

ITEM: 10/088
Doc: 11

Meeting: Trust Board
Date: 28th July 2010

Title: **Report from the Audit Committee**

Executive Summary: The Audit Committee met on 14th July 2010 and was attended by Anna Merrick (chair), Robert Aitken, Jane Dacre and Marisha Ray.

A detailed review of the action notes from meetings since January 2009 was carried out. Of the 19 actions outstanding, all but 5 had been implemented. An update on these is included in the attached report, along with 19 new actions arising from the latest meeting. (Attachment 1)

Attention is drawn to the following matters referred to in the action notes:

Integrated Governance Document – 1007.6/7

The board reviewed proposed changes to the Standing Orders, Reservation and Delegation of Powers and Standing Financial Instructions. Subject to some minor amendments, this document was approved and is the subject of a separate item on the trust board agenda.

Risk Register – 1007.8

This had been updated in June, but further work was needed to ensure that timely action plans were in place and the risk rating columns properly reflect the degree of risk before and after mitigation. This is not therefore ready for presentation to the Board.

Board Assurance -1007.12

The Board Assurance Framework (BAF) was reviewed and two amendments were made. This is now recommended to the Board for approval. (Attachment 2). Following an internal audit of the BAF (for which substantial assurance was given) an action plan has been agreed and will be monitored by the Audit Committee. The committee also made some final adjustments to the Audit Commission's Board Assurance checklist (Attachment 3) and reviewed a draft action plan as recommended by the auditors. The committee made a number of proposed amendments and this is now attached for board approval. (Attachment 4).

Internal Audit Progress Report – 1007.13

The Audit Committee was concerned about the continued lack of progress on the computer audit, for which a plan had not yet been agreed. The computer auditor was unable to attend the meeting and has been asked to attend in September.

The committee was pleased to receive a report on the significant progress that had been made on implementing virtually all the outstanding recommendations from 2008/09. Only 6 out of 162 have been re-iterated and carried forward. Recommendations from 2009-10 will be followed up as part of the current year's programme.

Action:	The Trust Board is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note progress on the implementation of actions • Approve the latest version of the BAF • Approve the Board Assurance checklist action plan
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Report from:	Susan Sorensen Corporate Secretary
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Sponsor:	Anna Merrick Chairman of the Audit Committee
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Compliance with statute, directions, policy, guidance Lead: All directors	Reference: Audit Committee handbook NHS compliance regime
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Compliance with Auditors' Local Evaluation standards (ALE) Lead: Director of Finance	Reference: Internal control domain Financial reporting domain
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