

Report to 14th January 2014 Council of Governors Meeting

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Report from 18th November 2013 Finance, Planning & Performance meeting

Items to highlight from the meeting which benefited from the presence of John Archard-Jones who was able to answer questions on the NED perspective:

1. Trust Sustainability and Procurement Strategies

Louise Payne, Director of Corporate Support and Chris Williams, Deputy Director of Finance, gave an update on the Sustainability Policy currently under development, and answered Sub Group members' queries regarding procurement of stock and non stock items and the use of national and local agreements to secure the best value for money. The revised Policy will be reviewed by F,P&P once agreed by the Board. John Archard-Jones, Deputy Chairman, also advised that the Procurement Department will be targeted with a reduction in expenditure for 2014/15.

2. PFI Contracts Review

Chris Williams gave an update on the Trust's two PFI contracts; the Welland PFI on the St Mary's Hospital site in Kettering and the Berrywood PFI in Northampton and confirmed the Trust had no other PFI liabilities. The Sub Group discussed in detail the options open to the Trust in terms of making bullet payments or the possibility of renegotiating the terms of the PFI agreements as necessary. The Group agreed that the RPI elements of these long term contracts represented a minimal financial risk to the Trust as they represented a low proportion of total turnover.

3. Trust Service and Quality Performance to Q2

The Group reviewed in depth a range of issues surrounding the Trusts Q2 performance covering financial, quality and risk elements. Chris Williams explained to the Sub Group the successful management by the Trust of the CIP programme and Louise Payne Quality performance issues. John Archard-Jones confirmed that patient safety remained the Board's focus and that CIPs are reviewed very carefully by the Board and NEDs, The Sub Group also received updates on CQUIN targets and waiting time targets. The Governor Group agreed they were assured on all aspects of performance and the quality of the NEDs oversight_of its management.