

Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust
Board Committee Chair's Report

Meeting:	Quality and Safety Committee
Chair:	Lesley Writtle
Date:	23 rd March 2022
Present:	<p><u>Members:</u> Lesley Writtle (Chair), David Carruthers, Kam Dhmi, Mel Roberts and Dave Baker, Liam Kennedy</p> <p><u>In attendance:</u> Helen Hurst, Chizo Agwu, Dan Conway, Parmjit Marok, Mike Halissey</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Professor Kate Thomas</p>

Key points of discussion	
1.	<p>Board Assurance Framework: Approval pre-Board sign-off</p> <p><u>Chair's opinion:</u> The Committee received the proposed BAF for quality; members felt that it was a good representation of the committee's key risks. Some additional points of note were taken on board by authors and the plan was agreed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Reasonable Assurance</p>
2.	<p>Delivering MMUH Business Case – Committee focus</p> <p><u>Chair's opinion:</u> The committee had a comprehensive presentation and subsequent discussion. There were 4 areas the group were asked to focus on: the Acute care model, Activity and capacity assumptions, transformation of the clinical model and 7day working. The committee was reasonably assured on work undertaken to date and supported the approach to constantly re-evaluating assumptions. Three key risks were noted. Recruitment and workforce (to be addressed by POD) If we don't meet our activity assumptions it could have detrimental impact If we don't address interdependencies of services there could be silo working</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Reasonable Assurance</p>
3.	MMUH EQIA Report

	<p>Chair's opinion: The Committee received progress to date and was reasonably assured of progress. Further reports will be received as the approach is refined and services complete work. The committee was confident in the process of oversight by key executives. An early risk was identified linked to Travel distance for visiting families this will be looked at further.</p>	Reasonable Assurance
4.	<p>IT Outage Update</p> <p>Chair's opinion: The committee received an update on work and an executive summary from the external investigation. Good progress was seen but some actions are still to be completed. The ICO is also undertaking an investigation. Learning from this incident has been evident. Until work is completed only reasonable assurance can be provided.</p>	Reasonable Assurance
5.	<p>Sepsis Improvement Project Update</p> <p>Chair's opinion: The Committee received a report regarding this project linked to data showing higher than expected deaths due to sepsis. Whilst the Trust shows improvement we benchmark as an outlier. A comprehensive plan was discussed focussed on multidisciplinary learning. The committee requested regular update and will oversee the improvement plan.</p>	Reasonable Assurance
6.	<p>Accountabilities Report</p> <p>Chair's opinion: The Committee approved the plan presented which related to performance data focussed on the quality domain. The Terms of reference will be adjusted to reflect this.</p>	Substantial Assurance
7.	<p>Gold update on COVID-19 position, including vaccinations</p> <p>Chair's opinion: A report was received outlining the current Trust COVID-19 position. There has been a slight increase in COVID-19 cases but nothing significant. Evidence was shared that showed services moving back to pre-COVID-19 position and a focus on resuming planned activity.</p> <p>Future reports will be received by this committee and exceptions reported on to Trust Board.</p>	Substantial Assurance
9.	<p>COVID-19 Wave 3 Mortality Data</p> <p>Chair's opinion: The report focussed on wave 3 COVID-19 deaths, the report showed an overall improvement in mortality rates compared to previous waves. This was attributed to a variety of issues including vaccination rates, advances in therapeutic management. The report also looked at Nosocomial infection rates and demographic information all of which continues to provide</p>	Substantial Assurance

	excellent learning for the Trust.	
10.	Monthly Mortality Dashboard	
	Chair's opinion: The monthly report was received and demonstrates a steady decline in both HSMR and SHMI albeit that the rates are still very high. Assurance was received regarding approaches to mortality reviews and lessons learned process.	Reasonable Assurance
11.	Maternity Dashboard and Neonatal Data Report	
	Chair's opinion: Report received and showed an increase in community midwifery referrals; this places a strain on these services which is being closely monitored. Perinatal Mortality rate remains low with no still births in February. We heard that work continues to recruit nurses to the ATAIN team (avoiding term admissions into neonatal units). It was reported that there remains a challenge in maintaining the Medical Neonatal workforce.	Reasonable Assurance
12.	Safeguarding Update	
	Chair's opinion: Partial assurance due to the continued challenges in particular around the looked after children and introduction of LPs. We also noted there is a meeting to discussing developing a safeguarding team across place and that and update at a future meeting	Partial Assurance
Positive highlights of note		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID: return of services to pre-COVID situation. 		
Matters of concern or key risks to escalate to the Board		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 		
Matters presented for information or noting:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 		
Decisions made:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sign-off of the BAF quality risk 		
Actions agreed:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of Sepsis improvement project Regular updates on MMUH clinical model and transformation 		

Assurance classification

	<p>Management cannot clearly articulate the matter or issue; something has arisen at Committee for which there is little or no awareness and no action being taken to address the matter; there are a significant number of risks associated where it is not clear what is being done to control, manage or mitigate them; and the level of risk is increasing.</p>
	<p>There is partial clarity on the matter to be addressed; some progress has been made but there remain a number of outstanding actions or progress against any plans so will not be delivered within agreed timescales; independent or external assurance shows areas of concern; there are increasing risks that are only partially controlled, mitigated or managed.</p>
	<p>There is evidence of a good understanding of the matter or issue to be addressed; there are plans in place and these are being delivered against agreed timescales; those that are not yet delivered are well understood and it is clear what actions are being taken to control, manage or mitigate any risks; where required there is evidence of independent or external assurance.</p>
	<p>There is evidence of a clear understanding of the matter or issue to be addressed; there is evidence of independent or external assurance; there are plans in place and these are being actively delivered and there is triangulation from other sources (e.g. patient or staff feedback)</p>