

### Meeting Assurance Report to the Board of Directors

<b>Name of Committee / Group</b>	Quality Committee
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	16 September 2024
<b>Chair</b>	Ros Roughton, Non-Executive Director and Committee Chair
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Angie Legge, Quality Director
<b>Meeting Administrator</b>	Lucy Middleton, Business Manager

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide in summary an update on the key discussions and outcomes of the above meeting.

#### Agenda items covered at the meeting

The agenda included the following items:

- Feedback from the Board
- CEO Update
- Driving Improvement in the Care of the Deteriorating Patient
- Review of Interpreter Services
- Quality
  - CQC Assurance Report (July and August)
- Estates Update
- Patient Safety
  - Learning from Incidents Report (July and August)
- Infection Prevention and Control Quarterly Update (Quarter 1)
- Effectiveness
  - Annual Clinical Audit Report
- Quality Surveillance Report and External Visits Register
- For Assurance
  - Information Governance and SIRO Annual Report
  - Hospital Transfusion Group Annual Report
  - Health and Safety Executive Committee Highlight Report
  - Mental Health Executive Committee Highlight Report – August 2024
  - Quality and Safety Executive Committee Highlight Report – August and September 2024
  - EDI Executive Committee Highlight Report – Quarter 1
  - 2025 Meeting Dates

#### Matters to highlight

Specific areas to highlight are as follows:

- Improving care of the deteriorating patient was highlighted by CQC in its 2022 report. The Committee heard of the extensive work done to make significant improvements, including safety huddles, clearer escalation routes, training, and systemic changes to the e-Whiteboard to allow measurement of time between escalation and response. The dedicated Deteriorating Patient Nurse is also the subject matter expert for Connect 24, and there will be further audits post Go Live. Ultimately all this work should help reduce cardiac arrests, and unexpected admissions to critical care, helping to improve outcomes.

- The Committee had asked for the work on interpreter services to come to the Quality Committee, following some feedback from staff, patients and non-executives (following ad-hoc visits). The Committee heard about the work to address some of the issues, noting that artificial intelligence may provide a partial solution in future.
- There was the regular six-monthly update on estates, and work to maintain and improve the quality of the estate, bearing in mind the capital position.
- Q1 data on infection control also included an update on delivery against the action plan for 2024/25, with audits now completed of areas like catheter and cannula care, which provides a better foundation for improvement. There was some discussion about the best comparators to use for infection control, with a number of different comparators presented in the report.
- The annual clinical audit report was presented with over 300 clinical audits undertaken during 2023/24. The approach this past year has been to focus on improving the timeliness of audit outcome reporting so that improvements can be made promptly as appropriate.
- The Committee received assurance on the work of the information governance group, with “standards met: on its self-assessment against the Data Security and Protection Toolkit.
- The Committee received the annual report of the hospital transfusion group, showing comparable usage of blood to other similar Trusts and a low number of transfusion incidents. Nationally, blood stocks remain low.

**New significant issues / concerns escalated including proposals on the next steps to address this**

New areas which the Committee / Group wishes to escalate as potential areas of non-compliance, that need addressing urgently or escalating: None

**Implications**

<b>Aim of the STHFT Corporate Strategy</b>		<b>✓ Tick as appropriate</b>
1	Deliver the Best Clinical Outcomes	✓
2	Provide Patient Centred Services	✓
3	Employ Caring and Cared for Staff	✓
4	Spend Public Money Wisely	✓
5	Create a Sustainable Organisation	✓
6	Deliver Excellent Research, Education and Innovation	✓

**Recommendations**

The Board of Directors is asked to **NOTE** the update provided and respond to any specific points raised within the report.