

11. AUDIT SCOTLAND REPORT: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION: UPDATE ON PROGRESS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive providing an update on Audit Scotland's progress report on health and social care integration, attached as Appendix 1.

The report formed part of a five-year programme of work on integration and was the final of three performance reports Audit Scotland had produced. The aim of this audit was to examine the impact of public bodies as they integrated health and social care services.

The report had found that financial planning was not integrated, long term or focused on providing the best outcomes for people who needed support, thus limiting the ability of Integration Authorities to improve the health and social care system. Furthermore, relevant legislation had not been enacted and strategic planning faced significant barriers and required improvement. The report also highlighted the importance of appropriate leadership and engagement of all partners in order for successful reforms. It then recommended six areas that would need to be addressed for integration to make a meaningful difference for people in Scotland.

In the discussion that followed, the committee noted the Depute Chief Executive's view on progress in West Lothian and that a full review of the Strategic Plan was under way with a review of the Integration Scheme to be undertaken thereafter.

It was recommended that the Audit Committee:

1. Note Audit Scotland's findings in relation to progress against integration; and
2. Note the recommendations set out by Audit Scotland as requiring to be addressed to further integration and make a meaningful difference to people in Scotland.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.