

QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE – 26th January 2021

HIGHLIGHT REPORT

The key headlines/issues and levels of assurance are set out below, and are graded as follows:

Strength of Assurance	Colour to use in ‘Strength of Assurance’ column below
Low	Red - there are significant gaps in assurance and/or not properly assured as to the adequacy of action plans/controls
Medium	Amber - there is reasonable level of assurance but some issues identified to be addressed.
High	Green – there are no gaps in assurance and there are adequate action plans/controls

Report	Assurance level*	Committee escalation	ORR Risk Reference
Matters Arising & Action Log	NA	Discussed and updated.	NA
Director of Nursing, AHPs & Quality Report (Paper C)	Medium	There have been 9 covid outbreaks since December 2020. Nosocomial infections are increasing which reflects the national picture. The flu vaccination rate stands at 60% and the focus is now on next season’s campaign. Safeguarding referrals continue to increase and the safeguarding boards continue to be sighted. The Clinical Governance Programme is ongoing and Trust wide QI governance structures continue to be aligned. The complaint response times have now been amended from 25 working days to 45 working days due to covid pressures. There is a Trust wide review for ventilation work ongoing and the mitigation around microbiology is progressing slowly. The vaccine hesitancy QI work is underway and this ongoing programme will inform next year’s flu programme. 48% of clinical staff and 38% of all staff have had the covid vaccination to date.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 26, 40, 47, 51, 52
Medical Director Update (Verbal)	Medium	The surge capacity in the CHS estate is being managed. All services have been graded on risk and priority. LPT were unable to respond to the request for the support for The Nightingale Hospital in Birmingham. The two main pressures currently are surge capacity and the vaccine programme. Most clinical services remain virtual	1, 3, 4, 5, 28, 40, 43, 44, 47, 52

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		although face to face appointments for some services are being considered with the best quality offering for the patients being the priority in any decisions taken. There has been a slow increase in suicide rates but this continues to be not statistically significant.	
Staff Health and Wellbeing Update (D)	High	Paper D provided an update on the staff health and well-being offer. LPT is hosting the LLR Mental Health and Well-Being Hub and Cathy Ellis has been appointed as the Trust's Well-Being Guardian.	25, 27
Performance Report (Paper E)	Medium	Waiting times metrics are a risk and a harm review process update will be delivered at FPC. Nosocomial metrics are not in this report but will be included by the next QAC. Work around responding to and investigating SIs is ongoing with each directorate and the CQC remain well sighted on SIs. Whilst the seclusion figures were up, there was not a consistency in this rise and the process of understanding seclusions has been improved. There is now a lead in this area and a dramatic improvement in the work.	All
Buddy Trust Update (Paper F)	High	The work continues with the Buddy Trust.	NA
Safe Staffing Monthly Review (Paper G)	Medium	The occupancy data was noted as inaccurate for November 2020 due to SystmOne issues. The use of temporary and agency staff has increased due to covid pressures, a CHS Surge Cell has been established and meets daily focusing on safe staffing and feedback from the front line has been that the agency/bank staff are of a high quality . There are 12 areas of note which are detailed in the paper.	4, 5, 26, 40
Safe Staffing - Staffing Risks and Mitigations in light of Covid - Services and the Covid Vaccination Programme (Paper H)	Red	Staffing risks are beginning to emerge due to covid pressures including a pharmacy risk Recruitment is being considered and UHL are also offering support in this regard. QAC requested that this report is on the next QAC meeting agenda as an update on this emerging situation.	4, 5, 26, 40
Guardian for Safer Working hours Quarterly Report (Paper I)	High	This quarter LPT have received one fine after filing an exception report. Mitigations and interventions have since been put in place and no exceptions have been filed during the last 8 weeks.	1, 26, 27
Organisational	High	80% of the offer is now running virtually and has	5, 25,

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Development Quarter 3 Update (Paper J)			a healthy audience. The change champions continue to meet monthly and the targeted work with middle managers that has not yet begun will be addressed moving forward.	
Annual Workforce Equality Report (Paper K)	High		This was presented to QAC for information prior to sign off by the Trust Board.	24, 25, 27, 41
Gender Pay Gap Report (Paper L)	High		This was presented to QAC for information prior to sign off by the Trust Board.	24, 25, 27
Organisational Risk Register (Paper M)	High		A change in risk 4's score (from 12 to 16) reflected the staffing concerns during covid pressures. A new risk – risk 53 was presented for QAC approval. This was the risk relating to the Trust's contribution to the system wide vaccination programme - the risk of not delivering. It was agreed that updates around risk 53 will be included in the weekly Flash Reports to Board.	All
CQC Regulatory Compliance Report (Paper N)	H	M	Work continues with a focus on service level ratings. Warning notices are being revisited with a focus on the impact of covid being incorporated. Self-assessment work against the KLOEs is also being carried out. The FFGPC meetings have continued throughout covid as have the Time To Shine sessions. A TRA inspection is expected at any time. Split assurance was received from the report – high assurance around the level of work and medium assurance due to capacity.	5
ICC Decision Log (Paper O)	High		This log is updated in real time and this version represents a snapshot in time. The risk log is currently being review by executive directors at the ICC Covid Executive Group. The main risk is the covid vaccination plan in its entirety. The other risk is categorising services and this is constantly under review.	20, 40
Governance Catch Up Plan – (Verbal)	High		Items delayed due to covid pressures were discussed and plans are in place to ensure that these are covered at a later date. If Level 5 status is announced this would mean monthly Trust boards as the only meeting taking place for a short period. The governance architecture work that has been ongoing jointly with NHFT has seen a full review with both teams and an external consultant. From this architecture work, the new comprehensive work plans are being developed.	20, 33
Health and	High		The report was presented and it was noted that	1, 3, 9, 10,

Report	Assurance level*	Committee escalation	ORR Risk Reference
Safety Highlight Report – 14 th January 2021 (Paper P)		Occupational Health reports were absent from the H&S committee meeting. Action to ensure that an OH report is presented to the next H&S meeting was confirmed.	11
Legislative Committee Highlight Report 9 th December 2020 (Paper Q)	High	Report received from 1 st meeting the now level 2 committee. It will oversee the Mental Health Act, the Mental Capacity Act and liberty of protection safeguards.	1, 3, 6, 40, 43, 45
Safeguarding Committee Highlight Report – 9 th December 2020 - including ToR (Paper R)	Medium	The report was received by QAC. Positive assurance with regard to the Beacon Unit was required before QAC could have high assurance.	2, 3, 40
Quality Forum Highlight Report 3 rd December 2020 (Paper Si)	H M	The report was received by QAC. The work of the committee offered high assurance but some unresolved issues the committee were monitoring led to the split assurance rating.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 40
QAC Work Plan for next meeting (Paper T)	NA	This was received and noted that the architecture work will change this plan.	NA
Revisit ORR and action log	NA	No additional risks identified.	NA
Any Other Urgent Business	NA	No other business raised.	NA

Chair	Liz Rowbotham
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