
Trust Public Board 21 February 2008

Assurance Framework – Quarter 2 & 3 (2007/8)

to receive a summary paper of progress on the Assurance Framework

Report by: Jan Filochowski, Chief Executive

Purpose

1. The Board needs to be confident that the systems, policies and people they have put in place are operating in a way that is effective, is focused on key risks and is driving the delivery of objectives. The Board are assisted in this challenge through the development of an *Assurance Framework*.
2. Every NHS organisation is required to develop its own *Assurance Framework* in accordance with the Department of Health publication, *Assurance: the Board Agenda*. The framework relates to the delivery of our objectives within the context of an understanding of the principal risks that WHHT faces.
3. The Business/Operational Plan of the Trust makes explicit a number of organisational objectives. This Assurance Framework maps identified risks, controls and assurances to those specific objectives
4. Further to the recommendation made in the last Board Report on the Assurance Framework - Quarter 1 (2007/8), the Trust has now had an opportunity to review its strategic objectives and to revisit and simplify the Assurance Framework.
5. The Trust Strategic Objectives reflect those identified in the Trust Operational Plan and are summarised as follows:
 - Objective 1 – Achieve Financial Balance (*OP: Sustain financial health through surplus*)
 - Objective 2 – Improved rating with Annual Health Check (*OP: Achieve the national patient access targets Reduce Health Care Acquired Infections*)
 - Objective 3 – Ensure the implementation of 'Delivering a Healthy Future'.
 - Objective 4 – Achievement of Foundation Status

The Trust Board Agenda will continue to focus on the risks identified within the Assurance Framework.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to discuss the contents of this report.

Jan Filochowski
Chief Executive
21 February 2008