

Item 3.i

Report to:	Board of Directors	Date: 4 February 2021
Report from:	Chair of the Quality & Risk Committee	
Principal Objective/ Strategy and Title	<b>GOVERNANCE:</b> To update the Board on discussions at the Quality risk meetings held on 28 January 2021.	
Board Assurance Framework Entries	675, 684, 730, 742, 1787, 1929	
Regulatory Requirement	Well Led/Code of Governance:	
Equality Considerations	To have clear and effective processes for assurance of Committee risks	
Key Risks	None believed to apply	
For:	Insufficient information or understanding to provide assurance to the Board	

1. Significant issues of interest to the Board

- 1.1 **COVID19.** Although not an agenda item, we took time to reflect on the effects of the COVID19 pandemic. Three points stood out. First, that in some cases we have moved beyond risks and are now in the realm of consequences, as various serious risks have materialised. Second, that we are working at a threshold with extreme hazards almost whatever do, and that judging between priorities and risks in these circumstances is an immense challenge. Third, that in this context, the commitment of staff has been extraordinary. Although we cannot have assurance that everything will run smoothly – far from it – we take great assurance in the quality of our teams and that conversations at the CDC and elsewhere seem to be in exactly the right place.
- 1.2 **Workforce.** OM reported on a much-disrupted EDI, Wellbeing and CCL Programme which is nevertheless advancing opportunistically. Comment around the committee was universally encouraging.
- 1.3 **Q3 information governance.** In the circumstances, it's refreshing to report that information governance is running without anything notable to report - itself a tribute to the team who have more than enough COVID19 related work to occupy them. NHS Digital, in recognition of Papworth's digital maturity, has selected us for audit in Jan / Feb by Price Waterhouse Cooper.
- 1.4 **Education.** We are asking that the draft education strategy be revised to emphasize the choices and priorities in a lengthy and otherwise inspiring set of ambitions for developing the service.
- 1.5 **Risk register.** We have reviewed the corporate risk register, but noted the difficulty of assessing risks in the current climate when so many risks are out of the ordinary. At some quieter moment, we have an ambition to review Papworth's risk framework.
- 1.6 **Quality review.** We have asked IG to bring to the committee his current review of the effects on service quality of changes in staffing ratios and as a result of other COVID19 pressures.

**2. Key decisions or actions taken by the Quality & Risk Committee**

2.1 **Policies etc.** We have ratified policies and strategies on information risk and falls.

**3. Matters referred to other committees or individual Executives**

3.1 None.

**4. Recommendation**

4.1 The Board of Directors is asked to note the contents of this report.