

# North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board

Annual Audit Plan 2016/17



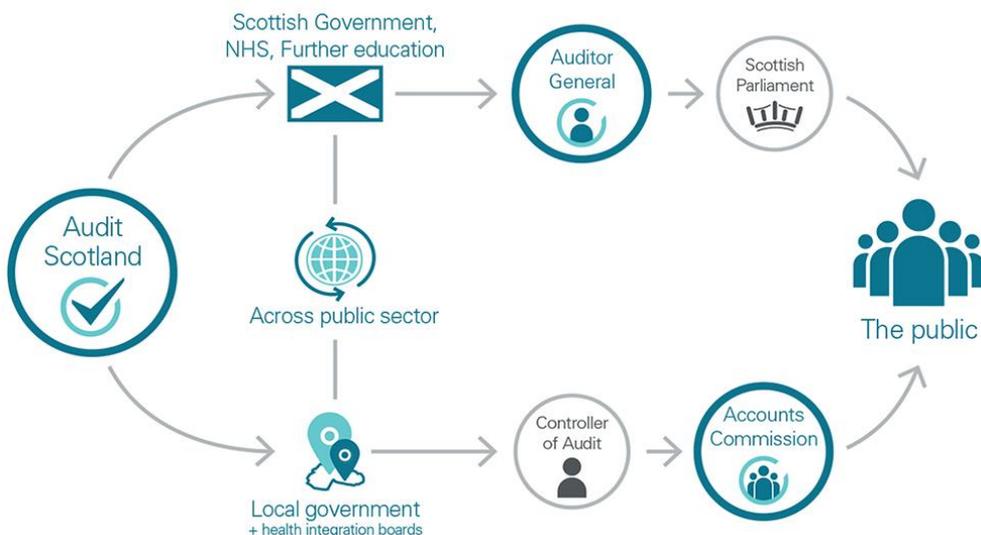
 AUDIT SCOTLAND

Prepared for North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board  
February 2017

# Who we are

The Auditor General, the Accounts Commission and Audit Scotland work together to deliver public audit in Scotland:

- The Auditor General is an independent crown appointment, made on the recommendation of the Scottish Parliament, to audit the Scottish Government, NHS and other bodies and report to Parliament on their financial health and performance.
- The Accounts Commission is an independent public body appointed by Scottish ministers to hold local government to account. The Controller of Audit is an independent post established by statute, with powers to report directly to the Commission on the audit of local government.
- Audit Scotland is governed by a board, consisting of the Auditor General, the chair of the Accounts Commission, a non-executive board chair, and two non-executive members appointed by the Scottish Commission for Public Audit, a commission of the Scottish Parliament.



# About us

Our vision is to be a world-class audit organisation that improves the use of public money.

Through our work for the Auditor General and the Accounts Commission, we provide independent assurance to the people of Scotland that public money is spent properly and provides value. We aim to achieve this by:

- carrying out relevant and timely audits of the way the public sector manages and spends money
- reporting our findings and conclusions in public
- identifying risks, making clear and relevant recommendations.

# Contents

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<b>Risks and planned work</b>	<b>4</b>
Audit risks	4
Reporting arrangements	5
Audit fee	5
Responsibilities	6
<b>Audit scope and timing</b>	<b>7</b>
Financial statements	7
Internal audit	8
Audit dimensions	9
Strategic plan for the five year appointment	10
Independence and objectivity	10
Quality control	11

# Risks and planned work

1. This annual audit plan contains an overview of the planned scope and timing of our audit and is carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), the [Code of Audit Practice](#), and any other relevant guidance. This plan identifies our audit work to provide an opinion on the financial statements and related matters and meet the wider scope requirements of public sector audit. The wider scope of public audit contributes to conclusions on the appropriateness, effectiveness and impact of corporate governance, performance management arrangements and financial sustainability.

## Audit risks

2. Based on our discussions with staff and a review of supporting information we have identified the following main risk areas for North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board. We have categorised these risks into financial risks and wider dimension risks. The key audit risks, which require specific audit testing, are detailed in [Exhibit 1](#).

