

Board of Directors

Report

Subject: Board Assurance Framework Report
Date: 18th January 2017
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Executive Summary

The Board of Directors has identified the following current Principal Risks for inclusion in the Trust's Board Assurance Framework (BAF)*:

- AF1 – Safe and effective patient care
- AF2 – Managing emergency demand
- AF3 – Managing elective demand
- AF4 – Financial sustainability
- AF6 – Staff engagement and morale
- AF7 – Staffing levels
- AF8 – Senior leadership stability

Each Principal Risk on the BAF is assigned to a Lead Director, who regularly reviews the risk and ensures that an appropriate mitigation plan is in place; and a Lead Committee, which reviews assurances as to the effectiveness of those plans in managing the risk.

Assurances against each risk are updated as new information becomes available.

In addition, the Board Risk Committee reviews the full BAF every month to provide assurance that Principal Risks are being managed effectively; and the Audit and Assurance Committee ensures that the BAF remains an effective component within the Trust's internal control framework.

Following review of the BAF at the meeting of the Board Risk Committee on 17th January 2017 no material changes have been made to any Principal Risks.

A copy of the full BAF is included with this report.

* Please note that Principal Risk AF5 was removed from the BAF in December 2016.

Recommendation

1. The Board of Directors are invited to review the updated BAF and consider the level of assurance provided that Principal Risks to Trust objectives have been identified and are being managed effectively.

Relevant Strategic Priorities (please mark in bold)	
Ensure the highest standards of safe care are consistently delivered by, and for, individuals, teams and departments	Ensure that patients experience the very best care, building on good practice and listening and learning from both negative and positive feedback and events
Provide timely access to diagnosis, treatment and care when people need it and safely reduce the time patients spend in hospital	Raise the level of staff engagement through strong leadership, communication, feedback and recognition
Reduce the scale of our financial deficit by reducing costs, improving utilisation of resources and productivity, and achieving best value for money	Work in partnership to keep people well in the community, and enable them to return as soon as they are ready to leave hospital

How has organisational learning been disseminated	Through the work of the Board Risk Committee.
Links to the BAF	This report presents the full BAF.
Financial Implications/Impact	None specific to this report.
Legal Implications/Impact	None specific to this report.
Partnership working & Public Engagement Implications/Impact	None specific to this report.
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before	Board Risk Committee, Audit and Assurance Committee, and Lead Committees for Principal Risks.