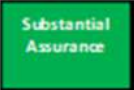



Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust

Board Committee Chair's Report

Meeting:	AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Chair:	Rachel Hardy
Date:	09 November 2022
Present:	<p><u>Members:</u> Mrs R Hardy, Non-Executive Director & Chair Mrs L Writtle, Non-Executive Director</p> <p><u>In attendance:</u></p> <p>Miss K Dhami, Chief Governance Officer Ms D McLannahan, Chief Finance Officer Mr D Baker, Chief Strategy Officer Mr M Stocks, Grant Thornton Mr Z Francis, Grant Thornton Mr M Gennard, RSM Mr A Hussain, RSM Mr B Vaughan, RSM Mr D Conway, Assoc Director of Corporate Governance Ms S Coster, RSM</p>

Key points of discussion	
1.	<p>Counter Fraud progress report</p> <p>Chair's opinion: Report noted and received. There was discussion regarding the benchmarking of counter fraud activity at the Trust with peers and the increasing referrals at the Trust</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p>
2.	<p>Internal Audit progress report</p> <p>Chair's opinion: Received and noted. There is a key issue relating to the Freedom to Speak Up Audit which raised a number of significant issues requiring resolution to enable this to operate effectively within the Trust. Recommendation to the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a board review the shortcomings described in the report <p style="text-align: right;"></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the Executive Director lead with dedicated resource for a short period of time to kick start and accelerate the work. Develop a clear action plan and support to ensure that this work proceeds at pace. 	
3.	External Audit progress report	
	<u>Chair's opinion:</u> Verbal Update Noted. The Committee thanked Mark Stocks for his work with the Trust over the previous 5 years and welcomed Andrew Smith who will replace Mark.	Substantial Assurance
4.	Governance pack	
	<u>Chair's opinion:</u> Received with action orientated changes to the report noted and appreciated. Proposed action plans accepted with a review of these at each future committee meeting	Substantial Assurance
5.	External Health and Safety Provision Audit	
	<u>Chair's opinion:</u> Several significant issues raised within this report that require the Boards overview. 55 recommendations were made. An action plan with timelines will be developed and presented to the committee in February.	Partial Assurance
6.	Fire Safety	
	<u>Chair's opinion:</u> Discussed as part of item 5 with the same actions agreed	Partial Assurance
7.	Risk Management	
	<u>The approach taken to</u> the development of the corporate risk register and the BAF was discussed. A follow up discussion was agreed in February where a dashboard of movements and trends would be presented for discussion. Also, to note for subcommittee chairs for triangulation purposes at each committee	Substantial Assurance
Positive highlights of note		
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Matters of concern or key risks to escalate to the Board		
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Matters presented for information or noting:		
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Decisions made:		

Actions agreed:

