

ANGUS COUNCIL

SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 4 MARCH 2025

REPORTS RELEVANT TO THE WORK OF THE SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

REPORT BY CATHIE WYLLIE, SERVICE LEADER - INTERNAL AUDIT

1. ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report advises members of reports submitted to other Angus Council committees, the Council, and partner bodies that are relevant to the work of the Scrutiny and Audit committee.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLANS

- 2.1 The work of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee supports the achievement of the corporate priorities set out in Community and Council Plans. This report provides information for scrutiny, in line with the remit of the committee.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny and Audit Committee:

- (i) Reviews the reports listed at Appendix 1; and
- (ii) Determines whether any of the reports should be the subject of a more detailed discussion by this committee.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 This was last reported to this committee in August 2024 covering the period 19 March 2024 to 17 July 2024. Report 236/24 refers. Appendix 1 lists reports from the period 18 July 2024 to 3 February 2025 for key partnership bodies.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 There are no direct risk management implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

- 8.1 A screening assessment has been undertaken and a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required for the following reason: - this report is providing reflective information for elected members.

9. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND WELLBEING IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 A Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment has been undertaken, and a full assessment is not required as the "General Principles" do not apply to this proposal.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 This report was circulated for consultation to all Directors of the Council.

NOTE: 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:

Report 365/18

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List of Appendices: 1: Committee Reports 18 July 2024 to date 2025

COMMITTEE REPORTS 18 July 2024 to 3 February 2025**Table 1: Reports submitted to Council and Council committees**

Report No.	Council/Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
274/24	Angus Council 12 September 2024	Review of Senior Management Arrangements Following the retirement of the Depute Chief Executive on 31 July 2024 it is proposed that a review of the Council's senior management structure and arrangements is undertaken drawing on support commissioned from an external professional adviser as required.	40
275/24	Angus Council 12 September 2024	Angus Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategy and Delivery Plan Final Report This report seeks the approval of the Angus Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) and Delivery Plan.	40
296/24	Angus Council (Special) 26 September 2024	Proposed changes to committees to comply with the principles of political proportionality, details of appointments to committees etc and appointment of Depute Provost This Report notes the resignations of Councillors Boyd and Cowdy from the Administration Group, the effect this has had on political proportionality and sets out the current position in relation to Committee membership options to ensure the Council is compliant with the Scheme of Governance with regard to the principles of political balance. The Report also asks the Council to fill the Depute Provost vacancy following the election of Councillor Clark, the then current Depute Provost, to Provost.	15
329/24	Angus Council 7 November 2024	Angus Integrated Children's Service – the Angus Promise progress Report 2021-2024 and Promise Plan 2024-2027 This report presents an overview of the partnership work by corporate parents from April 2021 to March 2024 to deliver improvements for our looked after children and young people in line with the vision for our young people as laid out in our Corporate Parenting, Angus Promise Plan Progress Report 2021-24.	40, 9
333/24	Angus Council 7 November 2024	Public Bodies' Climate Change Duties – Angus Council Annual Report 2023/24 This report provides an overview of the Council's compliance with its climate change duties for the 2023/24 period. The report also provides an update on the progress made in relation to the Council's measures to improve performance relating to sustainability and climate change and seeks agreement to submit the report to Scottish Government.	40

Report No.	Council/Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
390/24	Angus Council 19 December 2024	Performance Management Framework This report presents the Council's Performance Management Framework which sets out a range of improvements to how performance is monitored and reported across the Council. The Framework is intended to provide the required level of accountability and assurances in relation to performance management arrangements, building on the current Performance Led (PLED) Council programme approach.	40
391/24	Angus Council 19 December 2024	Housing Member Officer Working Group Recommendations This report sets out the findings of the Housing Member Officer Working Group (MOWG) and requests Members to determine whether to establish a new Housing Committee. If Members determine to establish a Housing Committee, Council is asked to approve the proposed Terms of Reference and schedule of meetings, make appointments to the Committee and appoint a Convener and Vice Convener. Members are also asked to agree to appoint three tenant representatives to the Committee in a non-voting capacity in terms of a Scheme adopted by the Council.	15
289/24	Communities committee 1 October 2024	Housing Service Performance and Improvement Update and Annual Assurance Statement Plan 2024-2025 This report gives an update on the Council's performance in relation to housing services, and the action being taken to improve performance; and provides information to support members to agree the annual assurance statement required by the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR).	40
217/24	Family, Education and Justice Committee 15 August 2024	Angus School Inspection Report St Thomas R.C. Primary School This report is to update members of the Family, Education and Justice Committee on the recent publication of Education Scotland reports on inspection activity in Angus schools. Leadership of change good Learning, teaching and assessment good Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion good Raising attainment and achievement good	40

