



MINUTES OF MEETING of the AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in Council Chambers, Kilncraigs, Alloa on THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 2026 at 10 AM.

PRESENT

Councillor Janine Rennie (Chair)
Councillor Denis Coyne (Vice Chair)
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Fiona Law (S)
Councillor Kathleen Martin (S)

IN ATTENDANCE

Chris Alliston, Head of Corporate Services
Kevin Wells, Director of Place and Economy
Colin Bruce, Head of Wellbeing Service/Chief Education Officer
Sharon Robertson, Head of Wellbeing Service/Chief Social Work Officer
Lee Robertson, Senior Manager, Legal and Governance (Corporate Services)
Caroline Rodgers, Head of Place and Economy
Alastair Hair, Senior Manager, HR and Workforce Development (Corporate Services)
Cherie Jarvie, Senior Manager, Partnership and Transformation (Corporate Services)
Dr Jennifer Borthwick, Interim Chief Officer for Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)
Amy McDonald, Interim CFO for Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) (Via Teams)
Veronica Cully, Senior Manager, Inclusion and Partnership (Wellbeing) (Via Teams)
Adrienne Aitken, Senior Manager, ELC and Early Years (Wellbeing) (Chambers & Teams)
Margaret Lewis, Senior Manager, Care and Protection (Via Teams)
Lesley Taylor, Principal Psychologist (Wellbeing)
Madeleine Muirhead, Strategic Lead, Community, Collaboration and Redesign (Wellbeing)
Derek Barr, Procurement Manager (Corporate Services) (Via Teams)
Wendy Forrest, Head of Strategic Planning and Health Improvement (HSCP)
Judi Richardson, Performance and Information Adviser (Corporate Services) (Via Teams)
Wendy Robertson, Senior Manager (Transformation & Capital) (Via Teams)
Lesley Baillie, Strategy and Performance Adviser (Corporate Services) (Via Teams)
Rev Alison Britchfield, Religious Representative (Via Teams)
Helena Arthur, Solicitor, Legal and Governance (Corporate Services) (Depute Clerk to the Committee)
Councillor Scott Harrison, Ward 5, Clackmannanshire East
Melanie Moore, Committee Services, Legal and Governance (Corporate Services) (Minute)
Gillian White, Committee Services, Legal and Governance (Corporate Services)

The start of the meeting was delayed to 10 am due to the lack of quorum. The Audit and Scrutiny Committee requires that the majority of members are from the opposition. Councillor Martin was contacted and would attend on-line as a substitute for Councillor Keogh but could only attend until lunchtime. The chair advised that the following items will now be going to Council, they are:

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| Item 9 | Community Empowerment Act Reporting and Activity |
| Item 10 | Community Wellbeing Plan End of Year Report 2025/26 |
| Item 11 | Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act 2019 Statutory Annual Report 2025/26 |
| Item 13 | HSCP – Clackmannanshire Locality Performance 2026/27 Q1 (1 April to 30 June 2026) |

AS(26)40 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Keogh, Councillor Benny, Councillor Earle, Councillor Fairlie and Councillor Quinn. Councillor Law is in attendance today as a substitute for Councillor Fairlie and Councillor Martin was substitute for Councillor Keogh.

AS(26)41 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

**AS(26)42 MINUTE OF AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON
11 JUNE 2026**

The minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday 11 June 2026 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday 11 June 2026 were agreed as a correct record by the Committee and signed off by the Chair (10.48am).

**AS(26)43 EXCEPTIONS FROM THE APPLICATION OF CONTRACT STANDING
ORDERS**

It is a requirement of Contract Standing Orders that exceptions should be reported to the next available Audit and Scrutiny Committee. The purpose of this paper therefore is to provide detail on any Exceptions to Contract Standing Orders in the previous quarter.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Decision

Having challenged and commented the report, the Committee agreed to note the report.

AS(26)44 IJB YEAR END REPORT

The report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer, IJB, presented the 2025/26 year end for the IJB in draft subject to audit. The paper was brought forward for Council Members' information.

During this item Councillor Martin had technical issues. Committee was suspended for a few minutes to give Councillor Martin time to join the meeting again.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Denis Coyne.

These minutes are in draft format. They have not been formally approved by the Committee as a true minute of the Committee meeting to which they refer and should not be regarded as an official record of that meeting.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note:

1. The 2025/26 draft outturn position before partner contribution and use of reserves to address an overspend of £12,827m, the expected draft outcome for the IJB is a deficit of £827k;
2. The progress on the 2026/27 budget savings work.

AS(26)44 CLACKMANNANSHIRE AND STIRLING HSCP FINANCE REPORT

The report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer, HSCP, provided the Committee the current forecast year end outturn position for the Clackmannanshire and Stirling HSCP.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note:

1. The financial position of the Clackmannanshire and Stirling HSCP. The Clackmannanshire and Stirling HSCP is establishing a new Recovery Plan Governance Group to provide a formal mechanism for partner oversight and consultation of the HSCP financial Recovery Plan for 2026/27;
2. The HSCP Recovery Plan Governance Group will not replace the decision making responsibilities of the Integrated Joint Board or the statutory responsibilities of partner bodies.

AS(26)45 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIONS - PROGRESS REPORT

The report, submitted by the Head of Corporate Services, provided the Committee with an update on the progress against actions arising from Internal Audit reports.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Denis Coyne.

Decision

Having challenged and commented the report, the Committee agreed to note the report.

AS(26)46 RISK STRATEGY ANNUAL REPORT

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager, Partnership and Transformation, provided the Committee with the 2025/26 update on the Council's Corporate Risk Management Strategy 2023-28. This includes appendices detailing the 2026/26 Risk Appetite Statement, Guidance & Governance Checklist, and Corporate Risk & Integrity Forum Terms of Reference. Progress on the Risk Strategy Delivery Plan is also provided, as is the Corporate Risk Register as at the end of Quarter 1, 2026/27.

These minutes are in draft format. They have not been formally approved by the Committee as a true minute of the Committee meeting to which they refer and should not be regarded as an official record of that meeting.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Denis Coyne.

Decision

Having challenged and commented, the Committee agreed to note the report.

AS(26)47 HSCP – JOINT INSPECTION REPORT UPDATE

The report, submitted by the Interim Chief Officer Clackmannanshire and Stirling HSCP and the Service Manager, Clackmannanshire and Stirling HSCP, updated Committee on the progress with improvement actions arising from the Joint Healthcare Improvement Scotland/Care Inspectorate Inspection of Adult Services: Integration and Outcomes – Focus on People Living with Mental Illness, Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership. The report also advised Committee of the ongoing follow-up inspection, and update as to progress and anticipated reporting timelines.

During this item there were more technical issues and changed to another laptop.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note:

1. The progress to date with the Joint Inspection action plan, and the ongoing work to address areas of challenge;
2. The live follow-up inspection and the anticipated reporting timeline for this.

Ends 12:40 hrs