

## Cover Sheet

Trust Board Meeting in Public: Wednesday 11 September 2024

TB2024.86

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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:** Committee 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 August 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 risks related to staffing and on the escalation and de-escalation of risks to the CRR from Divisional risk registers. The role of Risk Committee in reviewing Divisional risk registers and mitigations provided assurance that risks were managed in a proactive manner.
- 2.2. Suggestions were made to enhance the presentation of risks, including aligning against strategic objectives and Divisional performance reporting.

#### Patient Care

##### Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)

- 2.3. The Committee was briefed on the planned move to of PICU Oxford Critical Care and the mitigations being put in place to ensure patient safety.

##### Update on Quality Priorities

- 2.4. The Committee was updated on progress in Q1 against the nine Quality Priorities, with a focus on the Outreach Service from Oxford Critical Care, Reduction of Health Inequalities, Medicines Safety Framework and assurance that progress from previous Quality Priorities had been embedded into the Trust.
- 2.5. The development of measurable outcomes was an agreed next step, to enable the Committee to judge whether achievement of a priority was at risk.

### Maternity

- 2.6. The Committee reviewed the Trust's response to the Keep the Horton General maternity dossier, including an improvement plan, and expressed support for the rigorous approach taken.
- 2.7. Key themes related to antenatal care for high-risk pregnancies, which involved frequent travel to and from Oxford and the kindness and compassion with which care was provided. The positive impact of the Trust's Maternity Development Plan on the culture of the service was noted and work would continue.

### **Finance**

- 2.8. The Committee reviewed the month three financial results and noted that the signing of some contracts for services was still outstanding, meaning that income figures could not be finalised.
- 2.9. The Committee received a briefing on the impact of non-pay items on the deficit. Identified drivers were inflation being higher than allowed for in the planning guidance, the growth in non-elective activity, and increases in PFI and energy costs not covered by central funding.
- 2.10. Progress against the Trust's cash improvement plan, and the governance structure to support it, was reviewed.

### **Estates**

- 2.11. The Committee were updated on plans to commission an independent firm to review and prioritise investment in critical infrastructure risks for a ten-year period commencing 2025/26.
- 2.12. When discussing the operational management of identified risks, members requested greater visibility to enable it to provide robust assurance to the Trust Board.

### **Integrated Performance Report**

- 2.13. The Committee received this regular report on performance across operational, quality, workforce, digital and financial metrics.
- 2.14. The report included improvements in the presentation of safe staffing data to support robust oversight.

### **Other Reporting**

- 2.15. The following reports were received by the Committee:
  - Maternity Performance Dashboard;
  - Update on the Trust's NHSE Digital Maturity Assessment;
  - Summary of the June and July 2024 meetings of the Trust's Delivery Committee;

- Guardian of Safe Working Hours Report for the period April-June 2024;
- Patient Safety Incident Response Framework report for the period May-June 2024;
- 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 14 August 2024.