## Exhibit 1

Audit Risk	Management assurances	Planned audit work
<b>Financial statement issues and risks</b>		
<p><b>1 Risk of management override of controls</b></p> <p>ISA 240 requires that audit work is planned to consider the risk of fraud, which is presumed to be a significant risk in any audit. This includes the risk of management override of controls in order to change the position disclosed in the financial statements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owing to the nature of this risk, assurances from management are not applicable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed testing of journal entries.</li> <li>Service auditor assurances will be obtained from the auditors of North Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire over the completeness, accuracy and allocation of the income and expenditure</li> </ul>
<p><b>2 Financial statements preparation</b></p> <p>The 2016/17 financial statements will require income, expenditure and year end balances to be agreed with North Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire. There is a risk that the procedures for agreeing the year end balances are not fully embedded and that the financial statements are not delivered to the agreed timescale and in the required format.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodic monitoring of financial information.</li> <li>Officers review the guidance issued by IRAG and LAASAC.</li> <li>Processes and procedures will be agreed to ensure information is provided in a timely manner to support the delivery of the financial statements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued engagement with officers prior to the accounts being prepared to ensure that the relevant information is disclosed and the timetable is met.</li> <li>Service auditor assurances will be obtained from the auditors of North Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire over the completeness, accuracy and allocation of the income and expenditure.</li> </ul>

Audit Risk	Management assurances	Planned audit work
<b>Wider dimension risks</b>		
<p><b>3 Budget overspends</b></p> <p>Based on the current budget monitoring (for the period to 31 October 2016) there is a projected overspend of £0.336 million. There are also additional pressures in relation to the prescribing budget where, due to the accounting process, the outcome will not be known until 2 months after the year end. There is a risk that an overspend is incurred which has to be distributed to the council and health board.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due diligence to be completed on the budget setting process.</li> <li>• Ongoing monitoring of the prescribing expenditure.</li> <li>• Agreement of budget recovery plans in line with the Financial Regulations as appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review outcome of due diligence exercise.</li> <li>• Ensure budget monitoring is robust and accurately reflects the financial position.</li> <li>• Confirmation of agreement of funding and balances with host bodies</li> </ul>

## Reporting arrangements

**3.** Audit reporting is the visible output for the annual audit. All annual audit plans and the outputs as detailed in [Exhibit 2](#), and any other outputs on matters of public interest will be published on our website: [www.audit-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk).

**4.** Matters arising from our audit will be reported on a timely basis and will include agreed action plans. Draft management reports will be issued to the relevant officers to confirm factual accuracy.

**5.** We will provide an independent auditor's report to North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board and the Accounts Commission that the audit of the financial statements has been completed in accordance with applicable statutory requirements. We will provide the Chief Accountable Officer and Accounts Commission with an annual report on the audit containing observations and recommendations on significant matters which have arisen in the course of the audit.

## Exhibit 2

### 2016/17 Audit outputs

Audit Output	Target date	Finance and Audit Sub-Committee/ Board meeting
Annual Audit Report including ISA 260 requirements	28th August 2017	5th September 2017
Signed Independent Auditor's Report	28th September 2017	26th September 2017

## Audit fee

**6.** The proposed audit fee for the 2016/17 audit of North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board is £17,400. In determining the audit fee we have taken account of the

risk exposure of North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board, the planned management assurances in place and reliance on the work of internal audit. Our audit approach assumes receipt of the unaudited financial statements, with a complete working papers package on 23rd May 2017.

**7.** Where our audit cannot proceed as planned through, for example, late receipt of unaudited financial statements or being unable to take planned reliance from the work of internal audit, a supplementary fee may be levied. An additional fee may also be required in relation to any work or other significant exercises outwith our planned audit activity.

## **Responsibilities**

### **Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board Finance and Audit Sub-Committee and Chief Accountable Officer**

**8.** Audited bodies have the primary responsibility for ensuring the proper financial stewardship of public funds, compliance with relevant legislation and establishing effective arrangements for governance, propriety and regularity that enable them to successfully deliver their objectives.

