

Cover Sheet

Trust Board Meeting in Public: Wednesday 13 March 2024

TB2024.29

Title: Integrated Assurance Committee Report

Status: For Information

History: Regular Reporting

Board Lead: Trust Chair

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Confidential: No

Key Purpose: Assurance

Integrated Assurance Committee Report

1. Purpose

- 1.1. As a Committee of the Trust Board, the Integrated Assurance Committee provides a regular report to the Board on the main issues raised and discussed at its meetings.
- 1.2. Since the last report to the Board held in public, the Integrated Assurance Committee had met on 14 February 2024.
- 1.3. Under its terms of reference, the Integrated Assurance Committee is responsible for reporting to the Board items discussed, actions agreed and issues to be referred to the Board, indicating the extent to which the Committee was able to take assurance from the evidence provided and where additional information was required.

2. Key Areas of Discussion

Maternity and Neonates

- 2.1. The Committee reviewed the Maternity Performance Dashboard and were able to seek assurances regarding specific cases.
- 2.2. The final report of the Maternity Development Programme was received and members were assured that its recommendations had been embedded as business-as-usual.
- 2.3. A review of perinatal deaths between 2019-2023 was presented to the Committee.
- 2.4. The review focused on identifying trends in perinatal mortality linked to gestational age, ethnicity, maternal age, social deprivation, maternal mental health and other comorbidities. It found that Black/Black British women, women under the age of 25 and women who had declared a mental health condition experienced poorer outcomes. It was noted that this was consistent with national data and that the causes were not yet fully understood.
- 2.5. The Committee reviewed the action plan and took assurance that issues identified by the review were appropriately incorporated

Financial Performance and 2024/25 Annual Plan

- 2.6. The Committee was briefed on the expected 2023/24 year-end position across the system.
- 2.7. Members heard that the Trust expected to deliver ahead of plan on its efficiency programme but there were risks that planned capital expenditure in Q4 may not be fully realised.

- 2.8. The Committee had an in-depth discussion on temporary staffing, which was a major driver of cost, and on the Trust's close monitoring of its cash position.
- 2.9. It was reported that NHS England planning guidance for 2024/25 had not yet been published; the risk that national targets might not be agreed until the end of the first quarter of 2024/25 was highlighted.

Urgent and Emergency Care System Dashboard

- 2.10. Members discussed the types of data available to help the Committee understand the Trust's and its partners' performance in urgent and emergency care.
- 2.11. It was agreed that an outline dashboard focused on access to Same Day Emergency Care via various referral routes would be prepared for the Committee to review.

Integrated Performance Report

- 2.12. The Committee received this regular report on performance across operational, quality, workforce, digital and financial metrics.

Other Reporting

- 2.13. An update on the 2023/24 Quality Priorities was received and improvements in tissue donation and recording of frailty scores were noted.
- 2.14. The Committee received a summary of the December 2023 and January 2024 meetings of the Trust's Delivery Committee.
- 2.15. The Quarter 3 report from the Guardian of Safe Working Hours and an update on the Patient Safety Incident Response Framework was reviewed.
- 2.16. The Committee reviewed the Board Assurance Framework and Corporate Risk Register.
- 2.17. A regular update from Divisional Performance Reviews were received. The Committee also received regular reporting on infection prevention and control matters.
- 2.18. The Committee reviewed the "comply or explain" provisions and the availability of information provisions of the Code of Governance for NHS Provider Trusts and was assured that the Trust was compliant.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. The Trust Board is asked to **note** the Integrated Assurance Committee's report to the Board from its meeting held on 14 February 2024.