Dear Colleague

**NHS SCOTLAND HEALTH BOARDS AND SPECIAL HEALTH BOARDS - BLUEPRINT FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE**

**SECOND EDITION**

1. I am writing to provide you with the second edition of the Blueprint for Good Governance. This is a revised version of the Blueprint that shares the latest thinking on healthcare governance.

**Background**

2. The first edition of the Blueprint for Good Governance was published in January 2019 and since then NHS Boards have been adapting this model to meet the needs of their organisation and respond to the challenges faced by the NHS, including the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic.

3. This second edition takes on lessons learnt and latest thinking on governance to define what is meant by good governance, including active and collaborative governance. It also has a greater emphasis on the delivery mechanisms that support governance and the continuous improvement approach needed to ensure governance is responsive to the challenges facing the NHS.

4. Further work is underway to ensure accurate evaluation of governance and an advisory group will be set up to ensure self assessment and external assessment methods are in line with good governance practice. This will enable Boards to enhance their governance structures and practice.

**Action**

5. All Boards should familiarise themselves with the second edition Blueprint.

Yours sincerely

Richard McCallum  
Director of Health Finance and Governance