



Report Title	Financial Performance Report – Month 9 (December)	
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Accountable Director	Kathryn Vause, Executive Director of Finance	
Previous committees/groups	None	
Recommended action(s) (assurance, approval, information)	Information, Assurance	
Purpose of the paper	To inform Trust Board of the current financial position as at month 9, period ending 31 December 2025.	
Executive Summary		
<p>The Trust reports a £2.3m year-to-date surplus at month 9 and is forecasting a £2.5m surplus by year end. Income is ahead of expenditure, giving a favourable variance against plan.</p> <p>At the end of December, the Trust spent £373k on agency staffing against a year-to-date cap of £2.4m and expects to remain well within the annual cap. Extra agency mechanics have supported winter vehicle availability.</p> <p>Capital spending is £14m against a plan of £13.4m, with a forecast breakeven position. Slippage in PTS fleet replacement has been balanced by accelerating other capital schemes, including medical devices.</p> <p>The cash balance at 31 December is £63.6m with low borrowings of £2.3m (excluding IFRS16). Better Payment Practice targets have been met apart from the volume of NHS invoices which is below target YTD at 93% against the 95% target.</p> <p>The Trust has a £23.1m efficiency programme, fully identified through a mixture of defined schemes and vacancy management.</p> <p>Risks include reliance on recruitment to deliver the planned position, the possibility of increased surplus if vacancies remain, winter pressures linked to flu, and operational and financial impacts from the ongoing resident doctor strike.</p>		
Recommendation(s)	It is recommended that the Trust Board note: <ul style="list-style-type: none">the Trust’s financial performance to 31 December 2025.all associated risks.	
Link to Board Assurance Framework Risks (board and level 2 committees only)	12. Secure sufficient revenue resources and use them wisely to ensure value for money.	

Financial Performance Report – Month 9 (December 2025)

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 At month 9, the Trust is reporting a year-to-date surplus against plan of £2.3m and a forecast £2.5m Surplus position.

1.2 Key Financial Metrics:

Income & Expenditure Position:	YTD surplus of £1.95m against a planned surplus of £358k, therefore a YTD favourable variance to plan of £2.31m. Forecast Outturn - £2.5m Surplus.		
Agency Cap:	YTD expenditure of £373k and forecast £583k, against an annual cap of £3.7m		
Cash:	Month end balance £63.6m		
BPPC YTD:		Volume	Value
	Non NHS	97%	97%
	NHS	93%	97%
Capital:	YTD expenditure of £14m against a plan of £13.4; ahead of plan by £0.6m Forecast Outturn - break-even		
Cost savings / efficiencies Delivery:	Full achievement of the efficiency plan both YTD and Forecast Outturn		

2.0 MONTH 9 POSITION

2.1 The Trust-wide summary financial position at month 9 is shown below at table 1, with more detail at directorate level shown at table 2.

	Year to date (December 25)			Full Year 2025/26		
	PLAN	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	PLAN	ACTUAL	VARIANCE
	£000			£000		
Income	(341,845)	(340,490)	1,355	(455,828)	(455,752)	77
Pay	268,881	263,067	(5,814)	357,275	353,064	(4,211)
Non Pay	73,322	75,465	2,143	98,554	100,187	1,634
(Surplus)/Deficit	358	(1,958)	(2,316)	-	(2,500)	(2,500)

Table 1: summary financial position at month 9

2.2 At the end of December, the Trust have spent £373k on Agency staffing (against a YTD cap of £2.4m) and forecast to spend £583k (against annual cap of £3.7m), which is well within the agency cap target. The position reflects additional agency mechanics; an initiative to increase vehicle availability over winter.

