

ANGUS COUNCIL

SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 9 MARCH 2023

REPORTS RELEVANT TO THE WORK OF THE SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

REPORT BY CATHIE WYLLIE, SERVICE LEADER INTERNAL AUDIT

ABSTRACT

This report advises members of reports submitted to other Angus Council committees, the Council, Tayside Contracts and to the IJB that are relevant to the work of the Scrutiny and Audit committee.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Review the reports listed at Appendix 1
- (ii) Determine whether any of the reports should be the subject of a more detailed discussion by this committee

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

The work of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee supports the achievement of the corporate priorities set out in the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and the Council Plan. This report provides information for scrutiny, in line with the remit of the committee.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 Report 365/18 to this committee on 20 November 2018 set out the intention to submit regular summaries of reports submitted to other committees which are relevant to the work of this committee. Appendix 1 lists reports from the period 13 May 2022 to 27 January 2023.
- 3.2 This was last reported to this committee in June 2022 covering the period 18 December 2021 to 12 May 2022. Report 162/22 refers.

4. PROPOSALS

Members are asked to review the reports listed at Appendix 1 and to determine whether any further action is required by this committee.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality Impact Assessment is not required, as this report does not impact on people.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report are:

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List of Appendices: 1: Committee Reports 13 May 2022 to 27 January 2023.

APPENDIX 1

COMMITTEE REPORTS 13 May 2022 to 27 January 2023

Table 1: Reports submitted to Council and Council committees

Report No.	Council/ Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
R129/22	Angus Council 26 May 2022	The Ethical Standards in Public Life etc (Scotland) Act 2000 The Councillors Code of Conduct This report advises Council members of their responsibilities as Councillors under the Councillors' Code of Conduct,	1 and 9
R181/22	Angus Council 30 June 2022	ANGUSalive Update This report provides an update in relation to the use of ANGUSalive facilities as temporary vaccination centres in Arbroath, Forfar and Montrose, along with a brief update on progress with the development of ANGUSalive's Transformation Programme.	7
Information report 2	Children and Learning June 2022	Care Inspectorate Inspection of Strathmore Centre Short Break Service Strathmore Centre received an announced inspection, which was completed on 16 December 2021. There were no recommendations or requirements in the report	6

Report No.	Council/ Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
R301/22	Angus Council 8 September 2022	<p>Accounts Commission Best Value Audit Report 2022</p> <p>This report presents the Accounts Commission report on the Best Value Audit of Angus Council undertaken and concluded during the period between November 2021 and July 2022. It covers the period 2016 – 2022.</p> <p>Audit Scotland’s webpage ‘Publication: Best Value Assurance Report: Angus Council’ contains the main report, along with a range of summary information and videos summarising key information from the report. The Audit Scotland webpage summarises overall findings in its introductory headline as:</p> <p>“Angus Council serves its communities well, has made impressive improvements to services in recent years and benefits from effective leadership and a clear vision. There is strong partnership working and collaboration to help deliver services that benefit local people.”</p> <p>In addition, the report includes four recommendations as follows (pages 52 of the 2022 BVA Report refers):</p> <p>“Recommendation 1 - The council and AHSCP must develop and deliver significant savings plans over the next few years to secure financial sustainability. This will require changes to the range and scope of services being delivered.</p> <p>Recommendation 2 - The council needs to work better and more meaningfully with communities to engage with them to identify needs and opportunities and implement service changes that deliver the required savings.</p> <p>Recommendation 3 - The council should complete its implementation of the PLED programme which will improve the use of performance information and better demonstrate the impact of improvement actions.</p> <p>Recommendation 4 - The council should introduce its partially developed long-term financial planning framework.”</p>	1,3,5,6
R313/22	Angus Council 8 September 2022	<p>ANGUSalive: Transformation programme Update</p> <p>This report presents an update in relation to ANGUSalive’s Transformation Programme which is being progressed in partnership with the Council to support the organisation in working towards a sustainable long-term future. The report includes details of the range of proposals which, in some cases, are now at a stage in their development that requires Council consideration/approval to proceed. It also sets out the principles of the Council’s strategic direction for ANGUSalive, which will assist the organisation progress in a way that is closely aligned to the Council’s needs going forward.</p>	7
R305/22	Angus Council 8 September 2022	<p>Standards Commission Decision</p> <p>In terms of Section 18 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life Etc (Scotland) Act 2000 and Rule 10.9 of the Standards Commission Hearing Rules, the Council requires to consider, within three months, the terms of a written decision issued by the Standards Commission.</p>	9

