



**Paper Ref**  
 TB21.016

<b>Meeting Title</b> Trust Board Meeting in Public	<b>Meeting Date</b> 27 April 2021
<b>Reporting Committee</b>	Audit Committee
<b>Committee Chaired By</b>	Andrew Chang, Non-Executive Director
<b>Lead Executive Director</b>	Steve Page, Executive Director of Quality, Governance and Performance Assurance/ Deputy Chief Executive
<b>Date of Last Committee Meeting</b>	13 April 2021

### Summary of Key Matters Considered and Decisions Taken

The Committee had held one meeting since its last report to the Board. The meeting was held via videoconference and was quorate.

- The Committee were introduced to the new internal auditors, 360 Assurance.
- An update was provided by AuditOne on progress against the 2020-21 internal audit plan. Nine audits were completed of which two had a substantial assurance rating, five were rated good assurance, and two rated as reasonable assurance. It was anticipated that all remaining audits would be completed by the end of April 2021. A discussion was held regarding recommendations made relating to the process to review and install software patches. The Committee requested further assurance at its next meeting.
- Members received a draft Counter Fraud Plan for 2021-22, noting that the NHS Counter Fraud standards have changed. The Committee delegated approval of the final version of the Counter Fraud Plan 2021/22 to the Chairman of the Audit Committee.
- A verbal update was received from external auditors, Ernst & Young, on the external audit plan for 2020/21. The Committee delegated approval of the External Audit Plan 2020/21 to a sub-committee of the Audit Committee.
- The Committee reviewed and approved the timeline for the annual report and accounts 2020-21.
- The Committee reviewed and approved the Accounting Policies 2020/21 and going concern review.
- The Committee received updates relating to the Annual Governance Statement, Quality Accounts, Risk Management Reporting, Board Assurance Framework and the Corporate Risk Register.
- The Board Committee Risk Assurance reports were discussed. The Quality and Finance and Investment reports both illustrated key risks of the ability to deliver and sustain the required performance standards and service developments in 999/A&E operations; Integrated and Urgent Care and PTS.
- A review of losses and special payments was undertaken. It included two large settlements related to legal cases. Members were assured these cases would be managed through the clinical governance processes and any lessons learned would come back to the Committee.
- A list of SFI waivers and contract award activities over £100,000 were reviewed and it was noted the Trust saw a reduction in Single Tender Waivers in the last quarter. All



contracts awarded over £100,000 were all compliant routes to market.

- Members received an update on Freedom to Speak up activities and noted an increased awareness of the FTSU Guardian's role.

**Risks Identified / Matters of Concern and Mitigating Actions**

None to note.

**Matters for Escalation to the Board**

It was agreed that the Counter Fraud Plan 2021-22 would be provided to the Board for information, following approval by the Committee, to ensure that Board members were aware of and understood the recent changes to the counter fraud standards.

Date of next Committee Meeting

8 July 2021