**9.** The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or the Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board Finance and Audit Sub-Committee, as those charged with governance, of their responsibilities.

### **Appointed auditor**

**10.** Our responsibilities as independent auditor are established by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and the Code of Audit Practice, and guided by the auditing profession's ethical guidance.

**11.** Auditors in the public sector give an independent opinion on the financial statements. We also review and report on the arrangements within the audited body to manage its performance, regularity and use of resources. In doing this, we aim to support improvement and accountability.

# Audit scope and timing

## Financial statements

**12.** The statutory financial statements audit will be the foundation and source for the majority of the audit work necessary to support our judgements and conclusions. We also consider the wider environment and challenges facing the public sector. Our audit approach includes:

- understanding the business of North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board and the associated risks which could impact on the financial statements
- identifying major transaction streams, balances and areas of estimation and understanding how North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board will include these in the financial statements
- assessing the risks of material misstatement in the financial statements
- determining the nature, timing and extent of audit procedures necessary to provide us with sufficient audit evidence as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

**13.** We will give an opinion on the financial statements as to whether they:

- give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board and their income and expenditure
- have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union and adapted by the 2016/17 Code
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 and the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.



## Materiality

**14.** Materiality defines the maximum error that we are prepared to accept and still conclude that that our audit objective has been achieved. It helps assist our planning of the audit and allows us to assess the impact of any audit adjustments on the financial statements. We calculate materiality at different levels as described below. The calculated materiality values for North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board are set out in [Exhibit 3](#).

## Exhibit 3 Materiality values

Materiality level	Amount
<b>Planning materiality</b> - This is the calculated figure we use in assessing the overall impact of audit adjustments on the financial statements. It has been set at 1% of gross expenditure based on the latest budget for 2017.	£5.350 million

Materiality level	Amount
<b>Performance materiality</b> - This acts as a trigger point. If the aggregate of errors identified during the financial statements audit exceeds performance materiality this would indicate that further audit procedures should be considered. Using our professional judgement we have calculated performance materiality at 50% of planning materiality.	£2.675 million
<b>Reporting threshold</b> - We are required to report to those charged with governance on all unadjusted misstatements in excess of the 'reporting threshold' amount. This has been calculated at 1% of planning materiality.	£0.05 million

**15.** It should be noted that we continue to exercise our professional judgement in certain areas of the financial statements such as the management commentary, remuneration report and annual governance statement. Any issue identified will be reported to the Finance and Audit Sub-Committee.

### Timetable

**16.** To support the efficient use of resources it is critical that a financial statements timetable is agreed with us for the production of the unaudited accounts. A proposed timetable is included at [Exhibit 4](#) which takes account of submission requirements and planned Finance and Audit Sub-Committee Joint Board dates:

## Exhibit 4

### Financial statements timetable

 Key stage	 Date
Latest submission date of unaudited financial statements with complete working papers package	23 May 2017
Consideration of unaudited financial statements by those charged with governance	20 June 2017
Latest date for final clearance meeting with Chief Finance Officer	14 August 2017
Agreement of audited unsigned financial statements; Issue of Annual Audit Report including ISA 260 report to those charged with governance	21 August 2017
Independent auditor's report signed	28 September 2017

### Internal audit

**17.** Auditing standards require internal and external auditors to work closely together to make best use of available audit resources. We seek to rely on the work of internal audit wherever possible and as part of our planning process we carry out an assessment of the internal audit function. Internal audit is provided by a team from North Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire on a joint basis.

### Adequacy of Internal Audit

**18.** A formal review of the adequacy of internal audit is due to be completed by the end of February 2017. This will be done by the service auditors for the host bodies and then an assessment will be made in relation to the Integration Joint Board.

## Areas of reliance

19. In respect of our wider dimension audit responsibilities we plan to consider internal audit work including:

- Due diligence on the 2016/17 budget, and
- Governance arrangements.

## Audit dimensions

20. Our audit is based on four audit dimensions that frame the wider scope of public sector audit requirements as shown in [Exhibit 5](#).

