

Governance Committee

Committee Chair Report for Board Meeting on 3rd April 2025

The Governance Committee ('the Committee') met on 27th February 2025. The following is a summary of the areas considered at the meeting to update the Board.

1. Summary of areas considered

- Chief Executive's report from the SLT Risk and Assurance Group.
- Chair's report from the Safety and Quality Steering Group.
- Chair's report from the Organisational Governance Steering Group.
- Chair's report From the Standards, Compliance and Regulation Steering Group.
- Corporate Risk Register.
- The Committee approved the submission of a business case proposing dedicated staff resources to deliver the Trust's Raising Concerns (Whistleblowing) policy.
- MBRRACE Report – Perinatal Mortality Surveillance Report for SHSCT.
- Update on oversight of Maternity Services within SHSCT following recommendations from the Ockenden Report.
- Report on the annual overview of the SHSCT's participation in the: NHS England Quality Accounts List of National Clinical Audits (NCAs) for 2023/24 together with the rationale for any non-participation; the annual overview of the SHSCT's participation in the NHS Benchmarking exercises and National Registries for 2023/24; an updated SHSCT position on the progression of recommendations arising from participation in these national audits, including those still relevant from previous years; and, the composite programme of SHSCT local clinical audits centrally registered in the 2023/24 period.

- The Department of Health's Regional Being Open public consultation.

2. Issues for escalation to Trust Board

- The Committee is concerned that the Resus Committee is not operational at present with the planned date for resumption anticipated by August 2025. The Committee would ask SLT to consider action to bring forward this date as currently there is a lack of forum to share information and escalate concerns. Investment is also required to meet the training needs of the Trust.

3. Action(s) requested/required of Trust Board

- Note that the Committee has started a discussion to examine whether the extant reporting from the three Governance Steering Groups to the Committee is sufficient to enable the Committee to effectively discharge its remit.
- Note that the Committee has also started work to commission stabilisation and recovery proposals related to a range of corporate services.

Mr Jackie Johnston
Non-Executive Director - Chair
On behalf of the Governance Committee
31st March 2025