2.3 Trust Summary:

	Year to Date (Apr - Dec)			Forecast		
	Plan £000	Actual £000	Variance £000	Plan £000	Actual £000	Variance £000
Block Contract	(324,109)	(324,113)	(3)	(432,146)	(432,150)	(5)
MHIS	(3,935)	(3,400)	536	(5,247)	(4,606)	640
ECRS (Dental/PTS)	(1,076)	(946)	131	(1,435)	(1,205)	230
ICB Income	(329,121)	(328,458)	663	(438,828)	(437,962)	866
Income	-	(75)	(75)	-	(84)	(84)
Pay	572	562	(10)	763	692	(72)
Non Pay	1	12	11	2	13	11
Chief Operating Officer	574	499	(75)	765	621	(144)
Income	(1,270)	(1,262)	9	(1,694)	(1,695)	(1)
Pay	150,603	149,732	(872)	199,816	201,041	1,225
Non Pay	1,549	2,330	781	2,067	3,041	973
A&E	150,882	150,800	(83)	200,190	202,387	2,197
Income	-	(111)	(111)	-	(113)	(113)
Pay	25,188	22,824	(2,364)	33,566	31,533	(2,033)
Non Pay	2,686	3,610	924	3,597	4,032	435
EOC	27,874	26,323	(1,551)	37,163	35,452	(1,711)
Income	-	(13)	(13)	-	(13)	(13)
Pay	25,593	23,316	(2,277)	33,838	31,597	(2,242)
Non Pay	532	887	355	709	1,090	381
NHS 111	26,125	24,190	(1,935)	34,547	32,674	(1,874)
Income	(195)	(253)	(58)	(246)	(356)	(109)
Pay	19,120	18,705	(416)	25,487	24,910	(577)
Non Pay	10,471	10,207	(263)	13,939	13,639	(300)
Patient Transport Services	29,396	28,659	(738)	39,180	38,193	(986)
Income	(2,301)	(2,320)	(18)	(3,068)	(3,296)	(228)
Pay	9,830	9,681	(149)	13,107	12,962	(145)
Non Pay	1,136	847	(288)	1,514	1,612	98
Central Services	8,664	8,208	(456)	11,552	11,277	(276)
Income	(8,958)	(8,000)	958	(11,992)	(12,233)	(241)
Pay	37,974	36,613	(1,360)	50,696	49,261	(1,435)
Non Pay	57,321	55,974	(1,348)	78,231	78,380	149
Support Services	86,337	84,587	(1,750)	116,935	115,408	(1,527)
Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pay	-	1,635	1,635	-	1,069	1,069
Non Pay	(374)	1,599	1,972	(1,505)	(1,619)	(113)
Reserves	(374)	3,234	3,607	(1,505)	(550)	955
(Surplus)/Deficit	358	(1,958)	(2,316)	0	(2,500)	(2,500)

Table 2: Directorate level financial summary at month 9

3.0 CAPITAL

- 3.1 Year to date, expenditure is £14m against a plan of £13.4m with a further £8.9m of orders raised. The Trust is forecasting a breakeven position at year end; slippage against PTS vehicle replacement (Fleet Leases) has been mitigated by accelerating capital programmes, including Medical Devices, from the 2026/27 Capital plan
- 3.2 Expenditure against the capital plan is summarised below.

Capital Expenditure Analysis 2025-26	Budget	Actual £'000s	Variance	Budget	Outturn £'000s	Variance
Estates	3,811	2,614	(1,197)	6,178	6,487	309
Fleet	7,652	8,125	473	16,476	19,099	2,623
ICT	845	1,178	333	2,928	2,937	9
Medical Devices	-	6	6	766	914	148
Contingency	-	(50)	(50)	115	(51)	(166)
Sale Proceeds: Wath slipped to 26/27	-	-	-	(290)	-	290
Net Book Value of Disposals	-	(47)	(47)	-	(47)	(47)
Sub Total Capital Expenditure - Purchased Assets	12,308	11,826	(482)	26,173	29,339	3,165
Estates	176	131	(45)	1,616	1,117	(499)
Fleet	927	2,068	1,141	8,480	2,940	(5,540)
Medical Devices	-	-	-	-	2,872	2,872
Sub Total Capital Expenditure - Leased Assets	1,103	2,199	1,096	10,096	6,929	(3,167)
Actions to mitigate underspends	-	-	-	-	2	2
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	13,411	14,025	614	36,269	36,270	0

Table 3: Capital expenditure at month 9

4.0 CASH

- 4.1 At 31 December 2025 the Trust holds a cash balance of £63.6m with low borrowings of £2.3m (excluding IFRS16 lease arrangements).

