

Integrated Care Board

Date of meeting	17 September 2026
Title of paper	Commissioning Committee Escalation and Assurance Report – 22 July and 19 August 2026
Presented by	Tracey Bleakley, Commissioning Committee Chair
Author	Head of Governance and Committee Officers
Agenda item	15
Confidential	No

Executive summary

This report highlights key matters, issues, and risks discussed at the Commissioning Committee meeting held since the last report to the Board on 9 July 2026 to alert, advise and assure the Board.

The summary report also highlights any issues, items referred or escalated to other committees or to the Board.

Minutes approved by the committee to date are presented to the Board to provide assurance that they have met in accordance with their terms of reference and to advise the Board of business transacted at their meetings.

Public and Stakeholder Engagement

N/A

Recommendations

The Board is asked to:

- Note the Alert, Advise and Assure and approve any recommendations as listed.
- Note any summary of items or issues referred to other committees of the Board over the reporting period.
- Note the ratified minutes of the committee meetings.

Which Strategic Objective/s does the report relate to:

Tick

SO1	To improve population health and reduce inequalities through effective strategic commissioning.	✓
SO2	Commission high quality, safe and accessible services that deliver better and more equitable outcomes and patient experience.	✓
SO3	To develop and sustain the workforce, leadership and organisational capability required to operate as an effective strategic commissioner.	✓
SO4	Improved financial sustainability through directing available resources to deliver the greatest possible value.	✓
SO5	To deliver agreed national and local outcomes through a balanced focus on performance, improvement and long-term system resilience.	✓

Implications

	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Associated risks		✓		
Are associated risks detailed on the ICB Risk Register?			✓	
Financial Implications			✓	

Where paper has been discussed (list other committees/forums that have discussed this paper)				
Meeting	Date			Outcomes
Commissioning Committee	22 July and 19 August 2026			To provide the Board of committee business during this period.
Conflicts of interest associated with this report				
Not applicable.				
Impact assessments				
	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Quality impact assessment completed			✓	
Equality impact assessment completed			✓	
Data privacy impact assessment completed			✓	
Report authorised by:				
ICB Committee Chair				

Integrated Care Board – 17 September 2026

Commissioning Committee Escalation and Assurance Report

1. Introduction

1. This report highlights key matters, issues, and risks discussed at the ICB commissioning committee held since the last report to the Board on 9 July 2026 to alert, advise and assure the Board.
- 1.1 The summary report also highlights any issues, items referred or escalated to other committees or to the Board.
- 1.2 Minutes approved by the committee to date are presented to the Board to provide assurance that they have met in accordance with their terms of reference and to advise the Board of business transacted at their meetings.

2. Commissioning Committee Report and Approved Minutes

Date: 22 July 2026		Chair: Debbie Corcoran
Key Items Discussed		
Item	Issue	Action
Alert		
-	-	-
Advise		
Data intelligence and performance risk	Data quality, consistency and availability was a recurring theme throughout a number of reports received by the committee.	Future deep dive will be undertaken by the committee on the emerging data intelligence and performance risk (BAF Risk 02) to provide greater clarity and assurance around controls, assurances and gaps.
Assure		
Board Assurance Framework (BAF)	The committee reviewed the 3 strategic risks on the BAF in their oversight (BAF01 Strategic Commissioning, BAF05 partnership Working and the recently added BAF02 'Access to timely, accurate and integrated data, with sufficient analytical capacity and intelligence capability'). BAF01 score remains at 16 (executives assured target reduction remains achievable by March 2027).	New BAF Risk 02 under development and will be considered in the committee's next BAF review (21 October 2026).
Clinical Policies Approval	4 clinical policies presented to the committee and approved after consideration of supporting evidence base and confirmation of completion of relevant Equality Impact Assessment	To note. Policies are reviewed by the Clinical Effectiveness Group (CEG) ahead of the

