

TRUST BOARD MEETING – 29 September 2011

Title of the Paper:	Annual Audit Letter		
Agenda item:	145/11		
Author:	Anna Anderson, Director of Finance		
Trust Objectives:	Be financially sound		
Purpose The Annual Audit Letter summarises the key issues arising from the work carried out at The West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust during the 2010/11 external audit			
Risk Implications for the Trust (<i>including any clinical and financial consequences</i>):		Mitigating Actions (<i>Controls</i>):	
The Letter is designed to communicate key messages to the Trust and external stakeholders, including members of the public. The Letter will be published on the Trust's website.		There have been regular meetings throughout the year with external auditors and full discussions at Audit Committee, where the letter has been discussed and approved.	
Level of Assurance that can be given to the Trust Board from the report [significant, sufficient, limited, none]: Significant			
Legal Implications:			
This Letter has been prepared in the context of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies issued by the Audit Commission (www.audit-commission.gov.uk).			
Recommendation to the Trust Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ that the 2010/11 accounts give a true and fair view of Trust's financial affairs and of the income and expenditure recorded by the Trust. ○ that the Trust made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2011. • To approve publication of the letter on the Trust's website 			