

## Escalation and Assurance Report

**Report from the: Finance, Business & Investment Committee**

**Date of meeting: 16 November 2020**

**Report to the: Board of Directors**

For further information please see the Care Trust Integrated Governance Guide.

Key escalation and discussion points from the meeting
<b>Alert:</b>
No issues were noted that require further discussion or action.
<b>Advise:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key financial sustainability pressures reviewed including out of area placements, loss making contracts and agenda for change unfunded cost pressures. These issues were discussed in the context of reference cost funding gap.</li> <li>• The Committee requested an update on the Strategic Programme benefits realisation as part of the Business Planning process. In addition, it was agreed that reporting on cost improvement programmes would re-commence from period 7, together with a self-assessment on use of resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Assure:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee reviewed the annual plan and capital plan for 2020/21 and received assurance on the risks and mitigations in the financial position.</li> <li>• The high-level processes and timelines for the preparation and submission of the Trust's business plan for 2021/22 were reviewed. Further updates will be provided in future meetings including the final draft business plan and budget in March 2021.</li> <li>• The Committee noted the increased spend on the Microsoft Enterprise agreement, which is in the final year of a three-year agreement. A full procurement exercise will be completed in 2021 when the current agreement expires.</li> <li>• Innovation for Growth plan supported by the Committee with a request for this to be fed into the business planning process.</li> <li>• Performance dashboard reviewed to month 6 (top up arrangements continue to break-even position), together with quarterly report to NHS Improvement. Capital position noted overspend against budget in relation to ATU development with the risk offset by ICS partners.</li> <li>• Progress update on Estates strategy received covering the Lynfield Mount Hospital (LMH) redevelopment and redesign of our Community estate. Request for risk assessment to be made in relation to potential funding options for LMH redevelopment.</li> <li>• 2019/20 Sustainability Report approved for onward submission to the CCG.</li> </ul>

**Risks discussed:**

- Risk 5 – To deliver a financially sustainable organisation

**New risks identified:**

- None identified

**Report completed by:** Maz Ahmed  
20 November 2020