Agenda Item: 9b

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHS Foundation Trust

Committee Chair's Assurance Report

Report to:	Board of Directors (in Public)
Date of meeting:	4 October 2022
Title of Report:	Assurance Report from the Finance and Activity Committee
Recommendation:	For assurance
Chair:	Alan Brown, Non-Executive Director
Purpose:	The report summarises the assurances received, approvals, recommendations and decisions made at the Trust's Finance and Activity Committee's **informal** meeting on **21 September 2022.**
Background:	The Committee meets monthly and provides assurance on scheduled reports from all Trust operational committees with a finance and activity (including commissioning) brief.
Item for Escalation	**Finance Month 4 & Month 5 Finance Pack** The Committee received the finance reports for month 4 and month 5. The focus of the discussion was on month 5 and the Committee recognised that the Trust had come off plan in the month at a value of £200k, resulting in a year-to-date negative variance of £130k from the year-to-date plan. The Committee also recognised that this position included an element of income protection given by the national rules of no 'clawback' with regards to Elective Recovery Funds (ERF). The Trust is underperforming with regards the elective Recovery Programme, but the national rules are allowing the Trust to retain the Elective Recovery Funds for the first 5 months of the year. The Committee acknowledged that the recent theatre incident with regards RAAC plank surveying would impact the ability of the Trust to delivery the original elective plan but processes were in place to describe the response and a paper would be delivered to the October Committee meeting. The Committee noted the pressures being felt within the pay expenditure categories and the mix and interaction between substantive, bank and agency expenditure. A detailed workforce analysis paper would be delivered to the October meeting and would be prepared in conjunction with workforce colleagues for potential review at the People Committee. The Committee also discussed the winter plan and recognised the draft paper was being reviewed at the relevant executive forums and would be presented at the October Committee meeting.
Item for Escalation	**Access Standards Report** The Committee received the monthly access standards report and raised concerns with regards the metrics within the urgent and emergency care pathway. The Committee was informed that the

	Trust was included within weekly update meetings with national colleagues with regards ambulance handover processes. The Committee recognised that improvement plans were in place but requested further assurance on the impacts the individual actions were having upon performance. The Committee also recognised that in many areas access standards remained fragile and a specific referral was made to the Quality Committee with regards 62-day cancer waits.
Item for Assurance	**Deep Dive into Stroke Standards** The Committee received the presentation that covered the planned deep dive into Stroke Standards.
Item for Assurance	**Cost Improvement Programme** The Committee received the presentation that covered the planned deep dive into the Cost Improvement Programme for 2022/23.

Attendees:

A Brown – Non-Executive Director and Committee Chair
I Mack – Non-Executive Director
D Dickinson – Non-Executive Director
C Benham – Director of Finance
N Hunter – Acting Director of Estates & Facilities

G Ward – Acting Trust Chairman
S Jones – Deputy Chief Operating Officer
R Andrews – Deputy Director of Finance

A Baines – Surgery DGM (item 6)
L Bradley – Medicine DGM (item 5 & 6)
A Kellythorn – Services Manager (item 5)
T Cowper – Associate Director Finance Improvement Team (item 6)
M Catling – Women & Children DGM (item 6)
D Eden – Head of Strategic/Operational Procurement (item 6)

L Preston – Board/Committee Administrator (minutes)

Apologies:

C West-Burnham – Director of Strategy and Integration
D Smith - Chief Operating Officer

Observers:

Governor Observers do not attend Informal meetings of this Committee.