

**QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

<b>Trust Board</b>	<b>Item: 18</b>
<b>Date: 26 January 2022</b>	<b>Enclosure: N. ii</b>
<b>Purpose of the Report:</b>	
This report has been produced for the Trust Board Meeting to provide an update on discussions held at the Quality Assurance Committee in December 2021. Board to consider approval of the Quality Assurance Committee Terms of Reference is requested from	
FOR: <b>Information</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assurance <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion and input <input type="checkbox"/> Decision/approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Sponsor (Executive Lead):</b>	Dame Cathy Warwick – Non-Executive Director
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<b>Risk Implications – Link to Assurance Framework or Corporate Risk Register:</b>	Corporate quality and safety risks are recorded on the risk register
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Reputation Implications:</b>	CQC registration NHS Resolution CNST
<b>Link to Relevant CQC Domain: All</b>	
Safe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effective <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive <input type="checkbox"/> Well Led <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Link to Relevant Corporate Objective:</b>	Strategic Objective 1: to deliver quality, patient centred healthcare services with and an excellent reputation.
<b>Document Previously Considered By:</b>	None
<b>Recommendations:</b>	
1. Discuss any concerns with regards to trends highlighted in the report.	

**Quality Assurance Committee 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021  
Report for Trust Board 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Summary**

Assurance was provided on clinical quality through a variety of data sources, verbal reports, presentations and ensuing discussion. Bill Oldfield, Medical Director, gave an update on current activity. Services are under intense pressure trying to manage a range of competing demands especially when staff absence due to COVID infection/contact with others infected is high. Due to the spread and impact of the Omicron variant of COVID some quality targets are proving hard to meet whilst also maintaining safe practice in terms of infection control. The committee was assured that in terms of targets we are starting from a high baseline and patient safety is not compromised. Also, staff morale remains good. The committee noted their appreciation of all the staff working at Kingston.

**Regular reports received for 'quality assurance and control' were:**

- The November 2021 Integrated Performance Report
- The SI reports for October and November 2021
- Quarterly reports from clinical audit

**Key Items discussed under quality improvement were:**

- A 6month quality priority update
- The A&E patient survey action plan
- A report on antimicrobial stewardship at KHFT

**Items considered under Governance were:**

- The annual SI report 2020 - 21
- A thematic review of five years of maternity SI's alongside other maternity quality metrics i.e. CNST, Ockenden actions, perinatal and neonatal mortality
- A report into the Quality Assurance Committee effectiveness and review and agreement of the revised terms of reference
- The BAF Trust wide risk register

**Issues to note**

- The committee endorsed the six chosen quality priorities for 2022-23 and noted that work on the 2021-22 priorities would continue through other work streams.

- Pressures within the hospital, particularly related to the management of patients developing positive COVID tests whilst in hospital and to difficulties discharging patients to nursing homes due to their staffing problems, are putting pressure on capacity. This is necessitating a juggling of priorities and some targets e.g. 4hr waits in ED are being breached. However, the committee was assured that patient safety drives all decisions.
- Pressure maintaining services due to staffing are also resulting in pressure on cancer targets and the exemplary performance to date is becoming hard to maintain. It is anticipated that the next few months will remain difficult. However, Kingston remains one of the best performing Trusts in relation to cancer care.
- The committee were assured that the limited themes emerging from the review of SIs in maternity are being addressed and that triangulation from several different data sources indicates that maternity services at Kingston are performing well.
- The committee received a presentation on antimicrobial stewardship and noted the continuing focus on this issue and the good performance at Kingston.

CLW 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2022