

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Paper No. 22/80
Paper Title:	Standing Committee Chairs Board Report
Meeting:	NHS Board Meeting
Date of Meeting:	25 October 2022
Purpose of Paper:	For Assurance
Classification:	Board Official
Name of Reporting Committee:	Audit and Risk Committee
Date of Reporting Committee:	13 September 2022
Committee Chairperson:	Michelle Wailes

1. Purpose of Paper

The purpose of this paper is to inform the NHS Board on key items of discussion at NHS GGC Audit and Risk Committee.

2. Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the key items of discussion at the recent meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee on Tuesday 13 September 2022 as set out below and seek further assurance as required.

3. Key Items of Discussion

3.1 Fraud Report

- Paper presented by the Director of Finance for Assurance
- The Committee noted:
- 23 allegations that had been received between April and July and that this figure was broadly comparable to same period the previous year.
- There were no new cases of fraud reported, and 11 open cases as at 31 July 2022.

3.2 Patient Private Funds Audit 2020/21

- Paper provided for Approval
- The Committee noted that the Patient Private Funds Annual Accounts 2020-21 were to be adopted by the NHSGGC Board, the CEO and the Director of Finance was authorised to sign the Abstract of Receipts and Payments, and the Director of Finance was to sign the Letter of Representation.
- The Committee were content to approve the above signatures.

3.3 Internal Audit Progress Report

- Paper provided for Assurance.
- The Committee noted Property Transaction Monitoring and that all transactions had been classified and the required audit conducted in accordance with the NHS Scotland's Property Transaction's Handbook.

3.4 Internal Audit Follow Up Report

- Paper provided for Assurance.
- The Committee noted no actions were overdue, and the organisation were commended on the current position, noting that having no audit actions overdue over an extended period was unparalleled within the Health sector.

3.5 Risk Management

- Paper provided for Assurance.
- The Committee noted a more comprehensive CRR was now in place, and asked the Committee to note assurance of the overall Risk Management Governance arrangements.
- The Committee noted the annual review process which has taken place around the Risk Appetite Statement (RAS) and the proposed changes to the document which included; Risk Type for Property added, Risk Appetite Levels reduced from 5 to 4 and the introduction of Risk Tolerance Levels.
- In response to the members' debate regarding risk tolerance vs risk appetite, Mr Neil suggested the RAS be considered as a work in progress.

3.6 FOI Annual Report

- Paper provided for Assurance.
- The Committee were advised that there has been 950 requests for information in the year; 85% meeting the statutory response deadline of 20 working days, 15% related to COVID-19, and other popular topics included infection control, the condition of facilities and staffing levels. 14% of responses carried some form of exemption where information was partially or fully withheld. The corporate performance target had been set at 90%.

3.7 FOI Policy

- Paper provided for Approval.
- The Committee noted the following amendments to the policy; (i) processing of FOIs through a single route/generic email to ensure requests to be

'applicant and purpose blind', (ii) two new sections introduced on fees to reflect NHSGGC's ability to charge for information under the terms of the legislation, (iii) reviews carried out by a suitable senior manager without the need for a Non-Executive Board Member to undertake this responsibility (iv) where practical, no employee below AfC Grade 8b to be named in an FOI or EIR response..

- In response to queries raised by members it was agreed that an amended version of the report would be returned to the December Committee.

3.8 Whistleblowing Annual and Q1 Report

- Paper provided for Assurance.
- The Committee noted the average time to respond to cases had reduced; Stage 1s - 100% against 5 working days and Stage 2s - 0% against 20 working days. The overall performance for Stage 1s was 86%, and Stage 2s 50%.
- The main themes of cases throughout the reporting period were staff levels, appropriate rota cover and recruitment processes.

3.9 ACOB Discussion and Planning 2022/23

- Paper provided for Approval.
- The Committee agreed that the ACOB to be amended to the month of June as per the ARC cycle.
- The Committee were content to approval the ACOB.

4. Issues for referral to other Standing Committees or escalation to the NHS Board

There were no issues for referral to other Standing Committees or escalation to the NHS Board.

5. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee will take place on Tuesday 13 December 2022.