

Committee Chair's Report

Wednesday 20th November 2024, 2.00pm – 5.00pm, Boardroom – 1829 Building

Committee	Finance and Performance Committee
Chair	Mrs Pam Williams, Non-Executive Director

Key discussion points and matters to be escalated from the discussion at the meeting:

<p style="text-align: center;">Alert <i>(matters that the Committee wishes to bring to the Board's attention)</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial position at Month 7 and forecast risks and actions (£6.3M off plan YTD which includes Thirlwall Inquiry, Industrial Action, pay award pressures and under delivery of CIPs of £4.8m). 	
<p style="text-align: center;">Assure <i>(matters in relation to which the Committee received assurance)</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PWC financial support (incorporating NHSE Grip and Control checklist) action plan and progress. Proposed 2025/26 operational and financial planning approach established. Winter planning established in line with national requirements. Progress against the Health and Safety action plan, notwithstanding further work to do and new H&S Manager due to commence in post January 2025. EPRR core standards compliance, recognising a number of areas remain partially compliant with further actions required and risks to be articulated. To note the ICB assurance process only assessed 6 of the 62 standards in 2024. EPR update providing assurance on the EPR upgrade and the processes for prioritisation within the optimisation programme with engagement with Divisions and clinical teams. SIRO update providing assurance on a range of areas including cyber security alerts, data security and protection toolkit and information governance. Assurance received on processes and structures in place to ensure data quality including an improvement in the Trust's data quality maturity index score. Data and digital annual report provided an overview of achievements in year and 2025 priorities. 	
<p style="text-align: center;">Advise <i>(items presented for the Board's information)</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A number of alerts were escalated through the Women's and Children's new building project board AAA report, which impact financially and timeframes and are being managed within the project. There is an emerging risk to overall cost specifically relating to electrical infrastructure and there are ongoing discussions with the ICB. Also discussed the RAAC risk and actions detailed in the report, including residual risk. 	

- ICO reportable incident relating to a third-party supplier with no further action required.
- The risk associated with the payroll service and the decision to transfer this service to Mersey and West Lancashire NHS Trust.
- Update on procurement regulation with action being taken in readiness for February 2025.
- Carbon and Energy Fund proposal to progress an emerging opportunity to submit a grant application related to energy infrastructure.
- Received a briefing on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and development of a new Trust AI Steering Group.

Risks

(discussed and new risks identified)

- High risks weren't reported or scrutinised at the meeting, as work was still ongoing to ensure clarity and alignment of risks recognising risk management improvement plan.
- The Committee have sought further information regarding the residual risk from the gaps within the EPRR core standards assessment.
- The Committee discussed the RAAC risks and the advice of the RAAC Board to maintain a high risk score of 20.