



**HNY ICB Committee Assurance and Escalation Report**

**Report to: HNY Integrated Care Board**

**Report from: Quality Committee**

**Date of meeting: 20 February 2024**

**Committee Chair: Mark Chamberlain**

**Director Sponsor: Teresa Fenech, Executive Director of Nursing & Quality**

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**Key agenda items covered by the meeting**

*(A bulleted list of the key agenda items discussed at the meeting)*

**Governance**

- Annual Q4 Review of Governance Arrangements  
Terms of Reference 2024/25
- Statutory & Regulatory Dashboard update
- Patient Safety
- Risk Management: Risk Operations Model

**Quality**

- Population Health Management
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Lucy Letby Case (Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust)
- Medical Examiner feedback
- Significant Issues

**Papers shared for information with queries invited by exception only**

- Place Quality - 4A Report
- Board Assurance Framework (BAF)
- Healthwatch update (themes and issues)
- Domestic Abuse & Serious Violence (DASV)
- Safeguarding
- Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC)
- National Patient Safety Alert – Valproate
- Feedback from Regional Quality Group 19 January
- Providers in Quality Improvement Group Status
- Forward Planner 2024
- Ratified Minutes System Quality Group – 14 December
- Migrant Health Case Study recording (shared with members only)

**ALERT**

*(BY EXCEPTION ONLY - key matters and / or risks to alert or escalate to the ICB Board)*

- **Patient Safety** - members were asked to explore the option of an ICB wide approach to in-house PSIRF training delivery (utilising and pooling resources across partners).
- **Population Health** - An update was provided with a particular focus on improving population health as part of the core business of the ICB looking at the intelligence picture for HNY past, current, and predicted future. A particular focus looked at 75 years and above - the trajectory being stark i.e an extra 60000 over 75 years in HNY by 2030 all going to hospital at least once a year. Data demonstrated the ICB is one whole hospital down in terms of beds which has impacts on services such as Primary Care and Accident and Emergency (A&E); with a decline predicted year on year. The National outlook is the same.



- **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)** – an update was provided with a particular focus on statutory and regulatory requirements as set out in several legislative areas, including but not limited to the Children and Families Act. It was noted that the SEND funding envelope is extensive with large disparities in places compared to other ICBs. A possible risk was highlighted for consideration and escalation to Board (with a particular focus on the waiting list for support i.e 40 months for those children and young people).
- **Lucy Letby Case (Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust) - Medical Examiner feedback** - an update was provided in support of the case surrounding the Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust Lucy Letby Case; with a particular focus on medical examiner feedback. This included but was not limited to progress made in response to the letter from NHS England following the verdict.  
In support of Freedom to Speak Up (FTSU), Medical Examiners are supportive of independent scrutiny recognising the challenges of information sharing.  
A FTSU report will be submitted to board in terms of how sharing of learning occur.

#### ADVISE AND / OR ASSURE

(BY EXCEPTION ONLY - Key decisions and any updates to advise the ICB Board on the matters the Committee was able to take assurance on or where additional information was required)

- **Annual Q4 Review of Governance Arrangements and Terms of Reference 2024/25** – Members were updated that an annual review of governance arrangements is underway with sign off expected at the April Quality Committee and May Board. The review provided the committee with assurance that compliance of governance lines continues to work well with minor updates only required. A review of membership is occurring as part of this exercise.
- **Statutory & Regulatory Dashboard update** - an update and timeline was provided in support of a project to develop a Statutory and Regulatory Dashboard; to support demonstrating compliance of ICB Nursing and Quality statutory and regulatory requirements to both the Quality Committee and board. An example dashboard is anticipated for the April Quality Committee.
- **Patient Safety** - an update was provided with a particular focus on the newly implemented Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF); progressing well i.e over 100 providers up and running. Additional assurance included but was not limited to the overall aim of PSIRF being to replace the 2015 Serious Incident (SI) Framework to ensure compassionate engagement with those affected by Patient Safety; shifting culture and moving away from blame and towards rapid improvement; patient input; triangulation of learning and themes.  
  
The committee raised a concern in terms of risk and mitigations as a result of ICB reduced oversight of the patient safety risks within organisations. Assurance was provided including:
  - arrangements with each of the larger providers are in place (ICB attendance at internal meetings where PSIRF is discussed).
  - establishment of the Patient Safety Committee to commence from April 2024
  - Bi-monthly Experience of Care groups.
- **Risk Management: Risk Operations Model** - a follow up update was provided in support of risk management including a detailed outline of how risks could be managed within the Quality Committee. Members were reminded that place risks are highlighted as part of Place Quality Group governance which feeds into the System Quality Group. Amalgamated reports (aka 4A report) support bringing high level system risks to the committee which would only need escalating if the risk remained unmitigated against; or despite mitigation it was still high profile or difficult.
- **Significant Issues** - an update was provided in relation to a commissioning quality and safety concern at a private outpatient doctors' consultation and treatment centre. The HNY ICB do not directly commission services via this provider. CQC inspections have resulted in 'Requires



Improvement' and a 'Notice of Decision' to suspend surgical services. NHS England have been informed and regular contact is being maintained with the lead CQC inspector.

- **AOB**

- An update was provided in support of the Fuller Inquiry.
- Members were invited to raise queries by exception in support of papers shared for information purposes which included:
  - a request to see the impact of Tuberculosis (TB) vaccinations as part of the 4A reporting.
  - further Valproate updates to include whether the NHS is stopping prescribing and whether pregnant patients are being made aware of the impacts noted. Assurance was provided this will feed into the Patient Safety Committee and as a result, the Quality Committee