
















## Assurance Improvement Plan – RAG-rated delivery tracker (2026/27)

 **Green** - On track/complete

 **Amber** - In progress / requires coordination

 **Red** - Not started / needs further development

Action	Description	Lead	Timeline	Latest update	Status (RAG)
<b>Clearer assurance reporting</b>					
Quarterly Assurance Digest	To produce a summary of key audit findings, themes, risks, and overdue actions.	CIA (IJB)	Start Q1 2026/27	To be drafted for Annual report in September 2026	
Assurance-to-Risk Mapping	Map all audit activity to strategic risks and Directions.	CIA (IJB) and Risk Owners	Q2 2026/27	To be drafted for Annual report in September 2026	
Assurance Dashboard	To create a visual dashboard for quarterly reporting.	CIA (IJB) with DGC input	Q2 2026/27		
<b>Stronger Chair engagement</b>					
Meetings with Chairs	Pre-committee meetings with each Chair.	CIA (IJB)	Quarterly		
Annual Joint Session with all Audit Committee Chairs	Session with Chairs of NHS, Council & IJB Audit Committees.	CIAs and Committee Chairs	Q1 2026/27	First meeting held 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2026. To be merged with item above and joint session to be quarterly	
Roles and expectations briefing for Chairs	Produce a guidance note outlining roles in IJB assurance framework.	CIA (IJB)	Q1 2026/27	To follow from meeting above	
<b>Coordination across NHS and Council Internal Audit functions</b>					
Monthly CIA-to-CIA coordination meetings	Structured agenda covering shared risks, audit coverage, and assurance gaps.	CIAs IJB/NHS and Council	Quarterly	Meetings take place. Need to formalise the agenda and reporting timescales.	

Action	Description	Lead	Timeline	Latest update	Status (RAG)
Joint Audit Projects for 2026/27	Identify 1–2 shared areas for joint review.	CIA IJB/NHS and Council	Q2 2026/27	For further discussion	
Annual Assurance Statement	Short document summarising cross-partnership themes.	CIA (IJB)	Q4	Draft to be included in Annual report in September 2026. Full document will be prepared for 2026/27.	
<b>Follow-up and action management</b>					
IJB-focussed follow-up tracker	A combined NHS and Council tracker for IJB-relevant actions.	CIA (IJB)	Q1 2026/27	To be drafted for Annual report in September 2026	
<b>Risk-based audit planning</b>					
Risk-based Audit Planning	Use updated risk registers to shape the annual Audit Plan.	CIA (IJB)	Q3 2025/26		
<b>Building assurance skills and confidence</b>					
Development Sessions for Committee Members	Provide training (audit ratings, assurance levels, questioning skills).	CIA (IJB)	Q2–Q3 2026/27		
“Benchmarking” with other IJBs	Compare approaches with 3 to 4 peer IJBs.	CIA (IJB)	Q3 2026/27		
Annual Assurance Maturity Review	Conduct an annual review of assurance maturity and track improvements.	CIA (IJB)	Q4 annually		