



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

**MEETING DATE:** 22 January 2020

**BY:** Chief Finance Officer

**SUBJECT:** Audit Scotland Report on NHS Scotland in 2019

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## 1 PURPOSE

This report summarises how the NHS in Scotland is performing and what is required to achieve a sustainable NHS.

## 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note the key messages contained in the Audit Scotland report.

## 3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Audit Scotland published a report on 24 October 2019 - "NHS Scotland in 2019" "The full publication of the report can be found here: <https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/nhs-in-scotland-2019>

### Key Messages

- 3.2 There is real pressure on the NHS. People in Scotland are living longer and more of us are needing treatment for the conditions that come with old age. More people were seen and treated on time in the last year and patient safety improved, but just two out of eight key waiting time standards were met as staff struggled to meet rising demand for care.
- 3.3. Large scale system wide reform that leads to less reliance on hospitals and more community based care is needed. Basic foundations are in place but increased focus on providing services away from hospitals is required. The ambitions within the Scottish Government 2020 Vision, which has successful integration of health and social care at its heart, are unlikely to be achieved by next year.
- 3.4 Financial sustainability also remains a challenge. Without reform it is predicted that spending across health and social care in Scotland will increase to around £20.6bn by 2023/24. Financial sustainability remains a challenge and without reform the Scottish Government predicts there could be a £1.8billion shortfall in funding for health and

social care by 2023/24.

#### **4 ENGAGEMENT**

- 4.1 The IJB's Audit and Risk committee is held in public and the papers are openly available online.

#### **5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no 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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