1. Purpose

The Board Assurance Framework (BAF) forms a part of the overall risk management and assurance process of the Trust and allows the Board to maintain oversight of the principal risks to delivery of the Trust’s strategic objectives.

2. Background

Risk management is an integral part of good management practice. Risks that arise within the Trust are assessed using the NPSA model risk assessment matrix and are reported through the DATIX system. Risks that are escalated to the BAF are managed through the relevant Trust Committees and have an identified Executive lead. Executive Directors review their open BAF risks on a monthly basis and Trust Committees provide assurance through their reports to the Board that they have sufficient information and understanding to provide oversight of their risks.

The BAF report maps all open BAF risks to our strategic objectives risk by number and severity of risk. The BAF tracker reports included at Appendix A and B set out BAF risks within and above risk appetite. The BAF tracker includes an indicator for movements in month, a long term trend line for each open risk, and identifies the Executive Lead and the Committee responsible for each BAF risk.

An executive summary is included on slide 1 setting out key changes in individual BAF risks. The tracker report reflects the month 2 position for 2019/20.

3. Key Issues:

The BAF reflects the month 2 position for 2019/20 with risks relating to our:

1. Workforce, and the need to focus on recruitment and retention to support flow and our ability to deliver activity
2. Failure to optimise the new facility to deliver activity plans and meet patient demand.
3. The consequent financial impact on sustainability and our contribution to the wider system

all featuring materially within our BAF.
Other key changes include:

New BAF risk 2249 on Hospital Optimisation. The Hospital Optimisation group has been established and action plans are being put in place with review across Board Committees. The action plan for this risk will be owned by the Executive Directors.

Increased risk assessment for BAF 873: Master Development and control plans - sale value. This has an increased level of risk following the contractual issues identified relating to the proposed land sale.

The tracker reports also captures the new consolidated BAF risks BAF 2145, 2148, 2149, 2163 and 2225 as reported last month.

4. **Recommendation:**

The Board is requested to review the BAF report and consider the level of assurance provided through the Board Committee structure and whether there is any requirement to further revise BAF risk assessments.