



King County | Office of the Executive

Executive Girmay Zahilay

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits the Report on the Status of Activities Related to Contract Management and Compliance Reporting Protocols, in response to Ordinance 20023, Section 60, Proviso P1, and Ordinance 19978, Section 5.A, both of which call for reporting to the Council due March 31, 2026.

The reporting requirements of Ordinance 20023 and Ordinance 19978 addressed by this report relate to an August 2025 King County Auditor's Office (KCAO) report that reviewed and made recommendations regarding internal controls and compliance standards in the Department of Community and Human Services.

DCHS is taking immediate action to strengthen its fiscal and compliance oversight as it advances implementation of the KCAO recommendations. Since the August 2025 KCAO report, DCHS has adopted nine new policies and procedures, launched three contracted provider fiscal stewardship trainings, initiated interdepartmental coordination with Public Health-Seattle & King County, developed an anti-fraud training for employees, and engaged with an external consultant to assess and make recommendations to strengthen DCHS' overall infrastructure to support compliance and contract monitoring. DCHS is on track to complete KCAO recommendations within the committed timeframes.

This report updates information included in reports transmitted to the King County Council in October 2025 and November 2025 by:

- providing an updated summary of actions taken to implement KCAO recommendations;
- describing the status of provider capacity building efforts in DCHS;
- providing data from 2025 on compliance monitoring and risk assessments conducted by DCHS for its contract agencies;
- summarizing the status of data collection regarding the impacts on providers of its compliance and monitoring changes.

The Honorable Sarah Perry

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Thank you for your consideration of this report. If you or your staff have questions, please contact Susan McLaughlin, Interim Department Director, Department of Community and Human Services at 206-477-9309.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Girmay Zahilay', written in a cursive style.

for

Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
 Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive
Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive,
Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive
Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive
Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive
Susan McLaughlin, Interim Department Director, Department of Community and Human Services