

Meeting Title	Board of Directors		
Date	16 November 2023	Agenda item	Bo.11.23.12

Committee/Academy Escalation and Assurance Report (AAA)

Report from the: Finance and Performance Academy

Date of meeting: 1st November 2023

Key escalation and discussion points from the meeting

Alert:

Monthly Finance Report – the Academy noted the continuing risk in delivering the 2023/24 financial plan. The risk is in the main due to increasing costs of strike action and slow progress in delivering the Waste Reduction Plan. As at month 6 the Trust is £2.0m in deficit and forecasting a £3.6m deficit based on an assumption that Industrial action costs are funded.

The Academy discussed the underlying financial position, the risk to delivering the plan this financial year and the significant deficit being carried into next financial year.

Advise:

RTT Improvement Plan – The Academy were pleased to see the continuing initiatives to improve waiting time and clear long wait backlogs. There are currently approximately 500 people waiting more than 52 weeks for their treatment in Bradford, this is a significant reduction from the peak created during the pandemic. We discussed the continued reduction of 104 week waits, 78 weeks and are working towards achieving 0 patients waiting over 65 weeks by the end of March 2024. A challenge was raised about how we look at our organisational approach to language barriers, there were some examples of how these were being managed well but we agreed an action to look at how we might discuss a better organisational approach.

Act as One Programme Update – The team shared an update on work that was being undertaken at place level on a review of Intermediate Care Services. Several actions have been agreed that will enable us to work better together as a system.

Performance Highlight Report – The Academy received and reviewed the monthly comprehensive report. Our performance remains strong in comparison with our West Yorkshire (WY) peers. This month the report included an update on work to cleanse and improve the data quality of our waiting list.

Capital Update – Capital spend is forecast to be over budget by £3.6m this financial year recognising some more detailed work is underway to ensure forecasts are realistic and accurate. The Academy discussed the risks re delivery of the capital plan.

Participation – There was good participation throughout the meeting from attendees.

Assure:

Winter Plan – The Academy approved the winter plan noting the work that has been undertaken to mitigate the risks that may arise through winter.

Financial Improvement Plan – The Director of Finance (DOF) updated the academy on progress against the waste reduction plan. The DOF and Chief Operating Officer (COO) shared a piece of work on understanding our Whole Time Equivalent versus productivity

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over the last few years. A further piece of analysis will be shared at a future academy. The DOF also updated on work being undertaken at place and at WY level to deliver further financial efficiencies and close the gap.

Budget Setting Process – The Academy received a presentation for 2024/25 Budget Setting Process. No national guidance has been received yet and the initial plan includes several assumptions that will be reviewed and updated as the process continues. The Academy noted the significant recurrent deficit current forecast for 2024/25.

Finance and Performance Effectiveness Review – We discussed the results of the effectiveness review that we had undertaken at last month's meeting and next steps. It was pleasing to see that 83% of academy meetings believed the meetings had improved over the last 12 months.

High Level Risks Relevant to the Academy - The Academy was assured at the end of the meeting that all relevant risks had been identified, reported to the Academy and were being managed appropriately. No new risks were included in the risk register for the Academy. The Academy noted that the risk re Gas and Electricity prices is likely to be removed as we move forward. The impact of increased prices will be built into next year's budgets.

Report completed by:

Julie Lawreniuk
Academy Chair and Non-Executive Director

2nd November 2023