

Chair's Report Audit Committee

3 March 2020

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Agenda Item No: 7.4

Trust Board Report

Meeting Date:	3 March 2020
Title:	Audit Committee meeting Tuesday 11 February 2020 – Chair's summary note
Executive Summary:	The committee discussed cyber security, security and protection of staff, counter fraud investigations, the internal audit plan 2019-20 including conflict of interest policy implementation, implementation of previous recommendations and the production of the plan for 2020-21. The external auditors provided an update on the planned audit of the 2019-20 annual report and accounts.
Action Requested:	To receive for information.
Report of:	Roger Dunshea, NED chair of audit committee
Author: Contact Details:	Tel 01902 695954
Links to Trust Strategic Objectives	To maintain the financial health of the organisation. To improve the culture of compassion, safety and quality. To have an effective, well integrated organisation which operates efficiently.
Resource Implications:	None
Risks: BAF/ TRR (describe risk and current risk score)	N/A
Public or Private: (with reasons if private)	Public
References: (eg from/to other committees)	N/A
Appendices/ References/ Background Reading	The full minutes will be circulated to the Board
NHS Constitution: (How it impacts on any decision-making)	In determining this matter, the Board should have regard to the Core principles contained in the Constitution of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Equality of treatment and access to services  High standards of excellence and professionalism  Service user preferences  Cross community working  Best Value  Accountability through local influence and scrutiny

Background Details	
1	<p>QGAC, F&PC and TMC: Updates were provided on increasing areas of risk that require new controls, mitigation or assurance audit. Areas of concern raised included: The reliability of Vitals reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIP and the need for transformational change • Income maximisation and the need for a commercial strategy • Winter pressures • Corona virus - Covid 19 preparations <p>No new audits were requested.</p>
2	<p>Cyber security: The committee received an update on IT security and related threat mitigation. Topics questioned included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due diligence assurance over external / cloud systems for example AI and Babylon • GP systems security • Data transfer to data analysers for example Sensyne • Reaction plans following successful malware attacks.
3	<p>BAF. The committee reviewed the effectiveness of the BAF process. At this stage no concerns were raised. It was noted this topic would be covered by an internal audit review in February 2020.</p>
4	<p>Internal Audit progress report: The internal auditors reported on progress to date The committee noted some audits had been delayed for completion later in the year.</p> <p>The audit of the Conflict of Interest procedure had been reported with partial assurance. The committee remained concerned over the lack of reporting of Col amongst those senior colleagues who are most likely be at risk of conflicts of interest to their NHS work. The committee asked for this to be followed up by the Executive and is for discussion at the next meeting in April.</p> <p>The committee remain concerned over the implementation of consultant job plans and medical staff annual leave planning.</p> <p>The committee reviewed the draft internal audit plan 2020-2021 after the meeting, with no comments raised.</p>
4	<p>External audit: Planning for the 2019-20 audit of the annual report and accounts was making satisfactory progress. The challenges of the new accounting system and IFRS 16 were a low risk to the overall accounts completion, audit and approval process</p>
5	<p>Security: A full discussion took place on the nature and severity of intentional and unintentional violence to staff. This included the nature of harm and lack of reporting on Datix. The committee emphasised the need for full reporting and noted the extra vigilance of the security team in those areas most affected.</p>
7	<p>Other items: The committee discussed reports on fraud and welcomed proposals to speed up the pipeline of consideration and investigation. The losses and compensation report was approved.</p>