

ITEM: 11/046
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Meeting: Trust Board
Date: 23rd March 2011

Title: **Report from the Audit Committee**

Executive Summary: The Audit Committee met on 9th March 2011 and was attended by Anna Merrick (Chair) Robert Aitken, Jane Dacre and Marisha Ray.

Action notes from meetings since May 2010 were reviewed. Of the 19 actions outstanding, 10 had been implemented and 9 remained outstanding. An update on the latter is included in the attached report, along with the 8 new actions arising from the latest meeting. (Attachment 1).

Attention is drawn to the following matters on which the Audit Committee is concerned that further progress needs to be made.

1103.1 Integration of IT systems within the ICO
 It was agreed that this was an area of high risk and should be closely monitored by the FT Programme Board and flagged up in the issues log

1103.2 Internal Audit Progress Report: IT Disaster Recovery Arrangements
 The Audit Committee felt that in view of the limited assurance and the importance of integration within the ICO, the action plan did not convey sufficient urgency and priority. The Audit Committee requested that the report should be considered by the EC and the outcome of the discussion reported to the Trust Board within the EC report.

1103.3 Internal Audit Report: Service Line Reporting
 The Audit Committee's view was that the substantial assurance given on SLR did not reflect the delay in translating Board and EC commitment into widespread operational use in management and decision-making. It is recommended that an action plan should be included in the ICO project plan and reported to the Trust Board.

Action: The Trust Board is asked to note the actions arising from the Audit Committee and the areas of concern.

Report from: Susan Sorensen
 Corporate Secretary

Sponsor: Anna Merrick
 Chairman of the Audit Committee

**Compliance with statute, directions,
policy, guidance**

Lead: All directors

Reference:

Audit Committee handbook
NHS compliance regime