

BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE ASSURANCE REPORT

Presented for:	Information/Escalation
Committee Name:	Finance and Digital Committee
Presented by:	Ray Harding, Non-Executive Director (Committee Chair)
Date of Committee Meeting:	29 November 2021

Items received by the committee for assurance:

Agenda Item	Level of Assurance	Board Action Required? <small>(double click to select)</small>
Finance Report	Substantial Assurance	
CIP Programme	Reasonable Assurance	
Financial Planning	Reasonable Assurance	
Capital programme	Reasonable Assurance	
Digital Report	Reasonable Assurance	
IMO	Reasonable Assurance	
BAF & Risk Register	Reasonable Assurance	

POINTS OF ESCALATION

- Further to the previous board meeting at which it was agreed to submit a plan for a H2 deficit of £1million – to break-even for the year - we have now been requested to break-even for H2 itself, and the Finance and Digital Committee approved this further increase in performance of £1m, under the delegated authority from the Board. The committee was satisfied that further non-current efficiencies were available to meet this target.
- The Committee recommends an investment proposal to the Board for approval - £3.5m Digital Infrastructure. The funding has been secured from the Targeted Investment Fund (TIF), a national programme to support maintain and recover elective activity over the winter.

KEY ISSUES

- Month 7 Financial report was reviewed, showing monthly performance at break-even. This is consistent with the revised plan. Pay showed a slight reduction despite the enhanced rates now paid.
- The CIP Programme was reviewed: £9.2m had been identified out of the target of £10.1m for the year. FISS remains challenged and is currently subject to review; it is calculated that other divisions will be able to compensate, but some of this may be non-recurrent.
- The revised Capital forecast was reviewed and supported -this revised projected timings and prioritised projects to ensure funds are spent within the time period.
- The Committee approved Investment appraisals:
 - Business Intelligence - £272k (capital)
 - Diagnostic capacity - £504k (capital) – funded from TIF
 - PCH bed capacity - £428k (capital) – funded from TIF
 - Surgical Dependency Unit - £382k (revenue costs)

BOARD ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK & RISKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The M6 Digital Report was reviewed and a presentation on Refreshing the Digital Strategy received. It was noted the Strategy development has involved broad clinical and patient input to ensure it reflects the needs/requirements of the end users. IMO – FOI and Subject Access Requests performance was reviewed. The DSPT action plan is progressing.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that although the strategic risks, including cyber risk, are included on the Strategic Risk Register (and noted on the BAF) these are not presented to the Finance and Digital Committee for scrutiny. An approach would be made to include it there also – so that the Committee is fully sighted on this risk and mitigations.
CELEBRATING OUTSTANDING PRACTICE & INNOVATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Critical Care System is now live. Additional funding granted to the System very recently, to be updated after ICS discussions.

LEVELS OF ASSURANCE

Level	Description of Level of Assurance
Substantial Assurance	The report highlighted a sound system of control, designed to address the relevant risks with controls being consistently applied. Highly unlikely to impair the achievement of both system and strategic objectives.
Reasonable Assurance	The report did not highlight any material weaknesses in the system of internal control that would present material risks to the achievement of both system and strategic objectives.
Partial Assurance	The report highlighted some material weaknesses in the system of internal control that would present material risks to the achievement of system objectives. May also impair achievement of strategic objectives.
Limited Assurance	The report highlighted significant material weaknesses in the system of internal control that would present material risks to the achievement of both system and strategic objectives.