to minor amendments. 2. The Committee took assurance regarding the effectiveness of governance arrangements.	**VS**
6.	**FINANCE**	
6.1	**Finance Update (Finance Report inc. Savings Tracker)** The Committee considered a report by Tracy Hogg, Chief Finance Officer, outlining the provisional year-end financial outturn for 2025–26,	

	noting an overspend of £9.515m. This represented an improvement from the previously reported position, and a significant reduction compared to the prior year, although it remains a financial pressure requiring application of the risk share agreement. Key cost pressures were noted across mental health, adult social care demand, prescribing and out-of-area treatments, with partial mitigation achieved through in-year management actions and underspends in other areas. Delivery of savings totalled £24.3m against a £29.4m target, with the shortfall expected to be addressed through the Medium-Term Financial Strategy. Members undertook focused scrutiny of the financial position, particularly: • The underlying financial volatility and scale of in-year movement. • The deliverability and sustainability of savings. • Specific cost pressures, including GP superannuation. Officers advised that the majority of savings are recurring, with some delivery delays attributable to timing rather than non-achievement. Members acknowledged the improved outturn position and the scale of savings delivered. However, ongoing financial pressures and underlying volatility were noted, and Members sought continued assurance regarding the sustainability of savings and delivery of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy. **Recommendation:** Members of the Finance, Performance and Scrutiny Committee were asked to consider this report for noting the provisional outturn for 2025-26 and noting onward submission to the IJB along with the Directions issued to NHS Fife and Fife Council. **Decision:** 1. Committee considered the report presented by Tracy Hogg, outlining the provisional year-end financial outturn position for 2025–26 and noted onward submission to the IJB.	
7.	**PERFORMANCE**	
7.1	**Monitoring Progress of Directions** The Chair invited Vanessa Salmond, Head of Strategic Planning & Performance to present the report. Vanessa Salmond presented the report to provide an update to the Committee on implementation and monitoring of directions issued by the Fife IJB to NHS Fife and Fife Council. Vanessa Salmond advised that those directions are a key statutory mechanism within an	

	integration scheme, enabling the IJB to formally instruct delivery partners and ensuring clear accountability for delivery. Vanessa Salmond highlighted that as at the end of March 2026 a total of 15 directions have been issued. Nine have been fully delivered, two have been closed due to being superseded, and four remain open. Of the four open remaining directions, two are progressing as expected, and two are marked as currently at risk of delivery and this is primarily due to ongoing financial pressures and wider system demand. These remain open until conclusion of the external audit process of the annual accounts as per normal practice. **Recommendations:** Members of the Finance, Performance and Scrutiny Committee were asked to consider this report for moderate assurance that appropriate governance arrangements are being advanced as per the requirements of the Integration Scheme. **Decision:** 1. The Committee took moderate assurance regarding the implementation of Directions and the robustness of monitoring arrangements.	
8.	**TRANSFORMATION**	
8.1	**Delivering Improvements in Unscheduled Care** The chair invited Chris Conroy, Head of Integrated Community Care Service to present the report. The Committee considered a report providing an update on governance, oversight and delivery of the Unscheduled Care Programme, aimed at improving system flow and reducing unnecessary hospital admissions. Key delivery programmes and associated funding were noted, alongside the ongoing system pressures relating to demand and workforce capacity. Members undertook focused discussion on the effectiveness and maturity of the programme, including: • The complexity and interdependencies across the system. • The need for whole-system visibility of impact and performance. • The importance of public awareness and use of alternative care pathways. Dave Dempsey advised that he was not yet assured on the basis of the report and confirmed that further discussion with Chris as the lead officer, had been arranged. Officers acknowledged the challenges and confirmed a commitment to:	

	• Strengthened whole-system reporting, including six-monthly updates. • Continued development of governance and oversight arrangements. Members noted progress in establishing programme structures, however full assurance was not achieved at this stage, with further clarity required on impact, delivery and system-wide outcomes. **Recommendation:** Members of the Finance, Performance and Scrutiny Committee were asked to take assurance from the governance, accountability and oversight arrangements in place for Unscheduled Care / Improving Flow delivery and to note the updated governance structure and the key programme workstreams underway. **Decision:** 1. The committee noted the report and agreed that full assurance has not been achieved yet. Pending further discussion between Cllr Dempsey and Chris Conroy, an action will be logged and the Committee agreed to await updates from Chris.	**CC/DD**
9.	**GOVERNANCE**	
9.1	**Workplan** The chair invited Tracy Hogg, Chief Finance Officer to present the Workplan. Tracy Hogg advised this item was presented noting the papers which are scheduled for future meetings. Vanessa Salmond advised that the workplan is undergoing a review with regards to the volume of papers presented at certain Committee dates, particularly July and November. Once the review has been carried out, it will allow more balance between the number of papers scheduled for each Committee. The Committee noted the workplan and no comments have been recorded.	
10.	**ITEMS FOR HIGHLIGHTING** Cllr David Alexander confirmed with the Committee that further assurance will be sought with regards to the Unscheduled Care Report, awaiting Chris Conroy's update after meeting Cllr Dempsey.	
11.	**AOCB** No other business has been discussed.	
12.	**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** Tuesday 21st July 2026 at 1.30pm via MS Teams	