

Cover Sheet

Trust Board Meeting in Public: Wednesday 13 November 2024

TB2024.104

Title: Integrated Assurance Committee Report

Status: For Information
History: Regular Reporting

Board Lead: Committee Chair
Author: Laura Lauer, Deputy Head of Corporate Governance
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 9 October 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

Corporate Risk Register (CRR)

- 2.1. The Committee's review of the CRR focused on the presentation of staffing and finance risks to ensure clarity and consistency.
- 2.2. It was noted that the CRR was considered by Integrated Assurance Committee and Audit Committee; it was suggested that the report be revised to reflect the key areas of responsibility of each Committee.

Patient Care

- 2.3. Suggestions were made to further improve the assurance provided by the Annual Clinical Effectiveness Report. This included bringing back particular clinical audits as Deep Dive sessions to the Committee.
- 2.4. The Committee received an update on the move of the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit to the Oxford Critical Care building and the mitigations in place to ensure patient care, safety and experience.
- 2.5. Members were briefed on the governance and monitoring arrangements in place and work to assess critical care requirements in the medium to long term.
- 2.6. The Oxfordshire Winter Plan was presented; the plan focused on caring for patients in their homes, thereby reducing transport to hospital, and reducing length of stay.
- 2.7. A Deep Dive session based on patient hydration and nutrition incident data followed the meeting. Improvements included the relaunch of protected mealtimes and revisions to a range of relevant policies, procedures and guidance.

Maternity

- 2.8. The Committee heard that there were no occasions when 1:1 care was not provided, despite August being busier than average.
- 2.9. Improvements were noted in risk assessment for VTE and test endorsement. Work was ongoing to improve the booking process and the Trust was working with the Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnership to communicate this.
- 2.10. The Trust had piloted Care Assure in maternity; this covered areas such as the welcome to the care environment, identification of leaders and medicines safety. The first evidence group had taken place. Oversight would be provided by Maternity Clinical Governance Group.

Finance

- 2.11. The Committee reviewed the month five financial results; enhanced reporting provided visibility on research and development, pass-through costs, and actions to address underperformance.
- 2.12. Members sought assurance that the Trust would be able to deliver its 2024/25 plan on its income assumptions, efficiency gains and deficit recovery.
- 2.13. The Investigation and Improvement exercise being conducted by PwC on behalf of NHS England had required substantial effort. Once the PwC exercise had completed, focus would return to providing assurance on the financial plan.
- 2.14. It was noted that the Trust was currently cash-positive; the Audit Committee would receive an update on cash actions.

Estates

- 2.15. The Committee received an update on activity to manage residual risks in the Trust's estate. It was noted that the Premises Assurance Model assessment for 2023/24 indicated no scores of "inadequate" and 19 low to medium action items.
- 2.16. It was agreed to consider how the Committee and Trust Board could be adequately assured around these risks and mitigations.

Integrated Performance Report

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

Other Reporting

- 2.18. The following reports were received by the Committee:
 - Maternity Performance Dashboard;
 - Summary of the August and September 2024 meetings of the Trust's Delivery Committee;

- An annual report providing details on claims and inquests in 2023/24, including key learnings and improvements made;
- A report on the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) Regulatory Assessment of the OUH Post Mortem HTA Licence 12052 (a regular inspection report);
- Patient Safety Incident Response Framework report for the period July-August 2024;
- A regular update on the Trust's Integrated Quality Improvement Programme;
- Divisional Performance Reviews; and
- Report on infection prevention and control matters.

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 9 October 2024.