

**Escalation and Assurance Report**  
**Quality & Safety Committee**  
**Meeting Date: 21 April 2022**

**Key discussion points and matters to be escalated from the meeting**

**Alert:**

- Workforce related issues were a common running theme throughout the meeting along with a recognition of the impact of certain waiting lists. Services that were discussed within the Organisational Risk Register (ORR) included:
  - IAPT
  - Dementia Assessment Unit
  - Autism assessments
  - Dental
  - Paediatric speech and language therapy
  - Dysphagia patients
- Reduction in capacity across health visiting and school nursing in Wakefield due to recent labour turnover was highlighted, expected to impact most in early July. Business Community Plans were being reviewed and further assurance would be provided at the Workforce and Equality Committee and Senior Leadership Team meetings on 28 April and 11 May respectively.

**Advise:**

- Priority to be given to develop post-COVID recovery plans which would specifically address the organisation's plans in the short, medium and long term to respond to the impact on quality of care and any potential risk to patients of being placed on waiting lists.
- Focussing on patient safety and preventable harm, consideration to include alternative offers of care and support where situations appear to be unresolvable within the next 3-6 months because of predictable workforce pressures.

**Assure:**

- The group was assured that the appropriate mechanisms and processes were in place to identify and highlight risks and that plans were in place to address issues of recruitment and retention of the workforce.
- Frequency of meetings would be reviewed as part of the results of the effectiveness review of the Committee.

**Risks discussed:**

- The Board Assurance Framework and ORR were considered. Committee members asked for further clarification on three risks (2046, information governance; 2620, dysphagia waiting lists; and 2621, access to mental health support).

**New risks identified:**

- No other new risks identified.

**Report completed by: Alyson McGregor, Chair of the Committee, 21 April 2022**