

Whittington Health Trust Board

8 January 2014

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Report from the Audit and Risk Committee</b>		
<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>14/012</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Action requested:</b>	<b>For information</b>		
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<p>In the course of its meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2013, the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received a progress report from Internal Audit, noting in particular, the findings of two recent audits. One report on <b>Financial Reporting and Budgetary Control</b> gave only adequate assurance to the Trust and the committee reiterated its concerns over the late approval of 2013/14 budgets, one of the key control gaps identified. Management assured the committee that budgets for the next financial year would be signed off by the end of February 2014. The other Internal Audit report, on the <b>Management of Debtors</b>, provided substantial assurance.</li> <li>• Reviewed the External Audit report and signed off the accounts of the <b>Trust's Charitable Funds</b> for the year 2012/13. The committee noted that a formal risk register will now be established for the Charitable Funds.</li> <li>• Reviewed the latest versions of the <b>Board Assurance Framework (BAF) and Corporate Risk Register</b>. The committee felt that, while the BAF is now a much better record of the strategic risks facing the Trust, there was still an opportunity to make it a much more effective tool for managing those risks. In particular, the committee recommended that executive management should carefully review the management actions for each risk and ensure that they fully address the most important control and assurance gaps. It was also suggested that, in future meetings, the executives responsible for each risk should be asked, on a rotating basis, to account to the committee for those actions.</li> <li>• Heard an update on the <b>embedding of integrated risk management</b> in the women, children and families division. The committee was pleased to note that the division has recently appointed a risk manager, albeit on an interim basis, and believes that this will help accelerate the</li> </ul>		

	embedding process. • Noted an update on the process to provide <b>assurance on the Trust's data quality</b> . The timetable for assuring approximately 40 of the Trust's most important performance and quality indicators has been extended because of delays relating to the introduction of the Electronic Patient Record. The data quality assurance process will now be complete in May 2014.						
<b>Summary of recommendations:</b>	For noting						
<b>Fit with WH strategy:</b>	The Audit and Risk Committee is responsible for monitoring risks to the delivery of the Whittington Health strategy.						
<b>Reference to related / other documents:</b>	N/A						
<b>Date paper completed:</b>	December 16, 2013						
<b>Author name and title:</b>		<b>Peter Freedman Chair of Audit and Risk Committee</b>		<b>Director name and title:</b>		<b>Simon Wombwell, Chief Financial Officer</b>	
<b>Date paper seen by any other group/which</b>	N/A	<b>Equality Impact Assessment complete?</b>	N/A	<b>Risk assessment undertaken?</b>	N/A	<b>Legal advice received?</b>	N/A

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