


Board of Directors' Meeting 7 October 2021

Agenda item	250/21		
Report	Ockenden Report Assurance Committee Co-Chairs' Summary Highlight Report		
Executive Lead	Director of Nursing		
	Link to strategic pillar:		Link to CQC domain:
	Our patients and community	√	Safe
	Our people	√	Effective
	Our service delivery	√	Caring
	Our partners	√	Responsive
	Our governance	√	Well Led
	Report recommendations:		Link to BAF / risk:
	For assurance	√	BAF 1, BAF 4
	For decision / approval		Link to risk register: 970, 1083, 1930, 2027, 2065
	For review / discussion		
	For noting		
	For information		
For consent			
Presented to:	N/A		
Dependent upon (if applicable):	N/A		
Executive summary:	<p>1. The sixth meeting of the Ockenden Report Assurance Committee was held on 23 September 2021 and was livestreamed in public. This brief report provides a summary of key points/issues that the Co-Chairs wish to draw to the attention of the Board of Directors.</p> <p>2. Recommendation</p> <p>The Board of Directors is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take note and take assurance from this report 		
			

Ockenden Report Assurance Committee

23 September 2021

Co-Chairs' Summary Highlight Report

1. The sixth meeting of the Ockenden Report Assurance Committee was held on 23rd September 2021 and was live-streamed in public. This brief report provides a summary of the key themes discussed and highlights any particular matters which the Co-Chairs feel should be drawn to the attention of the Board of Directors.
2. Again, on this occasion, Ms Jane Garvey chaired the meeting. At this point in its work the Committee had a detailed update presentation from Mr Martyn Underwood and Mr Guy Calcott, Consultant Obstetricians & Gynaecologists, on progress in implementing the recommendations of the first Ockenden Report. In addition to the usual members and attendees, the meeting also heard from Ms Lisa Yeaman, Specialist Midwife (Digital), who gave a very helpful presentation on the implementation of the Badgernet system in maternity services and its benefits for mothers and babies. In addition, the Committee also heard from Mrs Helen Troalen, Director of Finance who provided a review of how the financial support and investment in maternity services is being deployed.
3. There were two important matters arising, as follows:
 - In relation to Local Actions for Learning 4.98 and 4.99 the Trust had sought further clarification at regional level in relation to its compliance status with each of these recommendations, namely that there must be clearly documented early consultation with a neonatal intensive care unit for all babies born on a local neonatal unit who require intensive care (LAFL 4.98); and the neonatal unit should not undertake even short term intensive care (except while awaiting a neonatal transfer service), if they cannot make arrangements for 24 hour on-site, immediate availability at tier 2 (a registrar grade doctor with training in neonatology or an advanced neonatal nurse practitioner) or tier 3 (a neonatal consultant), with sole duties on the neonatal unit (LAFL 4.99). Dr Richard Kennedy kindly agreed to pursue this matter at regional level and was able to confirm that following discussions with the Neonatal Consultant Leads in the West Midlands Neonatal Operational Delivery Network (ODN) it had been confirmed that the Trust's current compliance with the West Midlands Neonatal ODN Pathway Framework, The British Association of Perinatal Medicine's Guidance for Local Neonatal Units and NHSE's Service Specification for Neonatal Critical Care is sufficient to meet the requirements of both LAFLs.
 - At the meeting in July and in the subsequent Chair's highlight report attention was drawn to the task faced by Dr Lorien Branfield (Consultant Anaesthetist) in progressing the obstetric anaesthesia workstream recommendations and

in relation to the Trust's general anaesthetic services more generally. Since then I was able to report that I have spent time and had further discussion with Dr Branfield and Ms Flavell reported that the additional consultant anaesthetist reported at the last meeting was now in post and was already providing input in relation to simulation training. It was agreed that a further update on progress in relation to this item would be provided at the November meeting of the Committee.

4. Messrs Underwood and Calcott provided a detailed update on the progress in implementing 52 actions arising from the Ockenden Report (27 LAFLs and 25 IEAs). Specifically, it was reported that 32 (62%) of actions had been delivered (delivery status), of which 17 (33%) had been evidenced and assured and 15 (29%) had been delivered and remained to be evidenced (usually following an evidenced audit). In terms of progress status, there are three actions that are off track and two actions that have not commenced with all remaining actions complete (i.e. 17, 33%) or on track (i.e. 30, 58%). The Committee considered the actions that were off track and the mitigations that were in place. This will also be reviewed in the usual Ockenden Action Plan that is regularly considered at the Board.
5. The Committee had heard in previous meetings about the various funding requests that had been made in support of the Trust's maternity programme and invited Mrs Helen Troalen, Director of Finance, to provide an update on the current status of the Maternity Investment Plan. Mrs Troalen explained that 13 business cases had been considered and that monies were available internally, at the local maternity and neonatal system level and nationally via the Ockenden fund of £95m. Pleasingly, Mrs Troalen confirmed that there is £3.2m recurrent funding available which is providing 55 new posts in maternity services – medical and midwifery and a further £1.6m on a non-recurrent three year basis in support of a range of requirements including training, patient advice and family liaison, etc.
6. Finally, Ms Lisa Yeaman, Specialist Midwife (Digital), gave an update on the implementation of the Badgernet maternity system that went live on 9th August with phase 2 due to go live at the end of October 2021. In particular, the Committee heard about the significant benefits for staff and women in its use and that the app Badger Notes enables women to connect to their Badgernet notes and supporting information and advice. So far, 95% of women have registered to use Badger Notes. The Committee also received assurance regarding the smaller number of women who do have access to Badger Notes.

Dr Catriona McMahon & Ms Jane Garvey
Co-Chairs, Ockenden Report Assurance Committee
28 September 2021