

TRUST BOARD

Title:	KEY MATTERS AND ESCALATIONS REPORT
Name of Committee:	Audit Committee
Committee Chair:	Catherine Dugmore
Meeting Date:	10th April 2024

Summary of key messages:

The following key areas were discussed:

- Local Counter Fraud Service (LCFS) progress report
- Internal Audit Progress and Follow-up reports
- External Audit update
- Annual Governance Statement
- Review of the Board Assurance Framework
- Waivers and Special payments
- Annual Review of Committee Effectiveness

Key points to note include:

- A Communications Strategy and Action Plan of activities to help to increase staff fraud awareness had been agreed.
- The draft Head of Internal Audit Opinion was received and gave an amber-green opinion, which was in-line with previous years.
- The internal audit plan for 2023/24 was almost complete and planning for 2024/25 was underway.
- The timetable for the submission of the final accounts for 2023/24 was on target.
- The External Audit Plan for 2024/25 was received; the committee was assured that sufficient resources were in place (both externally and internally) for the process to run effectively.
- Robust procedures were in place to be able to effectively report on IRFS16 (International Financial Reporting Standard for lease accounting).
- The Trust's strategic risks were currently under review to help to shape the way forward for 2024/25.
- An outline programme of deep dives would be developed for the committee.

Escalation Points:

None

Emerging Risks/Issues:

None

Examples of Outstanding Practice or Innovation:

None

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