	and Quality Impact Assessment (QIA). A cataract surgery policy was presented and approved subject to confirmation that governance gateways had been completed satisfactorily (confirmation received).	Commissioning Committee for assurance – timetabling of future CEG meetings to be reviewed to support sequencing and receipt of assurance.
Local Enhanced Service (LES) Delivery	Delivery update considered for 2026/27 LES, covering practice participation, payment approach and delivery as at end May 2026. All primary care practices are participating in delivering the LES scheme. Ongoing monthly delivery updates for the LES and related Long Term Conditions (LTC) LES are provided to the Primary Care Contracts Sub-Committee and reviewed with the Local Medical Committee (LMC) quarterly. 2025/26 end of year position reported for the LTC LES, including analysis of the impact on non-elective admissions (using General Practice recorded data only) – demonstrating an 11.7% reduction in admissions amongst the cohort of patients who had received long term condition holistic healthcare reviews. Arrangements continue to be in place to monitor LES activity delivery and financial planning assumptions compared to plan.	To note. Delivery of wound care through the LES is low (42% of practices are not delivering this part of the LES programme) -a wider review of wound care provision will be undertaken to consider whether the current model remains appropriate and inform future arrangements. Coverage is in place in the meantime.
Commissioning intentions 2026/27 progress report	Standard quarterly report introduced. Progress made in reducing and prioritising commissioning intentions, strengthening measures of success and improving governance arrangements. All strategic commissioning intentions had been assessed against criteria including financial sustainability and value for money. Strong provider engagement and system-wide support for the programme was reported. Additional and specific Contract Management Group is being stood up, initially with the 4 acute providers, as an interface to support understanding of contractual performance, financial impact and constitutional standards.	To note. Committee input to format of the report in place, with new Committee Chair to support development of oversight framework.
Neurodevelopmental (ND) Transformation Programme – System Update	Update provided on the ND programme (established to develop a consistent, equitable and integrated ADHD/ASD pathway for children and young people	To note.

	aged 5–18 across our area). The programme is in early mobilisation phase and is progressing through the ND Transformation Programme Steering Group - a collaborative forum to support commissioning, implementation and mobilisation of the NHS-commissioned elements of the pathway. High-level timeline for piloting, commissioning and commencing a new system-wide model set out, along with key system risks. Next steps agreed through the Steering Group include a focus on sharing datasets, definitions and reporting approaches, introducing a standardised waiting time reporting framework and dashboard, and progressing workforce data collection and system-wide communications alignment.	
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Date: 19 August 2026		Chair: Tracey Bleakley
Key items discussed.		
Item or issue	Issue	Action
Alert		
-	-	-
Advise		
Strategic next steps (Strategy, target operating model and transition plan)	The committee received a report which brought together work being undertaken to support the development of the ICB's strategic ambitions and align organisation change with future ways of working. It also outlined the development of the organisational strategy, target operating model and transition plan. Ambitious delivery timescales and ongoing challenges around data integration and analytical capability were noted. The future operating model will be underpinned by robust data, outcome measurement and a strong focus on population health and equity.	To note.
Assure		
Specialised Commissioning / Office for Pan-ICB Commissioning (OPIC)	The committee received reports highlighting the benefits of L&SC hosting OPIC, which included delivering increased commissioning capacity, specialist expertise, financial benefits, stronger provider collaboration and more integrated commissioning arrangements. Governance arrangements have been agreed across partner ICBs.	To provide assurance and oversight to the ICB Board.

Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) Strategy refresh and winter planning	Assurance was provided in the form of an overview to the approach to winter planning and the refresh of the UEC strategy. Enhanced assurance arrangements, system oversight and winter planning processes are in place across providers and the ICB. Continued high levels of urgent care and mental health demand present a risk to winter resilience.	Fully developed plans will be presented at a future meeting, including impact assessments and lessons learned.
Clinical policies approval	2 clinical policies were presented to the committee and approved after consideration of supporting evidence base and confirmation of completion of relevant Equality Impact Assessment and Quality Impact Assessment (QIA): • Physical Rehabilitation in Facial Palsy • Spinal Injections and Radiofrequency Denervation for Low Back Pain.	To note.
Working with people and communities	A summary of key engagement and involvement activity undertaken across the ICB was presented to the committee. Extensive engagement activity is taking place across strategic commissioning programmes, supported by community networks, influence panels and Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) partners. Ongoing challenge was noted to ensure engagement activity is representative of diverse and seldom-heard communities and that feedback can be clearly linked to commissioning decisions.	To note.

- **Appendix A** – Approved minutes of the Commissioning Committee held on 17 June 2026.
[Approved Commissioning Committee Minutes - 17 June 2026 v1.pdf](#)
- **Appendix B** – Approved minutes of the Commissioning Committee held on 22 July 2026.
[Approved Commissioning Committee minutes 22 July 2026 v1.pdf](#)

3. Summary of items or issues referred to other committees or the Board over the reporting period.

Committee	Item or Issue	Referred to
-	None identified	-

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The committee has conducted their business in line with their terms of reference and associated business plans.

5. Recommendations

5.1 The Board is requested to:

- Note the Alert, Advise and Assure within the committee report and approve any recommendations as listed.
- Note the summary of items or issues referred to other committees of the Board over the reporting period
- Note the ratified minutes of the committee meetings.

Committee Chair

August 2026