

Stephen Brown (Chief Officer)
Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership
01856873535 extension: 2601
OHACfeedback@orkney.gov.uk



Agenda Item: 9.

Performance and Audit Committee

Date of Meeting: 26 June 2024.

Subject: Governance Arrangements for Inspection Reports.

1. Purpose

1.1. To advise members of the governance arrangements for all inspections reports for services delegated to the Integration Joint Board.

2. Recommendations

The Performance and Audit Committee is invited to note:

2.1. That national regulatory and/or external scrutiny agencies such as the Care Inspectorate and the Mental Welfare Commission regularly inspect services to ensure a continued focus is maintained on improvement.

2.2. The governance arrangements for all inspection reports for services delegated to the Integration Joint Board, as detailed in sections 4 to 6 of this report.

3. Background

3.1. The Care Inspectorate is the national regulator for care services in Scotland and inspects services to ensure services are meeting appropriate standards and that there is a continued focus on improvement.

3.2. The Mental Welfare Commission is part of the UK National Preventive Mechanism, which ensures the UK fulfils its obligations under UN treaties to monitor places where people are detained under the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003, prevent ill-treatment, and ensure detention is consistent with international standards.

3.3. On 6 December 2023, when scrutinising the six-monthly assurance report on inspection activities for registered services within the Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership, members of the Committee requested guidance on the governance arrangements for such inspection reports.

4. Strategic Care Inspectorate Reports

4.1. Every two to three years the Care Inspectorate, supported by a range of partner agencies including Healthcare Improvement Scotland, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland and Education Scotland, undertake strategic inspections on behalf of Scottish Ministers.

4.2. As the strategic inspections are multi-agency in nature which affects both services delegated to the Integration Joint Board, as well as those that are not, all strategic reports will be presented to the Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee, a joint committee of the Integration Joint Board and NHS Orkney.

4.2.1. The Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee will receive reports to enable members to note all inspection reports including any recommendations and/or requirements, to seek assurance that improvement plans have been submitted and actions progressed. These reports will ensure visibility for the NHS Board and the Integration Joint Board.

4.3. Strategic inspections will also be presented to the Policy and Resources Committee to ensure that Orkney Islands Council, as the other statutory partner, also has full visibility.

4.3.1. The Policy and Resources Committee will receive reports noting recommendations and/or requirements arising from inspection reports, and to seek assurance that improvement plans have been developed and submitted by the deadline and that actions are being progressed.

5. Service Care Inspection Reports

5.1. The Care Inspectorate visits all regulated care services annually, and these can be either announced, announced (short notice) or unannounced visits.

5.2. A report will be presented to the Performance and Audit Committee on a six monthly basis, on all inspections undertaken in respect of regulated services, delegated through the Integration Scheme, over that timeframe to enable the Committee to seek assurance that, where required, action plans have been submitted to the Care Inspectorate and are being progressed where appropriate.

5.3. The Policy and Resources Committee will also be presented with the six-monthly assurance report given that delivery of the services is via Council staff.

5.3.1. The Chief Social Work Officer has professional accountability for oversight of all social work and social care functions and is accountable to the Council and the Integration Joint Board for the quality and improvement agenda relating to the regulated services. Each regulated service has a named Registered Manager who is responsible for ensuring that the service meets the appropriate standards and that recommendations and requirements resulting from inspections are fully implemented.

6. Mental Welfare Commission Local Visit Reports

6.1. The Mental Welfare Commission recently established visits to all local areas, following which Local Visit Reports are developed. These reports will contain a set of recommendations for improvement.

6.2. The Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee will be presented with local visit reports, including action plans.

6.2.1. Progress on recommendations from local visits will be contained within the six-monthly Mental Health Assurance Report presented to the Joint Clinical and Care Governance Committee. This will ensure that the NHS Board and the Integration Joint Board has visibility on the issues and actions arising from Mental Welfare Commission visits.

7. Contribution to quality

Please indicate which of the Orkney Community Plan 2023 to 2030 values are supported in this report adding Yes or No to the relevant area(s):

Resilience: To support and promote our strong communities.	Yes
Enterprise: To tackle crosscutting issues such as digital connectivity, transport, housing and fuel poverty.	No.
Equality: To encourage services to provide equal opportunities for everyone.	Yes
Fairness: To make sure socio-economic and social factors are balanced.	No.
Innovation: To overcome issues more effectively through partnership working.	Yes
Leadership: To involve partners such as community councils, community groups, voluntary groups and individuals in the process.	No.
Sustainability: To make sure economic and environmental factors are balanced.	No.

8. Resource and financial implications

8.1. There are no resource or financial implications arising from this report.

9. Risk and equality implications

9.1. There are no risk or equality implications directly arising from this report.

10. Direction required

Please indicate if this report requires a direction to be passed to:

NHS Orkney.	No.
Orkney Islands Council.	No.

11. Escalation required

Please indicate if this report requires escalated to:

NHS Orkney.	Yes.
Orkney Islands Council.	Yes.

12. Author and contact information

12.1. Stephen Brown (Chief Officer), Integration Joint Board. Email: stephen.brown3@nhs.scot, telephone: 01856873535 extension 2601.