Report No.	Council/Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
220/24	Family, Education and Justice Committee 15 August 2024	<p>Angus Community Justice Partnership (ACJP) Local Area Report April 2022 – March 2023</p> <p>This report presents the Angus Community Justice Partnership (ACJP) Local Area Report for March 2022 to April 2023. The report is intended to provide an overview of the work of the ACJP and brief members on the priority areas moving into the next year. The Angus Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (ACJOIP) 2020-23 has been extended for a further year until 31 March 2024 with work currently underway to conclude the plan 2024 – 2027 ensuring that alignment is made with other Protecting People Partnerships and Committees within Angus.</p>	40, 9

Report No.	Council/Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
280/24	Family, Education and Justice Committee 24 September 2024	<p>Angus Council Community Learning and Development Plan Progress Visit Report</p> <p>This report is to update members of the Family, Education and Justice Committee on the recent publication of an Education Scotland Progress Visit Report on the delivery of the Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan</p> <p>The report includes</p> <p>Areas of positive progress</p> <p>“Overall the leadership of CLD is strong and provides clear direction”</p> <p>“A key aspect of the planning and monitoring of CLD in Angus is the very well developed culture of working with partners”</p> <p>“CLD partners make effective use of data and local intelligence to identify needs.”</p> <p>“Partners are skilled at reaching those most affected by disadvantage.”</p> <p>“Adults are gaining confidence and relevant skills through learning programmes”</p> <p>“Active and ambitious community organisations are increasing learning opportunities and, in some cases, delivering substantial infrastructure projects.”</p> <p>Areas for development</p> <p>“Learners and community representatives are not yet involved in CLD strategic decision making.”</p> <p>“CLD partnership approaches to joint self-evaluation are not consistent across all partnerships.”</p> <p>“Partners cannot yet evidence the full impact of CLD.”</p> <p>“Young people’s achievements are not fully recognised and captured across providers”</p> <p>The final comment is that “The local authority and their CLD partners are making sufficient progress with their CLD plan and have the capacity to continue to improve. As a result, HM Inspectors will take no further action in relation to this progress visit. During the inspection, we identified an aspect of highly effective practice which we would like to explore further.”</p>	40, 9
281/24	Family, Education and Justice Committee 24 September 2024	<p>Angus Education Report 2023-24 and update of Angus Education Plan 2022-27</p> <p>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 2023-24 and an update to the Angus Education Plan (AEP) 2022-27.</p>	40

Report No.	Council/Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
282/24	Family, Education and Justice Committee 24 September 2024	<p>Angus Adoption Agency Annual Report 2023-2024</p> <p>This report informs members of the Family, Education & Justice Committee of the Angus Adoption Agency annual report for 2023-24. 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.</p>	40
343/24	Family, Education and Justice Committee 19 November 2024	<p>Angus School Inspection Report – Hayshead Primary School</p> <p>This report is to update members of the Family, Education and Justice Committee on the recent publication of an Education Scotland report on inspection activity in an Angus school.</p> <p>Leadership of change very good Learning, teaching and assessment good Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion very good Raising attainment and achievement good</p>	40
346/24/	Family, Education and Justice Committee 19 November 2024	<p>Tayside Plan for Infants, Children, Young People and families 2023-2026, Annual Progress Report 2023-2024</p> <p>This Report provides an update on the progress made in 2023-24 towards the priorities in the Tayside Plan for Infants, Children, Young People and Families 2023-2026 (Appendix 1 of report 346/24), hereinafter referred to as the Tayside Plan. The Tayside Plan Annual Report 2023-2024 (Appendix 2 of report 346/24) details progress being made in relation to the five collective commitments outlined in the Tayside Plan.</p>	40, 9
6/25	Family, Education and Justice Committee 14 January 2025	<p>Adult Protection Biennial Report April 2022 – March 2024</p> <p>This report presents the Angus Adult Protection Committee Biennial Report for March 2022 to April 2024. The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 set up multi-agency Adult Protection Committees (APCs) in every council area. APCs are responsible for monitoring and advising on adult protection procedures and practice, for ensuring appropriate cooperation between agencies and for improving the skills and knowledge of those with a responsibility for the protection of adults at risk. This report meets the statutory requirements under the above Act to report to the Scottish Ministers around local progress on a two-yearly basis.</p>	40, 9

Report No.	Council/Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
7/25	Family, Education and Justice Committee 14 January 2025	<p>Arbroath Academy Further Inspection Report</p> <p>This report is to update members of the Families, Education and Justice Committee on the recent further inspection of Arbroath Academy, which was carried out by Education Scotland and published in October 2024.</p> <p>The initial report issued in June 2023 concluded:</p> <p>Learning, teaching and assessment satisfactory</p> <p>Raising attainment and achievement weak</p> <p>The further inspection concluded “The school has made some progress since the original inspection. We will ask for a report on progress within eighteen months of the inspection.”</p>	40
9/25	Family, Education and Justice Committee 14 January 2025	<p>Angus Justice Social Work Service Annual Report 2023/24</p> <p>Statutory Criminal Justice Social Work Services are embedded within the Angus Justice Service (“AJS”). A range of teams deliver social work services to people who have committed offences and are involved in the justice, court and/or prison system. The wider service also includes provision for young people who are care experienced; unaccompanied asylum seeking children and young people; and bespoke support services for women. The report at Appendix 1 provides a detailed overview of the Council’s statutory Criminal Justice Social Work service provision during 2023/2024, and highlights volume, trend and performance information across the range of interventions being delivered to young people and adults.</p>	40
10/25	Family, Education and Justice Committee 14 January 2025	<p>Angus Community Justice Partnership Annual Report April 2023 – March 2024</p> <p>This report presents the Angus Community Justice Partnership (ACJP) Local Area Report for March 2023 to April 2024. The introduction of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 triggered the formal implementation of the new model of Community Justice in Scotland. The Angus Community Justice Partnership reports to the Angus Community Planning Partnership (ACPP). The ACJP also has delegated responsibility from the ACPP for oversight and leadership around the Angus Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy. This report is required by Community Justice Scotland and updates on local area activity ongoing towards embedding the Community Justice approach across Angus during the reporting period</p>	40, 9

Report No.	Council/Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
11/25	Family, Education and Justice Committee 14 January 2025	Care Inspectorate Inspection of Housing Support, Care leavers This report provides a summary to members of the Family, Education and Justice Committee of the inspection of the Social Work Housing Support Services to Care Leavers (part of the Horizon Through Care and After Care Service), which was completed on 8 August 2024 and reported on 13th December 2024 by the Care Inspectorate. The report provides an overview of the findings of the Care Inspectorate in respect of wellbeing, leadership and staff and highlights the areas for improvement that are required and the work being done to progress these.	40
312/24	Policy & Resources Committee 29 October 2024	Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000 – Annual Report The purpose of this report is to ask Committee to note that an annual review of the Council's "Policy and Guidelines on the Use of Covert Surveillance and Covert Human Intelligence Sources" and "Surveillance Through Social Media Policy" has been undertaken in accordance with guidance from the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office and that no amendments are required at present.	1
315/24	Policy & Resources Committee 29 October 2024	Angus Community Planning Partnership Annual Performance Report 2023/24 This report presents the Angus Community Planning Partnership Annual Performance Report 2023/24 and details the work delivered by the Angus Community Planning Partnership (ACPP) for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 including the Our Bright Futures Report and the Community Learning and Development Annual Report covering the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.	40, 9
376/24	Policy & Resources Committee 10 December 2024	Angus Council Transition to Net Zero Action Plan 2022 to 2023 – Annual Progress Update 2023/24 This report provides the annual update to Council on the implementation of the Transition to V Net Zero Action Plan 2022 – 2030 and details the progress made on our emission reduction targets for the period 2023/24.	40
377/24	Policy & Resources Committee 10 December 2024	Angus Council Grant Governance Proposals This report updates Members on progress with the new grant governance procedures approved by this Committee in October 2023. It also seeks approval for additional powers to be delegated to the Grants Sub-Committee that was established following Committee approval in October 2023. The additional powers being sought for the Grants Sub-Committee would allow it to consider and determine how non-core funding of £50,000 or more is spent or allocated and to set criteria in relation to that where applicable.	1, 5

