
Public Board Meeting, 25 March 2010

Board Assurance Framework

Presented by: **Colin Johnston, Director of Patient Safety, Medical Director**

This paper informs the Board of the current position relating to the key risks to the achievement of the organisation's objectives. The risks are aligned to the strategic objectives contained in the Integrated Business Plan. The following is a summary of changes since the January Board meeting. The Audit Committee has not discussed this report as it predates the next scheduled meeting.

Current Risks

There are currently 15 risks on the Assurance Framework

Current Risk Ratings

3 risks are currently rated as red (scoring 15 or above):

2136	Residual Estates Issues	25
1272	Decontamination solutions	15
2287	Liquidity risk rating, Monitor	15

Amber and Yellow Ratings

For the remaining risks, 10 are currently rated as Amber (scoring 8 or above) and 2 risks are rated as Yellow (scoring 4 and above).

New Risks

Failure to address the deficiencies in the patient experience identified through the Out Patient Survey 2009. This has yet to be assigned a DATIX number. The Improvement Steering Group has assigned an initial score as 12 amber, however this is subject to review.

Risks Removed

Risk 2141 has been removed: *Inadequate systems for the receipt, implementation and monitoring of NICE and NSFs guidelines and TAGs will affect our ability to monitor our performance.* This risk has been mitigated by the development of a Policy supporting a monitoring process and progress is monitored at the BISE.

Risks escalated since Last Board Report

None.

Recommendation to reduce risk rating

None.

Refreshing the Board Assurance Framework 2010/11

In line with best practice, the Assurance Framework will be refreshed to ensure it appropriately reflects the key risks to the strategic objectives outlined in the Integrated Business Plan, and in order that it reflects the strategic risks identified in the Integrated Business Plan.

The process for achieving the refresh will involve a review of the Board Assurance Framework by the Executive Team on 30 March to ensure that collateral impacts of risks are assessed.

The Board Assurance Framework will be reviewed against the risks identified in the development of the 2010/11 Annual Plan, the risks identified in the Integrated Business Plan and any potential risks identified through the Trust's High Level Operational Risks, including risks that may emerge from the Trust's Big Ask Cost Savings exercise. Risks will be reviewed using a high level checklist:

- Strategic/Commercial/Delivery
- Economic/Financial/Market
- Legal/Contractual/Regulatory
- Organisational/Management/Human Factors
- Equality and Diversity
- Political/Societal
- Environmental/Force Majeur
- Technical/Operational/Infrastructure

This will inform discussion with Non Executive Directors at the Board Development Session in April and the updated Framework will be presented at the May meeting of the Board.

Colin Johnston
Director of Patient Safety, Medical Director
11 March 2010