

Audit and Assurance Committee Chair’s Highlight Report to Trust Board of Directors

Subject:	Audit and Assurance Committee Highlight Report	Date: 21 st March 2024
Prepared By:	Manjeet Gill	
Approved By:	Manjeet Gill	
Presented By:	Manjeet Gill	
Purpose:		
Assurance report to Board	Assurance	Significant

Matters of Concern or Key Risks Escalated for Noting / Action	Major Actions Commissioned / Work Underway
<p>To seek more assurance on Conflicts of Interest on single tender waivers and to update the Single Tender Template to require a cross reference to the Register of Interests.</p> <p>Whilst the first follow up % of Internal Audit Actions meets the 75% threshold to achieve significant assurance in the HOIA opinion the final year end position remains at risk</p>	<p>Further assurance required on the timely implementation of the 18 IA actions due by 31st March 2024 to maintain the 75% compliance target.</p> <p>Further assurance on Fire Safety risks and compliance to be given via a report to the April 2024 Trust Board</p> <p>Final updates to be made to the SFIs and the Scheme of Delegation prior to recommendation to the April 2024 Trust Board for approval</p>
Positive Assurances to Provide	Decisions Made (include BAF review outcomes)
<p>Progress with the ICS Audits in line with the IA Plan</p> <p>No internal control matters were escalated from the Quality, People, Finance and Finance Committees</p> <p>Counter Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Annual Review received with an acknowledgement of the strong support given by management</p> <p>Good progress with Non-Clinical policy renewals (only 1 overdue)</p> <p>A single Tracker for all Clinical and Non-Clinical Policies wef April 2024</p> <p>Losses and special payments report received</p>	<p>Approval of Annual Counter Fraud Plan 2024/25 (noting the flexibility for it to change in year)</p> <p>Approval of External Audit Plan 2023/24</p> <p>Approval of one change to the Internal Audit Plan 2023/24 (removal of Theatres scheduling – now in the 2024/25 Plan)</p> <p>Approval of Internal Audit Plan 2024/25</p> <p>Approval of Annual Report to Board of Directors including Committee priorities for the reporting year 2023/24</p>

Single tender waivers report received	Annual Terms of Reference review – updates approved
External and internal audit progress reports received	Committee workplan approved
Register of interest including reduction of non-compliant Band 7+ individuals	
Good expectation that the Trust will continue to Adopt Going Concern status	
Comments on effectiveness of the meeting	
Well-presented reports (ARB)	
Items recommended for consideration by other Committees	
N/A	

Note: this report does not require a cover sheet due to sufficient information provided.