

Board of Directors (in Public)

Item 6.1.3a

Subject: Audit Committee BAF Key Issues Report
Date of Meeting: 29th November 2023
Presented by: Julian Farmer, Audit Committee Chair
Meeting Held: 10th October 2023 (E-Meeting)

This report sets out the key assurances, risks and actions from the recent Committee meeting. Areas for escalation to the Board of Directors are included below as required.

Agenda Item	Lead Exec	Assurance Received	New/ Emerging Risks	Actions/ Comments
5.1 Mid-year reports	NEDs	Assurance provided that the Trust Assurance Committees are delivering against their respective Terms of References.	-	Feedback to be provided by NED colleagues around the requirement for annual effectiveness reports for each of the committees.
5.2 Risk Management KPIs – InPhase Update	KWh	Update provided on risk reporting and InPhase.	Transparency noted around the challenges in developing reports from InPhase – however expectations are that this will improve information, data and assurance going forward.	Mitigations in place to ensure risk and incident management processes are effective.
5.3 Review losses and special payments	KE	No special payments were incurred between June 2023 and August 2023. One loss in excess of £10,000, which was isolated incident involving high-cost drugs. No risk to financial sustainability	-	Assurance received that there was no failure in the alert system, all fridges were alarmed, on-call pharmacist was called but could not salvage the drugs. Capacity has been strengthened going forward.
5.4 Review single supplier tender waivers	KE	Assurance received on processes for managing tender waivers. No concerns in respect of the number, reasons or	-	-

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		value of waivers reported in month		
5.5 Compliance with licence – review of quarterly checklist	KWh	Compliance with key requirements of the provider licence.	-	Ongoing management of the recovery and restoration of services, along with the changes to the funding regime. Well led assessment ongoing and update to be provided to BoD in November.
5.6 Regulatory action plans	KWh	No regulatory action plans	-	-
5.7 Third party assurances		Third party assurances provided. The external reviews at St Helens and Knowsley NHS Trust, Health Procurement Liverpool and SBS do not identify any material issues relating to the controls in place.	-	-
5.8 System governance update		Assurance provided that there is appropriate connection of the governance and reporting system structures to Trust governance.	-	Work underway to confirm a consistent approach to system risk management. LHCH risk registers continue to be used to record, mitigate and manage risks, including those relevant to wider system working and collaboration.
6.1 Progress report on delivery of plan	MIAA	Progress is being made against the internal audit plan for 2022/23. It is predicted that target will be reached by the end of the year.	-	-
6.2 System level update	MIAA	System level update provided. Time is ring fenced outside of the provider audit plan to carry out cross system working.	-	-
7.1 External audit update reports	Ext. Auditor	Verbal update provided and there are no significant changes envisages to the 2023-24 audit requirements.		