

Meeting: Audit Committee

Date: 24th July 2024

Wards Affected: None

Report Title: Risk Assurance Report For Our Integrated Adult Social Care Services

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? N/A

Cabinet Member Contact Details: Councillor Tranter, Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities, Hayley.tranter@torbay.gov.uk
Councillor J Thomas, Cabinet Member for Tourism, Culture and Events and Corporate Services, jacqueline.thomas@torbay.gov.uk

Director Contact Details: Joanna Williams, Director Of Adult Services,
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 During 2022/23 Audit Committee approved the inclusion of Appendix A - Risk Governance Process For Our Integrated Adult Social Care Service within the Council's Risk Management Framework.
- 1.2 The process was put in place as the statutory responsibility for Adult Social Care Services (ASC) sits with the Council, however, the Council has had an agreement in place since 2005 with Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (TSDFT) to deliver the operational services on the Council's behalf.
- 1.3 As these services represent a significant spend for the Council (approximately 41% of the Council's overall net budget for 2024/25), our risk processes state that the Director of Adult Services will bring to Audit Committee an annual assurance report.
- 1.4 As set out in Appendix A, audits conducted on the Council's governance services for ASC are carried out by Devon Audit Partnership. Audits conducted on Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust's operational ASC services are carried out by ASW Assurance.
- 1.5 This report provides a summary of both auditors' views and audit plans for 2024/25.

2. ASW Assurance Statement

- 2.1 Attached as Appendix B is a letter from ASW providing details relating to their assurance work that was carried out at the Trust during 2023/24. The statement

consists of two elements; Internal Audit Assurance and Counter Fraud Service Assurance. The Head of Internal Audit's opinion, as presented to TSDFT at its Audit and Risk Committee held on 25th June 2024, provided an overall '**Satisfactory**' opinion. This was based on the audit work conducted during 2023/24. There were two specific audits carried out in relation to the Adult Social Care Services. These are below:

- Local Government Association Review
- Financial Assessments & Benefits Team

3. Devon Audit Partnership (DAP)

3.1 It was originally agreed during 2023/24 that Devon Audit Partnership would carry out an inspection of the:

- Integrated Care Organisation (ICO) Sustainability and Improvement Plan (Management and Monitoring)

However, during the year, it was agreed this would be postponed due to the fact that both organisations agreed to engage a delivery partner to produce a new transformation plan based on revised priorities. As such, the original Sustainability and Improvement Plan was no longer in use, therefore, the audit did not take place.

4. Future Audit Plans

4.1 The Torbay Council Internal Audit Plan was approved by Audit Committee on 27th March 2024. In respect of ASC the plan included the following pieces of work which will be completed by DAP during 2024/25:

- ASC Transformation Plan
- ASC Use of social care grants

4.2 On 4th April 2024 a meeting took place with the Director of Adult Services and ASW Assurance to agree the audit work for 2024/25 in relation to the ASC's operational services. The following pieces of work will be completed by ASW during 2024/25:

- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS)
- Discharge follow up. (The arrangements in place to ensure the service users when transferred to a temporary placement are moved from that temporary placement as soon as they are able to do so).

5. Risk Governance Process For Our Integrated Adult Social Care Service

5.1 With the introduction of the Section 75 Executive Committee meeting, the Director of Adult Services has requested that this report is also presented there. Members are requested to note that Appendix A - Risk Governance Process For Our Integrated Adult Social Care Service has been updated to reflect this.

6. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

- (i) That Audit Committee note the report.

Appendices

Appendix A: Risk Governance Process For Our Integrated Adult Social Care Service

Appendix B: ASW Assurance's Annual Assurance Statement

Background Documents

Report clearance:	This report has been reviewed and approved by:	Date:
Chief Executive	Anne-Marie Bond	N/A
Monitoring Officer	Amanda Barlow	01/07/2024
Director Of Finance Officer	Malcolm Coe	28/06/2024
Director Of Corporate Services	Matthew Fairclough-Kay	01/07/2024