



**REPORT TO:** East Lothian IJB Audit and Risk Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 10 January 2019

**BY:** Chief Finance Officer

**SUBJECT:** Audit Scotland Reports – Integration, Health & EU  
Withdrawal

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 This report summarises the findings of recent Audit Scotland reports regarding progress with health and social care integration and also a further Audit Scotland Report on EU withdrawal.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- i. Note the publication of the Audit Scotland Reports; and
  - ii. Support the proposal to report to a future meeting of the IJB any lessons and actions required in East Lothian as a result of these reports.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

### **Health and Social Care Integration – An Update on Progress**

- 3.1 This report was prepared by Audit Scotland and published on 15 November 2018: <http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/health-and-social-care-integration-update-on-progress> .
- 3.2 Key Messages: The report highlights that a stronger commitment is needed to collaborative working to achieve the long-term benefits of integration. It goes on to say that change will not happen without meaningful engagement with staff, communities and politicians. The report is also critical of financial planning arrangements being neither integrated nor long-term.

- 3.3 In summarising the key features that must be addressed if integration is to make a meaningful difference to the people of Scotland, the report notes the following:
- 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
- 3.4 A development session was held with NHS Lothian senior executive colleagues, IJB Chief Officers, chairs and vice chairs and Council Chief Executives within the Lothian area on 4 December to discuss the report in more detail and a verbal update on the output from this meeting will be shared with the Committee.

### **NHS in Scotland 2018**

- 3.5 This report was prepared by Audit Scotland and was published in October 2018 <http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/nhs-in-scotland-2018>.
- 3.6 Key Messages: The report concludes that NHS urgently needs to change by moving away from "short-term fire-fighting" to "long-term fundamental change" and goes on to say that in the longer term the NHS is not in a financially sustainable position.

### **Withdrawal from the European Union**

- 3.7 This report was also prepared by Audit Scotland and published in October 2018 <http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/withdrawal-from-the-european-union> .
- 3.8 Key Messages: The report highlights the keys issues for Public Bodies regarding withdrawal from the European Union. It suggests for public bodies to be asking themselves and classifies the issues into three themes people, finance and rules and regulations.
- 3.9 Scottish Government estimates 4.4 per cent of the total health and social care workforce in Scotland are non-UK EU nationals. Similarly Scottish Care estimates 6 – 8 per cent of the workforce in the independent social care nursing sector are from a non-UK European Economic Area and the General Medical Council highlights that almost 6 per cent of doctors working in Scotland obtained their primary medical qualification in a non-UK EEA country.

- 3.10 Public bodies may see an increase in the cost and availability of other essential goods and services an example of this may be it could take longer and be more expensive for NHS boards to access medicine or medical equipment.

#### **4 ENGAGEMENT**

- 4.1 The IJB's Audit and Risk committee is held in public and the papers are available on East Lothian Council's website.

#### **5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The framework focuses on supporting the implementation of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. There are no further policy implications arising from this paper.

#### **6 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 6.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

#### **7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Financial – none  
7.2 Personnel – none  
7.3 Other – none

#### **8 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 None

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