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 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 provides:

- A summary of risks above risk appetite including risk appetite and target risk rating.
- A mapping of open risks to our strategic objectives risk by number and severity.
- The BAF tracker which sets out risks within and above risk appetite. It includes an indicator for movements in month, a long term trend line for each open risk and the committee responsible for the risk.

The BAF report is designed to provide the Board with an overview risks to the organisation and to allow for regular discussion and review of the scope, rating and level of assurance that has been provided to the Board in relation to delivery of its strategic objectives.

3. 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.