

Escalation and Assurance Report

Report from the: Finance, Business & Investment Committee

Date of meeting: 27 May 2021

Report to the: Board of Directors

For further information please see the Care Trust Integrated Governance Guide.

Key escalation and discussion points from the meeting

Alert:

No issues were noted that require further discussion or action.

Advise:

- The Committee received an update on 2021/22 financial planning timelines. It was noted that block arrangements would continue until 30th September, with a H1 expected breakeven position. The Committee noted 2021/22 expected cost pressures, noting inpatient acuity and out of area placements as significant pressures. The Committee noted work taking place to align financial plans to the Trust Operational plan and strategic programmes, including work taking place with support from Deloitte. The Committee requested an update on these actions and the development of robust plans to close any efficiency gaps. Specifically in the July meeting, the Committee will review the outputs of the Deloitte work, workforce planning assumptions/actions and the outputs from the Innovation for Growth work.
- An update on the Innovation for Growth work taking place was provided to the Committee. Whilst noting the progress being made on training colleagues and increasing awareness of Innovation for Growth across the organisation, the Committee requested a stronger linkage between this work and the financial plan for 2021/22. In addition, clearer outcomes and deliverables were requested to provide tangibility to the work taking place.
- An update was provided on the West Yorkshire Provider Collaborative Contracts. The Committee reviewed the financial aspects and changes to the approved business case, including next steps and timescales to conclude the financial arrangements. The Committee requested a clear sign off criteria including risks as part of the final review of these business cases.

Assure:

- The Committee reviewed the final position for 2020/21 (subject to audit) and noted the increase in the surplus position (before impairment) largely driven by additional funding. The Committee also noted the capital overspend which has been agreed at ICS level.
- The Committee reviewed the month 12 performance dashboard and noted the ongoing pressure on dental treatment waiting times and increased number of out of area placements.

- A verbal update was provided on the lone working arrangements with improving usage of devices noted.
- The Committee was provided an update on the renewal of Microsoft Licencing and supported the approach taken to the procurement process. The Committee requested specific updates on usage and asset management as part of a broader assessment of licencing 'value'.
- The current status of the Trust's main contracts and SLAs was provided, focused on the contract pipeline. The Committee welcomed the additional transparency this provided, with further work taking place to improve the reporting. Two actions were noted on assessing the capability/capacity of the organisations we contract with, and an assessment to be provided of contract viability based on costs and revenues associated with the contract.

Risks discussed:

- Risk 5 – To deliver a financially sustainable organisation

New risks identified:

- None identified

Report completed by: Maz Ahmed
6 June 2021