

Board of Directors' Meeting: 08 June 2023

Agenda item	061/23b		
Report Title	Ockenden Report Assurance Committee 25 th April 2023 – Co-Chairs' Summary Highlight Report		
Executive Lead	Director of Governance		
Report Author	Keith Haynes, Independent Governance Consultant		
CQC Domain:	Link to Strategic Goal:		Link to BAF / risk:
Safe	√	Our patients and community	BAF1, BAF4
Effective	√	Our people	
Caring	√	Our service delivery	Trust Risk Register id: 970, 1083, 1930, 2027, 2065
Responsive	√	Our governance	
Well Led	√	Our partners	
Consultation Communication	N/A		
Executive summary:	<p>The nineteenth meeting of the Ockenden Report Assurance Committee was held on 25th April 2023 and was livestreamed in public. This brief report provides a summary of key points/issues that were discussed at the meeting and highlights any matters the Co-Chairs wish to draw specifically to the attention of the Board of Directors.</p>		
Recommendations for the Board:	<p>The Board is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the contents of the report. 		
Appendices:	None.		

Ockenden Report Assurance Committee

25th April 2023

Co-Chairs' Summary Highlight Report

1. The nineteenth meeting of the Ockenden Report Assurance Committee was held on 25th April 2023 and was livestreamed in public.
2. 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.
3. Dr Catriona McMahon chaired the meeting, Ms Maxine Mawhinney having tendered her apologies due to a prior commitment. Again, it was acknowledged that as it was close to one year since the publication of the final Ockenden Report the opportunity should be taken to reflect on the journey and progress in that time.
4. Following our agreed approach to review progress of the implementation of the Ockenden Reports actions and to focus on a service improvement area arising out of the report actions, we heard from Ms Annemarie Lawrence (Director of Midwifery), Ms Kim Williams (Deputy Director of Midwifery) and Ms Fiona McCarron (Consultant Midwife) on progress in implementing actions from the first and final Ockenden Reports. We also had a detailed presentation from Dr Lorien Branfield (Consultant Anaesthetist) and her colleagues on progress in the implementation of the Ockenden actions relating to obstetric anaesthesia particularly since hearing from Dr Branfield last year.
5. **Progress Update in implementing the actions from the Ockenden Reports**

Ms Lawrence provided an update on the position of the 210 Ockenden Report actions. Following the April meeting of the Maternity Transformation Assurance Committee, the progress and delivery status of a number of actions had improved. Consequently, Ms Lawrence confirmed that from the combined Ockenden reports, 171 of the total 210 actions (81%) had now been implemented, comprising 139 actions (66%) that have been 'evidenced and assured' and 32 (15%) 'delivered and not yet evidenced'. Of the 39 actions not yet delivered, five remain from the first report and 34 from the final report; two-thirds of these are in progress and ten of the 'not yet delivered' actions have been 'de-scoped'. The nine actions that had been approved by MTAC as 'evidenced and assured' were IEAs 4.5, 5.3, 9.1, 9.3, 10.1, 14.6 and LAFLs 14.37, 14.41, and 14.21a.

By individual Ockenden Report, Ms Lawrence confirmed that for the First Ockenden Report 47/52 actions have been implemented (89% overall) with 42 actions 'evidenced and assured', 5 'delivered, not yet evidenced' and 5 actions 'not yet delivered' including

one 'de-scoped' action (IEA 2.4). For the Final Report, Ms Williams confirmed that 124/158 actions have been implemented (78% overall) with 97 actions 'evidenced and assured', 27 actions 'delivered, not yet evidenced' and 34 actions 'not yet delivered' including 9 'de-scoped' actions.

By way of further update, Ms Lawrence confirmed that interviews had recently taken place for the independent senior advocate role (IEA 2.1) and offer of appointment had been made. The role will report to the Trust and the local LMNS board. A Maternity Services 'Open Day' was also planned for Saturday 13th May with supporting publicity and social media coverage.

6. Ockenden Theme – Obstetric Anaesthesia

Dr Lorien Branfield supported by some of her colleagues gave a detailed update on progress in implementing the Ockenden actions relating to obstetric anaesthesia. She reminded the Committee of the role that anaesthetics has in obstetric care and the seven actions from the first Ockenden Report and thirteen from the final Ockenden Report. From the first report, four actions have been 'evidenced and assured' (LAFLs 4.85, 4.86, 4.90 and 4.91) and three are 'delivered, not yet evidenced' (LAFLs 4.87, 4.88 and 4.89). From the final report, three actions are 'evidenced and assured' (IEAs 11.3, 11.8 and LAFL 14.51), six actions are 'delivered, not yet evidenced' (IEAs 11.1, 11.2, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7 and LAFL 14.54), and four actions 'not yet delivered' (IEA 11.4, and LAFLs 14.52, 14.53 and 14.55).

Some of the specific progress that has been made was highlighted including the appointment of an audit officer and lead, a dedicated quality improvement lead in place, the recruitment of additional consultant anaesthetists, and improvements in ever more integrated working (e.g. labour ward forum, PROMPT faculty, etc). The Committee also heard about the approach being taken to implement the requirement for a pathway for outpatient postnatal anaesthetic follow up to be available in every Trust (IEA 11.1), the development of the follow-up clinics and the patient feedback that had been received following the first three clinics. Overall, it was pleasing to note the progress that had been made since the last presentation a year ago with improvements in recruitment, quality improvement and audit, together with improving multidisciplinary learning and education.

7. Discussion and Reflection

Again, close to the first anniversary of the publication of the final Ockenden Report, we heard from some of our stakeholders about their views on progress to date. At a system level, there was reflection on the maturity of relations that had been developed with and amongst system partners. There was also a reflection that the Trust had embraced quality improvement methodologies as part of the need and journey to improving maternity services, with a particular acknowledgement to the rigour of the approaches being taken to ensuring the sustainability of the improvements being made.

8. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting is Tuesday 30th May 2023 at 2.30pm (livestreamed).

Dr Catriona McMahon
Co-Chair, Ockenden Report Assurance Committee
15th May 2023.