

Subject:	Audit Committee Chair's Report
Presented by:	Hilary De Lyon, Lay Member for Audit
Submitted to:	NHS West Norfolk CCG Governing Body, 29 January 2015
Purpose of Paper:	For noting

Audit Committee Meeting 14 January 2015

The Committee discussed the importance of whistleblowing and ways of supporting staff and patients in provider organisations to report concerns.

External Audit are developing this year's audit plan and did not feel there were any specific audit risks locally, but noted the risks with financial resilience nationally. The CCG finance team presented their progress on year end; it is a very tight timescale this year but they are working closely with auditors to mitigate risks to delivery of the annual accounts. A review of payroll controls was discussed.

Internal Audit updated the Committee on progress against their audit plan and presented 3 finalised reports: Third party reports on both Adult and Children's Safeguarding (reasonable assurance opinion) and a quality report on care homes (limited assurance opinion). The Committee discussed at length the good progress being made on the latter since the appointment of the care home lead and requested a further update at the March meeting. Internal audit are confident of completing their audit plan and delivering the Head of Internal Audit Opinion on time.

The Committee received updates and assurances on Emergency Preparedness Resilience and Response (EPRR) and Health & Safety.

Proposed changes to the Constitution were noted and a review of the approach to conflicts of interest discussed.

The Information Governance (IG) Committee Chair's Report and IG Committee minutes were presented.

An additional Audit lay member has been recruited and will commence in post on 1 February 2015. He will also chair the Finance & Performance Committee and Conflicts of Interest Committee.

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be 11 March 2015.

Minutes of the Audit Committee are available on the CCG's website.

KEY RISKS

Clinical: The Audit Committee reviews clinical risks to the delivery of safe, high quality patient care and the effectiveness of mitigation actions and reports on findings to the Governing Body.

Finance and Performance: The Committee reviews risks to the delivery of performance targets and financial duties and the effectiveness of mitigation actions.

Impact Assessment (environmental and equalities): N/a

Reputation: Any risks not properly identified or mitigated could have a significant impact on the reputation of the CCG.

Legal: Any risks not properly identified or mitigated could have legal consequences for the CCG.

Patient focus (if appropriate): The Audit Committee reviews clinical risks to the delivery of safe, high quality patient care and the effectiveness of mitigation actions and reports on findings to the Governing Body any risks not properly identified or mitigated which could impact on patient services.

Reference to relevant Governing Body Assurance Framework: N/a

RECOMMENDATION:

The Governing Body is asked to note the Chair's Report.