

**ITEM: 10/138**  
**Doc: 05**

**Meeting:** Trust Board  
**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> November 2010

**Title:** **Report from the Audit Committee**

**Executive Summary:** The Audit Committee met on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010 and was attended by Anna Merrick (chair), Robert Aitken, Jane Dacre and Marisha Ray. Joe Liddane was also present.

Action notes from meetings since May 2010 were reviewed. Of the 26 actions outstanding, all but 4 had been implemented. An update on these is included in the attached report, along with the 13 new actions arising from the latest meeting. (Attachment 1)

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

**1011.6 Clinical Governance Report**

The committee was concerned that although the number of complaints had reduced significantly, there were still 88 complaints in the year for which the top three causes for complaint remained as in the previous year: attitude, clinical care and communication. The committee wished to know what action was being taken in relation to attitude and communication.

**1011.11 Board Assurance Framework**

The committee was pleased with the updated BAF and would recommend it to the Board with a few minor amendments and cross-referencing with the risk register and IBP. It was observed that the BAF would need to be radically updated if the Whittington became an ICO and advised that this work should be commenced as soon as a decision had been taken.

The following decision was made by the Audit Committee on behalf of the Board:

Adoption of the financial statements of the Charitable Funds for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010, and approval of the letter of representation to the auditors.

**Action:** The Trust Board is asked to:

- Note and approve the work in progress on the BAF
- Note the Audit Committee's approval on behalf of the Board of the annual statements of the Charitable Funds and letter of representation to the auditor.

**Report from:** Susan Sorensen  
Corporate Secretary

**Sponsor:** Anna Merrick

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|  | Chairman of the Audit Committee |
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| <b>Compliance with statute, directions, policy, guidance</b><br><br>Lead: All directors | <b>Reference:</b><br><br>Audit Committee handbook<br>NHS compliance regime |
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| <b>Compliance with Auditors' Local Evaluation standards (ALE)</b><br><br>Lead: Director of Finance | <b>Reference:</b><br><br>Internal control domain<br>Financial reporting domain |
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