

Agenda item 3iv

Report to:	Board of Directors	2 April 2020
Report from:	Chair of the Audit Committee	
Principal Objective/ Strategy and Title	GOVERNANCE: To update the Board of Directors on discussions at the Audit Committee meeting on 12 March 2020	
Board Assurance Framework Entries	FSRA BAF (Unable to maintain financial, operational and clinical sustainability)	
Regulatory Requirement	Regulator licensing and Regulator requirements	
Equality Considerations	Equality has been considered but none believed to apply	
Key Risks	Non-compliance resulting in financial penalties	
For:	Information	

1. Significant issues of interest to the Committee

- The Audit Committee has met on one occasion (12 March 2020) since the last Board of Directors meeting.
- Following the meeting members of the committee also met privately with External and Internal Auditors, and the Local Counter Fraud Specialist

2. Key decisions or actions taken by the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee:

- Approved the Waiver of Standing Financial Instructions report but noted a number of applications for a waiver had been refused as inappropriate. The Chief Finance Officer and the committee urge all staff to follow the relevant procurement procedures and only seek a waiver in exceptional circumstances

3. Other items of note

The committee inspected the latest draft of the Trust's Annual Report and noted that the next draft would be circulated amongst members in advance of the next committee.

The committee also reviewed the second draft Annual Governance Statement and also the Chairs Reports from recent Board Sub-Committee meetings including, for the first time the report from the Charitable Funds Committee.

This meeting was the last to be attended by Roy Clarke and the Committee thanked Roy for his great contribution to both the work of the Committee and the Trust as a whole.

Although discussions during the private meeting following the committee are largely confidential it is worth noting that the Head of Internal Audit thanked the Chief Finance Officer in promoting the importance of the work of Internal Audit throughout the Trust and hoped this would continue under his successor.

4. Recommendation

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