

TRUST BOARD

Title:	KEY MATTERS AND ESCALATIONS REPORT
Name of Committee:	Audit Committee
Committee Chair:	Catherine Dugmore
Meeting Date:	24th July 2024

Summary of key messages:

The following key areas were discussed:

- Local Counter Fraud Service (LCFS) annual report for 2023/24
- LCFS progress report
- Internal Audit Progress and Follow-up reports
- External Audit update
- Review of the Board Assurance Framework
- Waivers and Special payments
- Annual updates on the Trust Board Register of Interests and Register of Gifts and Hospitality

Key points to note include:

- The Counter Fraud Functional Standard Return (CFFSR) for the Trust resulted in an overall rating of green (fully compliant with the requirements).
- LCFS plans to increase participation with fraud awareness training across the Trust would be aligned with the Trust's communications strategy.
- One fraud referral has been received since the last Audit Committee meeting; relating to an intercepted mandate fraud and resulted in a prevention of £481,000. Work continued to strengthen any preventative controls.
- Recent completed internal audit reviews:
 - Key Financial Controls (Reasonable assurance)
 - DSP (Data Security Protection) Toolkit (Moderate assurance)
- An update on the impact of the Provider Selection Regime and new Procurement Act on the Trust for board members was recommended.
- The external audit annual report and accounts for 2023/24 had been finalised and were on track to be published with the Trust's annual report by the end of September.

Escalation Points:

None

Emerging Risks/Issues:

None

Examples of Outstanding Practice or Innovation:

None

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