Report No.	Council/ Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
R349/22	Angus Council 3 November 2022	Public Bodies' Climate Change Duties: Angus Council Annual Report 2021/22 This report relates to the period 2021/22, giving an overview of Angus Council's compliance with its climate change duties, with measures to improve performance relating to sustainability and climate change.	3 and 6
R364/22	Angus Council 3 November 2022	ANGUSalve: Transformation Programme Update This report presents an update in relation to ANGUSalve's Transformation Programme which is being progressed in partnership with the Council to support the organisation in working towards a sustainable long-term future. The report includes details of the range of proposals which, in some cases, are now at a stage in their development that requires Council consideration/approval to proceed. It also sets out the principles of the Council's strategic direction for ANGUSalve, which will assist the organisation progress in a way that is closely aligned to the Council's needs going forward.	7
R417/22	Angus Council 15 December 2022	Standards Commission Decision In terms of Section 18 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life Etc (Scotland) Act 2000 and Rule 10.9 of the Standards Commission Hearing Rules, the Council requires to consider, within three months, the terms of a written decision issued by the Standards Commission.	9
R325/22	Children and Learning Committee 20 September 2022	Angus Education Report 2021-22 and Angus Education Plan 2022-27 The Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000, as amended, introduced new planning and reporting duties on Education Authorities. This report presents Angus Council's Education Report for session 2021 to 2022 and the Angus Education Plan (AEP) for session 2022 to 2027. A copy of the 2022 to 2027 AEP, if approved, will be sent to Scottish Ministers in line with statutory requirements.	6
R326/22	Children and Learning Committee 20 September 2022	Angus Adoption Agency and Fostering Panel – Annual Report 2021-22 This report informs members of the Angus Adoption Agency and Fostering Panel annual report for 2021-22. The report provides an overview of Angus Council's ability to provide an effective service for children, foster carers, kinship carers and adoptive parents and notes demand on resources as well as the range of services provided. A copy of the annual report is appended.	6
R381/22	Children and Learning Committee 15 November 2022	Tayside Plan For Children, Young People and Families Annual Progress Report 2021-22 This report provides an update on the implementation of the Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families over the last 12 months. The report highlights progress being made in relation to the five priorities outlined in the plan, with a specific focus on the local impact of shared actions of the regional collaborative. A full update is outlined in the Tayside Plan Annual Report 2021-2022	6 and 7

