

## Cover Sheet

Trust Board Meeting in Public: Wednesday 18 January 2023

TB2023.18

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**Title:** Integrated Assurance Committee Report

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**Status:** For Information

**History:** Regular Reporting

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**Board Lead:** Trust Chair

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**Confidential:** No

**Key Purpose:** Assurance

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## Integrated Assurance Committee Report

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### 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 December 2022.
- 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

#### Update from Governor Committees

- 2.1. The Committee received a brief update on a recent meeting of the Council of Governors' Performance Workforce and Finance Committee. Jeremy Hodge had now been appointed as the new Committee chair. The Committee's December meeting had focussed on assurance regarding financial performance and the Trust's digital strategy.

#### Follow up from October meeting

- 2.2. The Committee received an update on work to improve the Trust's performance on medicines reconciliation and received assurance that the risk of harm was low. A further update would be presented to the Committee in October 2023.
- 2.3. The update on estates compliance would be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.

#### Maternity Dashboard

- 2.4. The Committee reviewed the proposed dashboard, which had been scrutinised through maternity governance channels.
- 2.5. The Committee recommended the dashboard to the Trust Board for approval.

#### Industrial Action

- 2.6. The Committee was updated on the Trust's response to planned industrial action by the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) on 15 and 20 December. The Trust was working to ensure patient and staff safety while supporting the right of members to take industrial action. The Trust had engaged with the RCN on derogations (clinical areas exempt from industrial action).

- 2.7. The Committee heard that clear command and control structures were in place.
- 2.8. Plans for keeping staff informed were outlined. These included a dedicated web page and all-staff briefing meetings. The Psychological Medicine team were available to support staff who were upset by the decision to take strike action.

### **Integrated Performance Report**

- 2.9. The Committee received this regular report on performance across operational, quality, workforce, digital and financial metrics.
- 2.10. Discussion focused on the Trust's financial recovery plan and Emergency Department performance.
- 2.11. Divisional Directors provided strong evidence of the alignment work in clinical divisions to the overall recovery plan, giving assurance that decision-making across the Trust was robust.
- 2.12. The Committee was briefed on pressures across the system which were impacting Emergency Department performance. The Trust continued to work with system partners to influence and improve solutions.

### **Radiology Reporting**

- 2.13. The Committee reviewed the plan to clear a backlog in non-urgent reporting. Members sought and received assurance that staff had the capacity to deliver the plan.
- 2.14. The Committee agreed to review progress at its next meeting.

### **Medical Engagement Scale (MES) Survey**

- 2.15. The Committee noted the results of the second MES survey, which was undertaken in September 2021, just after the second wave of COVID-19.
- 2.16. Plans to address issues raised by the survey and ways to improve the engagement of medical staff were outlined. Members noted the low response rates in some areas and suggested other ways to measure engagement in order to ensure broad representation.
- 2.17. The Committee agreed to receive an update in six months' time.

### **Performance Reviews**

- 2.18. The Committee received a report of the Divisional Performance Reviews for Q2; these demonstrated collective oversight of performance.
- 2.19. The Corporate Performance Review – Assurance was considered by the Committee. An update on the task challenges set by the Chief Executive Officer was received; this provided assurance on progress.

### **Other Regular Reporting**

- 2.20. The Committee received the Mental Health Act Annual Report, which demonstrated that all legally required standards had been met.
- 2.21. Regular update reports on infection prevention and control matters, SIRIs and Never Events, and Clinical Governance Committee were received.

### **3. Key Actions**

- 3.1. The Maternity Dashboard was recommended to the Trust Board for approval.
- 3.2. The Committee would continue to monitor performance in medicines reconciliation and radiology reporting.

### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1. The Trust Board is asked to **note**:
  - the Integrated Assurance Committee's review of the Maternity Dashboard and the Committee's recommendation that the Trust Board approve its use;
  - the Integrated Assurance Committee's report to the Board from its meeting held on 14 December 2022,