

Briefing from Informal Board Session

Purpose

1. This report records the key topics discussed and the information shared at an informal board session held on 17 July 2024.

Key topics discussed.

2. The members of the Board were delighted to welcome Mr Meredydd David, Audit Chair to his first informal board session following his commencement in post from 1 July 2024. Mr Bradley Palin was also welcomed to the session as the interim Chief Operating Officer recognising that the Trust's substantive Chief Operating Officer, Dr Jo Chwalko had commenced a secondment to Wirral University Teaching Hospitals NHS FT as the Director of Integration and Partnerships, supporting both Trusts in future collaboration opportunities.
3. The session started with an annual refresher on the **National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) Certified Board Level Training** and included.
 - The latest cyber landscape briefing
 - Best practice guidance to help foster a positive cyber and information security culture encompassing people, policy, process and ICT.
 - Leadership, strategy and best practice information governance
 - Understanding of responsibilities, liabilities and consequences of breach, including key legislation (such as GDPR)
 - Guidance on risk management and building resilience and capability.
 - Advice on the next steps to improve data security within your organisation.
4. The certificate of completion for the Board is attached at **appendix 1**.
5. The interim Deputy Chief Finance Officer provided an update on NHS England and the Cheshire & Merseyside ICB's agreement to engage external support to review the financial position of Trusts across the nine places of the C&M ICB. It was noted that this will focus on actions that can be taken to immediately reduce the rate of expenditure and to ensure that the financial plan 2024-25 is delivered.
6. The interim Chief Executive provided an update on the work of The Value Circle on the Wirral System Review and shared reflections from a productive workshop held with system partners including WUTH and the ICB. It was noted that an update would be provided to the Place Based Partnership Board on the phase one findings and, phase two, which had commenced would include further workshops and engagement with colleagues, partners and stakeholders across Wirral.
7. The Director of Corporate Affairs facilitated a discussion, as agreed at the Board of Directors meeting in June 2024, on emerging strategic risks to be reflected in the Board Assurance Framework. The outcome of this discussion is detailed in the separate BAF paper. All members recognised the value of having the opportunity to consider strategic risks on a regular basis.

Alison Hughes
Director of Corporate Affairs

18 July 2024.