



Board of Directors (held in Public)
26 October 2023
Governance Report

Item 6.1

Presented for:	Information
Accountable Director:	Martin Havenhand, Chair
Presented by:	David O'Brien, Director of Corporate Services (Company Secretary)
Previous Committees:	None
Legal / Regulatory:	Regulatory

Key Priorities/Goals	This report supports all the key priorities and goals
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Strategic Ambition	(✓)	BAF Strategic Risk
1. Patients and communities experience fully joined-up care responsive to their needs		
2. Our people feel empowered, valued and engaged to perform at their best		
3. We achieve excellence in everything we do		
4. We use resources wisely to invest in and sustain services		

Key points	
<p>This report provides an update on governance issues in relation to Board governance since the previous Board meeting (held on 28 September 2023). The report confirms the position regarding the Trust's Caldicott Guardian.</p> <p>Recommendation The Board approves the proposal that the Trust's Caldicott Guardian will continue to be Dr Steven Dykes in his role as Deputy Medical Director.</p>	For information

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report provides an update on Board-level governance issues and developments since the previous Board meeting held on 28 September 2023.

1.2 The report confirms the Trust's position regarding its Caldicott Guardian.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Caldicott Committee's Report on the Review of Patient-Identifiable Information, published in 1997, recommended that health organisations should nominate a senior person, and preferably a health professional, to act as a guardian responsible for protecting the confidentiality of patient information and for ensuring that good practice principles are upheld in respect of managing and sharing patient data. These senior individuals became known as Caldicott Guardians. Since 1999 the Government has recommended that all NHS trusts should appoint a Caldicott Guardian.

2.2 To date, the Trust's Caldicott Guardian has also been the Executive Medical Director, a Board-level position. However, there is no requirement for the Caldicott Guardian to be a Board-level role. The National Data Guardian for Health and Social Care has issued guidance regarding the appointment and role of Caldicott Guardians. This recommends only that the Caldicott Guardian should be a health professional who has experience of working with patients and of managing the complexities of frontline care, and that in an NHS trust this may be a senior clinician who has other wide-ranging professional responsibilities.

2.3 During his period as acting Executive Medical Director, Dr Steven Dykes was also the Trust's Caldicott Guardian, in accordance with the job description for that role at that time.

2.4 Following the new operating model Phase 3 consultation the role of Caldicott Guardian is now included in the duties of the Deputy Medical Director job description rather than that of the Executive Medical Director. On this basis, it is proposed that in his substantive role as Deputy Medical Director, and in accordance with the National Data Guardian guidance referenced in 2.2 above, the Trust's Caldicott Guardian will continue to be Dr Steven Dykes.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Board approves the proposal that the Trust's Caldicott Guardian will continue to be Dr Steven Dykes in his role as Deputy Medical Director.