



AGENDA ITEM NO 8

REPORT NO IJB 36/25

ANGUS INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE

25 JUNE 2025

DIRECTIONS UPDATE

REPORT BY ALEXANDER BERRY, CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

1. ABSTRACT

The purpose of this report is to provide Angus Integration Joint Board (AIJB) Audit Committee with an update on the Directions issued by the IJB following the report issued to the Integration Joint Board Audit Committee in December 2024 (IJB 92/24).

2. BEST VALUE CHARACTERISTICS

This report contributes to the following best value characteristics

- Governance and accountability
- Effective use of resources
- Partnerships and collaborative working
- Sustainability

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board Audit Committee:

- (i) Review the status of any current Directions issued by Angus IJB; and
- (ii) Requests a further update be prepared for the IJB Audit Committee in December 2025.

4. BACKGROUND

The Angus IJB Directions Policy and Procedure was developed in line with the provisions set out in the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the Act) and the requirements of the Scottish Government statutory guidance on issuing and implementing directions (in development during 2019 and published formally in January 2020).

Directions are how the IJB action their Strategic Commissioning Plan to achieve its aims. Directions are also an important part of governance and accountability between its partner organisations. They are the legal basis by which the Health Board and the Local Authority deliver services that are under the control of the IJB. IJBs have a legal duty to both issue Directions and monitor their effectiveness

As outlined in the Angus Directions Policy and Procedure, Angus IJB's Audit Committee has devolved responsibility for overview of progress with the implementation of Directions, receiving twice-yearly progress reports (June and December), and escalating key delivery issues to the IJB.

This report outlines a summary of current or live Directions issued by the IJB from January 2022 to April 2025 and their status. The report does not provide detail of the Directions' content or commentary on their impacts, as it is considered that this level of oversight is

facilitated through the normal management arrangements of the IJB and Angus Health and Social Care Partnership.

On 13 December 2023 (report 90/23) the IJB Audit Committee agreed that Directions will be archived after they have appeared in an IJB Audit Committee report update as revoked, superseded or complete.

On 18 December 2024 (report 92/24), the IJB Audit Committee agreed to recommend to the IJB that a review date of the Directions Policy and Procedure be included and that future reviews be undertaken by the Integrated Joint Board Audit Committee. The Committee also recommended that where an existing Direction was still valid and remained within the Direction Log, that Authors of the IJB Reports related to the Direction must provide an update regarding the status of the previous Direction in reports to the IJB. These recommendations have not yet been formally accepted by the IJB but will be reflected in future reviews of the IJB's arrangements.

The IJB Audit Committee also advised that an IJB development session should be arranged with regards to the roles and responsibilities of members and when Directions should be considered.

5. CURRENT POSITION

Appendix 1 provides an updated summary of current IJB Directions.

The IJB issued one new Direction on 30 April 2025. As noted in report 92/24, the Audit Committee may wish to reflect on the low number of Directions that have been issued by the IJB.

Of the three Directions listed, two remain work in progress.

As suggested by the Audit Committee a Development Session will be arranged for IJB members to review roles, Standing Orders and Directions.

6. PROPOSALS

The IJB Audit Committee

- (i) Review the status of any current Directions issued by Angus IJB; and
- (ii) Requests a further update be prepared for the IJB Audit Committee in December 2025.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications associated with all issued Directions are set out in the original IJB reports and detailed in Appendix 1.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT, CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

Due to the governance nature of this report, it has been confirmed with the IJB Lead for Equalities reporting that an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required for this report. All Equalities issues will be managed and reported through mainstream reporting.

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List of Appendices: Appendix 1: Summary of current Directions issued by the IJB up to April 2025.

Appendix 1 Summary of the current Directions issued by the IJB.

Status Key:

Direction revoked	Not started	Direction superseded	Work in progress	Activities complete
			2	1

IJB Meeting Date & Report number	Report title	Direction Number & Issued to	Date Issued & Date Review	Functions covered by Direction	Full Text	Budget allocated by IJB to carry out direction	Review Date	Status
21/06/2023 35/23	Angus Primary Care General Practice Premises Strategy	03/23 NHST	21/06/23	Primary medical services provided under a general medical services contract, and arrangements for the provision of services made under section 17 C of the National Health Service Scotland act 1978, or an arrangement made in pursuance of section 2C(2) of the National Health Service Scotland Act 1978	NHS Tayside should provide the required cooperation to support the implementation of the actions in each of the identified priority areas detailed in the Angus GP Practice Premises Strategy.	The IJB's share of regional revenue budgets for General Medical Services (Property) will be committed to support this strategy. The IJB will use reserves (one off funding) to support this strategy where appropriate. There are no planned savings from this direction. NHS Tayside's commitment to the strategy will be supported through Corporate Support arrangements.	Dec-24	Work in progress at a local level with ongoing liaison with NHS Tayside. Last progress update provided within IJB Report 66/24.
21/06/2023 36/23	Primary Care Improvement Plan	04/23 NHST	21/06/23	Primary Medical Services	NHS Tayside should continue to implement the Primary Care Improvement Plan	The budget allocated to this direction was £4021k in relation to 23/24 expenditure.		Complete
30/04/2025 30/25	Social Care Planned Procurement and Commissioning Service Development Plan	D01/25 Angus Council	30/04/25	Commissioning of Adult Social Care in Angus.	IJB to direct Angus Council to implement the 2025-26 interim Market Facilitation Statement. IJB to direct Angus Council Procurement to enable Independent Care Homes to access the Proposed Care Home Development Fund.	Any future commissioning activity will be contained within AHSCP revenue budgets.	April-26	The Head of Service is arranging engagement sessions with providers and commissioned services in Angus to discuss the Interim Market Facilitation plan ahead of the next iteration of the Strategic Commissioning Plan and associated Market Facilitation Statement. An initial session has already taken place with Care Home providers.