Report No.	Council/Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
21/25	Policy & Resources Committee 28 January 2025	Annual Procurement Report 2023/24 This report presents the Council's statutory annual procurement report under the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 and recommends that the Annual Report is now published, and the necessary return made to Scottish Ministers.	1, 5

Table 2: Reports submitted to

- Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board and Audit Committee
- Tayside Contracts Joint Committee.
- Tayside Valuation Joint Board
- Tay Road Bridge Joint Board, and
- Tay Cities Region Deal 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 28 August 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at https://www.angus.gov.uk/angus_health_and_social_care_integration_joint_board_audit_committee_28_august_2024</p> <p>Reports of interest:</p> <p>Report IJB 41/24 – 2023/24 and 2024/25 Internal Audit Plans – Progress Report. The aim of this paper is to brief the Audit Committee on progress on the 2024/25 Internal Audit Plan. This report also includes internal audit reports that were commissioned by the partner Audit and Risk Committees, where the outputs are considered relevant for assurance purposes to Angus IJB, for information.</p> <p>Report IJB 42/24 – Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25</p> <p>Report IJB 43/24 – 2023/24 Angus IJB – Assurances Received from Partners</p> <p>Report IJB 44/24 – Annual Internal Audit Plan 2024/25</p>	9
IJB Audit Committee 30 October 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at https://www.angus.gov.uk/angus_health_and_social_care_integration_joint_board_audit_committee_30_october_2024</p> <p>Report IJB 73/24 – Internal Audit Reports – Follow-up Actions and Governance Action Plan</p> <p>Report IJB 74/24 – Audit Scotland – IJBs Finance & Performance 2024</p> <p>Report IJB 75/24 – 2023/24 Audited Annual Accounts</p>	9
IJB Audit Committee 18 December 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at https://www.angus.gov.uk/angus_health_and_social_care_integration_joint_board_audit_committee_18_december_2024</p> <p>Report IJB 88/24 – IJB Audit Committee Working Arrangements</p> <p>Report IJB 89/24 – Internal Audit Reports – Follow Up Actions and Governance Actions Plan</p> <p>Report IJB 90/24 – 2024/25 Internal Audit Plan – Progress Report</p> <p>Report IJB 91/24 – Risk & Resilience Mid-Year Report</p> <p>Report IJB 93/24 – 2023/24 External Annual Audit – Progress Report</p> <p>Report IJB 94/24 – Governance Document Update</p>	9

Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
IJB Board 28 August 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at</p> <p>https://www.angus.gov.uk/angus_health_and_social_care_integration_joint_board_28_august_2024</p> <p>This includes the Chair's Assurance Reports for the Strategic Planning Group (SPG); Clinical, Care & Professional Governance, and Audit Committee. Other reports of interest:</p> <p>Report IJB 53/24 – Strategic Planning Update Report IJB 57/24 – Angus IJB Audit Committee Annual Report 2023/24</p>	9
IJB Board 30 October 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at</p> <p>https://www.angus.gov.uk/angus_health_and_social_care_integration_joint_board_30_october_2024</p> <p>Report IJB 62/24 – Finance Report – 2024/25 Report IJB 63/24 – Strategic Planning Update Report IJB 68/24 – Risk Appetite</p>	9
IJB Board 18 December 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at</p> <p>https://www.angus.gov.uk/angus_health_and_social_care_integration_joint_board_18_december_2024</p> <p>Report IJB 80/24 – Finance Report 2024/25 Report IJB 84/24 - Angus Alcohol & Drugs Partnership Annual Report 2023-2024 Report IJB 85/24 – Clinical, Care and Professional Governance Assurance Report Report IJB 86/24 – Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2025/26-2029/30</p>	9

Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
Tayside Contracts Joint Committee 26 August 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at: Tayside Contracts Joint Committee - Style Letter (tayside-contracts.co.uk)</p> <p>Reports of particular interest: JC 20-2024 Tayside Contracts Medium Term Financial Plan JC 21-2024 Business Plan 2024-2027 JC23/2024 Internal Audit: Outcomes and Reviews 2023/2024 This included results from the Internal Auditor, Henderson Loggie, in their Annual Report, Follow up reviews and three audits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Annual Report concluded “In our opinion, with the exception of the issues highlighted in paragraph 1.9 above, Tayside Contracts has adequate and effective arrangements for risk management, control and governance. Proper arrangements are in place to promote and secure Value for Money. This opinion has been arrived at taking into consideration the work we have undertaken during 2023/24” paragraph 1.9 related to the findings from Report 2024/04 on Physical Security. • 2024/03 Stock Management Satisfactory - system meets control objectives with some weaknesses present. • 2024/04 Physical Security Requires Improvement - System has weaknesses that could prevent it achieving control objectives. • 2024/05 Staff recruitment, retention, and succession planning - Satisfactory - system meets control objectives with some weaknesses present. • 2024/06 Follow up reviews. This reviewed implementation from 2022/23 internal audit reports and concluded “good progress has been made in implementing the previous internal audit recommendations” Sixteen of twenty recommendations had been implemented, with 4 partially implemented. These were 2 re IT security, 1 re Follow-up on Management Assurance Review, and 1 from the 2022/23 follow-up review. <p>JC24/2024 Internal Audit Plan. The 2024/25 plan proposed the following audits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debtors/income • Estimating Construction - job costing and materials purchasing • ICT Project Management (Zellis system integration - lessons learned) • Follow-up reviews <p>JC26-2024 Annual sickness absence management and health surveillance report 2023/24 JC27/2024 Annual recruitment and retention report 2023/24 JC28/2024 Annual training and development report JC29/2024 Annual Health and Safety report</p>	9

Committee	Report Title / Summary	S&A remit (see below)
Tayside Valuation Joint Board 26 August 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at: Minutes & Agendas 2024 - Tayside Valuation Joint Board (tayside-vjb.gov.uk)</p> <p>Reports of particular interest: TVJB 17-2024 - Public Performance Report 2023-24 TVJB 19-2024 - Health & Safety Annual Report TVJB 20-2024 - Internal Audit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report 2024/05 - Non-Domestic Rates. Good Assurance - System meets control objectives. One grade 3 recommendation to review and update procedures was made. • Report 2024/06 - Annual Report. The annual opinion is “In our opinion, the Board has adequate and effective arrangements for risk management, control, and governance. Proper arrangements are in place to promote and secure Value for Money. This opinion has been arrived at taking into consideration the work we have undertaken during 2023/24, and in previous years since our initial appointment.” • Operational Plan for 2024/25. The plan proposes audits of the Council tax systems; the Electoral Register; IT systems development; and follow up reviews. <p>TVJB 21 Data Protection Annual Report</p>	9
Tay Road Bridge Joint Board 9 September 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at: trb090924ag.pdf (tayroadbridge.co.uk)</p> <p>Reports of particular interest: TRB22-2024 Annual review of risk management TRB 20-2024 Internal audit annual audit plan 2024/2025. Proposed plan covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payroll • Procurement and creditors/purchasing • Corporate Governance • Follow-up reviews 	9
Tay Cities Region Deal Joint Committee 13 December 2024	<p>Agenda and reports are available at: https://www.taycities.co.uk/sites/default/files/2024-12/TC131224ag.pdf</p> <p>Reports of particular interest: Tay Cities Regional Economic Strategy – Prospectus for Regional Growth 2025-2035</p>	9

Extract from Scrutiny and Audit committee remit

- (1) To review the Council's governance arrangements against the good governance framework, including the ethical framework, and consider the local code of governance.
- (5) To consider reports on the effectiveness of financial management arrangements, including compliance with CIPFA's Financial Management Code.
- (9) To review the governance and assurance arrangements for significant partnerships or collaborations including the IJB, ANGUSalive, and Tayside Contracts.
- (15) To consider the council's framework of assurance and ensure that it adequately addresses the risks and priorities of the council.
- (40) To review the performance and effectiveness of the standard and level of service provided by council services.