5.0 PAYABLES PERFORMANCE

- 5.1 The Better Payment Practice Code (BPPC) requires an NHS body to pay 95% of all valid invoices (by volume and by value) by the due date or within 30 days of receipt, whichever is later.

Monthly BPPC performance

											M09
Invoice Volume & Value	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	YTD
Non-NHS: Percentage paid within 30 days (volume)	98%	97%	99%	96%	97%	97%	96%	97%	97%	98%	97%
Non-NHS: Percentage paid within 30 days (value)	97%	98%	99%	95%	96%	92%	98%	97%	96%	99%	97%
NHS: Percentage paid within 30 days (volume)	100%	95%	100%	97%	89%	88%	92%	88%	100%	100%	93%
NHS: Percentage paid within 30 days (value)	100%	98%	100%	99%	94%	94%	99%	98%	100%	100%	97%
Total: Percentage paid within 30 days (volume)	98%	97%	99%	96%	97%	97%	96%	97%	97%	98%	97%
Total: Percentage paid within 30 days (value)	97%	98%	99%	95%	96%	93%	98%	97%	97%	99%	97%

Table 4: BPPC performance at month 9

6.0 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

6.1 The SoFP at any year end reflects the timing of transactions and matters which may be specific to that year end.

	31-Dec-25	26-Nov-25
	£m	£m
Non-current assets	156.4	156.0
Current assets		
Inventories	2.7	2.6
Trade and other receivables	11.1	11.5
Cash and cash equivalents	63.6	64.8
Total current assets	77.4	78.9
Current liabilities		
Creditors - Capital	(1.2)	(2.4)
Creditors - Other	(30.1)	(34.8)
Trade and other payables	(31.3)	(37.2)
Borrowings	(7.1)	(6.7)
Provisions	(1.5)	(1.5)
Other liabilities: deferred income	(3.6)	(4.9)
Total current liabilities	(43.5)	(50.3)
Total assets less current liabilities	190.3	184.6
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	(15.6)	(13.4)
Provisions	(6.9)	(6.9)
Total non-current liabilities	(22.5)	(20.3)
Total net assets employed	167.9	164.4
Financed by		
Public dividend capital	109.7	109.7
Revaluation reserve	18.5	18.5
Income and expenditure reserve	39.6	36.2
Total taxpayers' and others' equity	167.9	164.4

Table 5: Statement of financial Position at month 9

7.0 EFFICIENCY PROGRAMME

7.1 The Trust has an annual efficiency programme totalling £23.1m. This has now been identified in full either via defined schemes for cost reduction or a higher level of vacancies than planned.

8.0 RISKS

8.1 The risk around delivery of the efficiency plan is now fully mitigated by the underspend on pay budgets. This reflects BAU levels of attrition and decisions to hold vacancies to meet CIP targets.

8.2 A high level of recruitment is assumed between now and the year-end across most operational services. If this does not materialise as planned there is a potential that the reported surplus will increase.

- 8.3 Increased demand or sickness levels linked to the flu outbreak across our front-line services, which goes beyond our planned seasonal variation could cause further financial/performance pressure, e.g. if overtime/incentives, third party provision need to be maintained or increased to deliver a safe service.
- 8.4 The planned resident doctor strike has resulted in cancelled/delayed discharges in the PTS service and increased demand on our call centres, any further action could impact on the overall financial position and/or operational performance.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 It is recommended that the Trust Board note:
- the Trust's financial performance to 31 December 2025.
 - all associated risks.