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## Exhibit 5

### Audit dimensions



21. The appointed auditor's annual conclusions on these four dimensions will contribute to an overall assessment and assurance on best value.

### Financial sustainability

22. As auditors we consider the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting as part of the annual audit. We will also comment on the body's financial sustainability in the medium term (two to five years) and longer term (longer than five years). We will carry out work and conclude on the following in 2016/17:

- the effectiveness of financial planning in identifying and addressing risks to financial sustainability in the short, medium and long term
- the appropriateness and effectiveness of arrangements in place to address any identified funding gaps.

### Financial management

23. Financial management is concerned with financial capacity, sound budgetary processes and whether the control environment and internal controls are operating effectively including:

- the arrangements in place to ensure systems of internal control are operating effectively

- whether North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board can demonstrate the effectiveness of the budgetary control system in communicating accurate and timely financial performance
- how assurance has been gained that the financial capacity and skills are appropriate
- whether appropriate and effective arrangements for the prevention and detection of fraud and corruption have been established.

### Governance and transparency

**24.** Governance and transparency is concerned with the effectiveness of scrutiny and governance arrangements, leadership and decision-making and transparent reporting of financial and performance information. These include:

- whether North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board can demonstrate that the governance arrangements in place are appropriate and operating effectively
- whether there is effective scrutiny, challenge and transparency on the decision-making and finance and performance reports.

### Value for money

**25.** Value for money refers to using resources effectively and continually improving services. We will review, conclude and report on whether North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board can provide evidence that it is demonstrating value for money in the use of its resources and achievement of outcomes.

### Strategic plan for the five year appointment

**26.** As part of our responsibility to report on the audit dimensions over the current audit appointment we have identified the following areas of proposed audit work (this will be subject to annual review):

## Exhibit 6

### Strategic plan

Dimension	2016/17*	2017/18	2018/19 to 2020/21
<b>Financial sustainability</b>		Financial planning	
<b>Financial management</b>		Financial governance & resource management	
<b>Governance and transparency</b>		Governance	
<b>Value for money</b>			Operational efficiency

\* Note that the NHS Lanarkshire audit team are completing a review of delayed discharges which will involve discussions with staff from the integrated joint board.

### Independence and objectivity

**27.** Auditors appointed by Audit Scotland must comply with the Code of Audit Practice. When auditing the financial statements auditors must also comply with professional standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council and those of the professional accountancy bodies. These standards impose stringent rules to ensure the independence and objectivity of auditors. Audit Scotland has in place robust arrangements to ensure compliance with these standards including an

annual “fit and proper” declaration for all members of staff. The arrangements are overseen by the Assistant Auditor General, who serves as Audit Scotland’s Ethics Partner.

**28.** The engagement lead for North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board is Brian Howarth, Assistant Director. Auditing and ethical standards require the appointed auditor to communicate any relationships that may affect the independence and objectivity of audit staff. We are not aware of any such relationships pertaining to the audit of North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board.

## Quality control

**29.** International Standard on Quality Control (UK and Ireland) 1 (ISQC1) requires that a system of quality control is established, as part of financial audit procedures, to provide reasonable assurance that professional standards and regulatory and legal requirements are being complied with and that the independent auditor’s report or opinion is appropriate in the circumstances.

**30.** The foundation of our quality framework is our Audit Guide, which incorporates the application of professional auditing, quality and ethical standards and the Code of Audit Practice issued by Audit Scotland and approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland. To ensure that we achieve the required quality standards Audit Scotland conducts peer reviews, internal quality reviews and is currently reviewing the arrangements for external quality reviews.

**31.** As part of our commitment to quality and continuous improvement, Audit Scotland will periodically seek your views on the quality of our service provision. We welcome feedback at any time and this may be directed to the engagement lead.

# North Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board

## Annual Audit Plan 2016/17

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Audit Scotland, 4th Floor, 102 West Port, Edinburgh EH3 9DN  
T: 0131 625 1500 E: [info@audit-scotland.gov.uk](mailto:info@audit-scotland.gov.uk)  
[www.audit-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk)