

## Report to Trust Board

Date: 27 July 2011

Agenda item no 10.1

Title	Report from the Audit Committee
Author	Trust Board Secretary
Responsible Director	Chair of Audit Committee
Purpose	Ratification/ Assurance/Information
Action required	To note the report
Executive Summary	The report outlines the assurances received by the Committee and the areas where the Committee considers that there are risks.
Relevant CQC standard/ NHS Constitution pledge	Principle 6 We will spend tax payers' money carefully.
Link to strategy/plans	Careful stewardship of resources is a strategic principle
Impact assessment:	
- quality	The Internal audit plan is risk-based, and includes quality aspects
- financial/business	The Internal audit plan includes financial areas.
- equality/diversity	None
- risk	The internal audit programme was approved.
- legal/statutory	Under SOs, the Board has to have an audit committee which reports to it.
- sustainability	None
Previous consultation/decision/ discussion/	Last routine report- June 2011

### 1 Annual Report

The Committee agreed its annual report- attached. It will be reviewing its effectiveness in the autumn in the context of the updated Audit Committee handbook, and setting its objectives for the year.

### 2 Electronic Discharge summaries

The Committee welcomed the improvement in performance. It will continue to monitor the position, but if progress is maintained, it will be happy to cease its scrutiny.

### 3 Assurance Framework

The committee will be reviewing the process in November to ensure the assurance process is sufficiently robust and effective

### 4 Raising Concerns at Work ("Whistleblowing")

The Committee received a report on the cases reported over the past two years. It was surprised at the small number, and asked for an assurance from the executive on the effectiveness of the process.

#### **5 Internal Audit**

The committee received the report for 2010/11 and noting the number of reports with less than full assurance, asked for an update on the implementation of the recommendations from reports issued in the year for its next meeting. It approved the annual audit plan for 2011/12, noting that it needed to be dynamic, to include new issues that might arise. Two reports had already been issued in draft and were still awaiting management response.

#### **6 External Audit**

The committee received the Annual audit letter, reported separately on the board agenda, and the assurance report on the quality account

Ian Pickering

Chair, Audit Committee

Date: 19 July 2011