Report No.	Council/ Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
R328/22	Communities committee 27 September 2022	<p>Housing Annual Assurance Statement</p> <p>This report gives an update on the Council's performance in relation to housing services, what action is being taken to improve performance, and provides information to support members to agree the annual assurance statement required by the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR).</p>	6
R331/22	Communities committee 27 September 2022	<p>Winter Roads Services Policy and Plan For 2022/23</p> <p>This report sets out the proposed Winter Roads Services Policy and details the proposed service provision for preventative treatment and snow clearing during the winter period 2022/23, together with contingency arrangements to cater for extreme conditions prevailing, in conjunction with the operational issues detailed in the Winter Roads Services Plan for 2022/23. This is as recommended by "Well Managed Highway Infrastructure – A Code of Practice</p>	6
R387/22	Communities committee 22 November 2022	<p>Arbroath Harbour – Port Marine Safety Code – Audit</p> <p>This report presents the updated version of the Marine Safety Management System for Arbroath Harbour along with the result of the 2022 Port Marine Safety Code Audit carried out by the council's Designated Person who measures performance against the Code.</p> <p>The summary presented in the table on page 5 of the report identifies that, for the ten-point healthcheck, Angus Council as the Statutory Harbour Authority for Arbroath Harbour was found to have 74 satisfactory components, 15 observations/recommendations and 0 non compliances. Marine operations and quayside checks were also carried out and 6 observations/recommendations were identified, Points of best practice were also identified in the report.</p>	6
R147/22	Policy and Resources Committee 21 June 2022	<p>Angus Health and Social Care Draft Integration Scheme</p> <p>This report provides information on the outcome of public consultation on a draft revised Integration Scheme for Angus Integration Joint Board and seeks approval of the revised Integration Scheme for Angus to allow submission for final approval by Scottish Ministers as required by the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.</p>	7
R148/22	Policy and Resources Committee 21 June 2022	<p>Angus Health and Social Care Partnership Workforce Plan 2022 – 2025</p> <p>Scottish Government requires Health and Social Care Partnerships to have a three year Workforce Plan commencing in 2022. Workforce Plans require to be submitted to Scottish Government by 31 July 2022. An analysis and feedback process will then be undertaken, following which Health and Social Care Partnerships should have their plans published on their websites by 31 October 2022. A significant number of staff (737 head count) working within the Angus Health and Social Care Workforce are employees of Angus Council. This report provides the Policy and Resources Committee with an overview of our approach to Workforce Planning in line with the new Scottish Government guidance, highlights the main workforce and invites feedback on the Workforce Plan.</p>	7

Report No.	Council/ Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)												
R346/22	Policy and Resources Committee 25 October 2022	<p>Annual Procurement Report</p> <p>This report presents the Council's statutory annual procurement report under section 15 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 and recommends that the Annual Report is now published, and the necessary return made to Scottish Ministers.</p>	6												
Information report 2	Children and Families June 2022	<p>Care Inspectorate Inspection of Strathmore Centre Short Break Service</p> <p>Strathmore Centre received an announced inspection, which was completed on 16 December 2021. The inspection report can be found online here</p> <p>Strathmore Centre inspection report and feedback given was extremely positive. The areas evaluated were awarded a grading of 5 (Very Good). There were no recommendations or requirements</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="576 763 1305 1234"> <tr> <td data-bbox="576 763 1129 837">How well do we support children and young people's wellbeing?</td> <td data-bbox="1129 763 1305 837">5-very good</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="576 837 1129 911">1.1 Children and young people experience compassion, dignity and respect</td> <td data-bbox="1129 837 1305 911">5-very good</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="576 911 1129 985">1.2 Children and young people get the most out of life</td> <td data-bbox="1129 911 1305 985">5-very good</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="576 985 1129 1088">1.3 Children and young people's health benefits from their care and support they experience</td> <td data-bbox="1129 985 1305 1088">5-very good</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="576 1088 1129 1137">How well is our care planned</td> <td data-bbox="1129 1088 1305 1137">5-very good</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="576 1137 1129 1234">5.1 Assessment and care planning reflects children and young people's needs and wishes</td> <td data-bbox="1129 1137 1305 1234">5-very good</td> </tr> </table>	How well do we support children and young people's wellbeing?	5-very good	1.1 Children and young people experience compassion, dignity and respect	5-very good	1.2 Children and young people get the most out of life	5-very good	1.3 Children and young people's health benefits from their care and support they experience	5-very good	How well is our care planned	5-very good	5.1 Assessment and care planning reflects children and young people's needs and wishes	5-very good	5
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Information report	September 2022	<p>Community Asset Transfer – 2021/22 Annual Report</p> <p>This report presents the Angus Council Annual Report on Community Asset Transfer activities in Angus covering the 2021/22 financial year.</p>	6												

Table 2: Reports submitted to Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board Audit Committee and Tayside Contracts Joint Committee. Angus Alive reports are not included here as their meetings are not held in public.

Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
IJB Audit Committee 22 June 2022	<p>Agenda and reports are available at AHSC IJB audit committee 22 june 2022 includes the minute from the Audit Committee meeting on 20 April 2022. Other reports of interest:</p> <p>Report IJB 42/22 – Internal Audit Reports – Follow-Up Actions Report IJB 43/22 – Governance Actions Plan Report IJB 44/22 --2021/22 Internal Audit Plan – progress report Report IJB 45/22 - Angus Annual Risk Management Report 2021/22 Report IJB 46/22 - 2021/22 Annual Internal Audit Report Report IJB 49/22 – Internal Audit Plan 2022/23</p>	7
IJB Audit Committee 24 August 2022	<p>Agenda and reports are available at AHSC IJB audit committee 24 august 2022 includes the minute from the Audit Committee meeting on 22 June 2022. Other reports of interest:</p> <p>Report IJB 59/22 – Internal Audit Reports – Follow-Up Actions Report IJB 60/22 – Governance Actions Plan Report IJB 61/22 --2021/22 and 2022/23 Internal Audit Plan – progress report Report IJB 62/22 - Internal Audit Report – Commissioned Services (AN06/22)</p>	7
IJB Audit Committee 7 December 2022	<p>Agenda and reports are available at AHSC IJB audit committee 7 december 2022 includes the minute from the Audit Committee meeting on 24 August 2022, and the special meeting on 22 September that considered the annual accounts for 2021/22. Other reports of interest:</p> <p>Report IJB 75/22 – Internal Audit Reports – Follow-Up Actions Report IJB 78/22 – Governance Actions Plan Report IJB 76/22 --2021/22 and 2022/23 Internal Audit Plan – progress report Report IJB 77/22 - Internal Audit Report – Commissioned Services (AN06/22) Report IJB 84/22 – Internal Audit Report – Sustainability of Primary Care (AN05/22)</p>	7

Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
<p>Tayside Contracts Joint Committee 20 June 2022</p>	<p>Agenda and reports are available: https://www.tayside-contracts.co.uk/assets/user/files/Committee_Reports/tcjc200622(pub)ag.pdf Including the minute of the meeting on 14 March 2022.</p> <p>Reports of particular interest: Item 13 Internal Audit Outcomes from Reviews and Plan for 2022/23. The report includes the outcomes from three Internal Audit reports and the annual plan for 2022/23 The internal audit assurance levels are: Strong – Controls satisfactory, no major weaknesses found, , no or only minor recommendations identified Substantial – Controls largely satisfactory although some weaknesses identified, recommendations for improvement made Weak – Controls unsatisfactory and major systems weaknesses identified that require to be addressed immediately No – No or very limited controls in place leaving the system open to significant error or abuse, recommendations made require to be implemented immediately</p> <p>Annual Report Wylie and Bisset concluded that they are satisfied that sufficient internal audit work has been undertaken to allow them to draw a conclusion as to the adequacy and effectiveness of Tayside Contracts risk management, control and governance processes. In their opinion, Tayside Contracts did have adequate and effective risk management, control and governance processes to manage the achievement of its objectives at the time of their audit work. In Wylie and Bisset’s opinion, Tayside Contracts has proper arrangements to promote and secure value for money.</p> <p>Follow-up Review Strong level of assurance that the organisation has endeavoured to implement recommendations as far as possible.</p> <p>Business Continuity Planning Review Substantial assurance, 10 areas of good practice identified and 3 medium grade and 6 low grade recommendations</p>	<p>7</p>

Extract from Scrutiny and Audit committee remit

- (1) To review all aspects of the Council’s corporate governance arrangements against the CIPFA Delivering Good Governance Framework and to consider the Council’s local code of corporate governance.
- (3) To consider the council’s framework of assurance and ensure that it adequately addresses the risks and priorities of the council.
- (5) To consider reports by external agencies insofar as they contribute to the overall assessment of governance, risk and internal control.
- (6) To review the performance and effectiveness of the standard and level of service provided by council services.
- (7) To review the governance and assurance arrangements for significant partnerships or collaborations including IJB, ANGUSalive, and Tayside Contracts.
- (9) To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by councillors, co-opted members and employees, and advise on the adoption or revision of codes of conduct.