

## Escalation and Assurance Report

Report from the: Charitable Funds Committee

Date the meeting took place: 8 October 2020

Report to the: Council of Governors

### Key discussion points and matters to be escalated from the discussion at the meeting:

#### Alert:

- No issues were raised that require escalation or action by Trust Board.

#### Advise:

- The Committee reviewed and approved the audited Annual Accounts and Annual Report of the Charity for 2019/20, which had also been to Audit Committee on 8 October. An unqualified audit opinion was issued by the Trust's external auditors and no significant accounting issues arose during the course of the audit.
- The Committee received the draft Charity Strategy for 2020-2023, which set out the principles for the development and delivery of the charity, as well as the next steps required to finalise a detailed fundraising and expenditure plan. It was agreed that the fundraising action plan would be reviewed at each Committee meeting as a standing item.
- The Committee reviewed and approved changes to the existing structure of funds within the charity. The 14 existing funds were reduced to 7 new funds plus 2 temporary funds relating to COVID-19 and this would be monitored at future Committee meetings.

#### Assure:

- The Committee reviewed a summary of transactions and balances for each fund for the periods April 2019 to March 2020, and April 2020 to August 2020 and were satisfied that good governance processes were in place.
- The Committee received an internal audit report around effective systems and processes in place for the management of the Charitable Funds. The level of assurance provided from the audit was High, demonstrating that there was a strong system of internal control which was designed and operating effectively.

#### Risks discussed:

- None.

#### New risks identified:

- None.

Report completed by: Zulfi Hussain, Chair of Charitable Funds Committee

Date: 20 November 2020