

MEETING:
Trust Board 15 March 2006

TITLE:
Trust Assurance Framework March 2006

SUMMARY:
The Trust Board is asked to note the progress throughout the year in developing risk management assurances for the Trust and to ratify the attached Assurance Framework for the Whittington Hospital which has been devised through the Assurance Committee.

ACTION:
The Trust Board is asked to note and ratify the Trust's Assurance Framework March 2006

REPORT FROM:
Margaret Boltwood, Director of Human Resources & Corporate Affairs

SPONSORED BY:



Context

The Assurance Committee, chaired by Dee Henry non-executive director, in recognition of the importance of robust risk management measures to the Trust, has during the last year undertaken a range of actions on behalf of the Trust Board. These include:

- Regularly reviewed and updated the Assurance Framework and reported this on a regular basis to the Trust Board. The Framework is based upon the hospital's strategic objectives and the Healthcare Commission's core standards.
- Reviewed and updated its terms of reference
- Reviewed and updated the Risk Management Strategy

Assurance Framework

The full Assurance Framework is attached, however listed below are the seven key risks identified:

1. Base costs increasing e.g. Agenda for Change pay, consultant contract pay, increased costs of new technology, unfunded inflation (*risk rating 16*)
2. Significant delay in opening new day surgery facilities (*risk rating 16*)
3. Significant delay in opening new acute core facilities (*risk rating 12*)
4. Shortfall on planned income due to volatility in Payment by results tariff and rules (*risk rating 12*)
5. Adverse changes in strategic decisions of commissioners of services or changes in flow due to *Patient Choice* (*risk rating 12*)
6. Insufficient investment in the physical environment (*risk rating 12*)
7. Failure to reduce rates of healthcare acquired infection (*risk rating 12*)

Action

The Trust Board is now asked to note the progress through the year and to ratify the attached Assurance Framework for the Whittington Hospital which has been devised through the Assurance Committee.