

## Board of Directors' Meeting: 10 August 2023

<b>Agenda item</b>	093/23c		
<b>Report Title</b>	Ockenden Report Assurance Committee 25 July 2023 – Co-Chairs' Summary Highlight Report		
<b>Executive Lead</b>	Director of Governance		
<b>Report Author</b>	Keith Haynes, Independent Governance Consultant		
<b>CQC Domain:</b>	<b>Link to Strategic Goal:</b>		<b>Link to BAF / risk:</b>
Safe	√	Our patients and community	BAF1, BAF4
Effective	√	Our people	
Caring	√	Our service delivery	<b>Trust Risk Register id:</b> 970, 1083, 1930, 2027, 2065
Responsive	√	Our governance	
Well Led	√	Our partners	
<b>Consultation Communication</b>	N/A		
<b>Executive summary:</b>	<p>The twenty-second meeting of the Ockenden Report Assurance Committee was held on 25 July 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>		
<b>Recommendations for the Board:</b>	<p>The Board is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note the contents of the report.</li> </ul>		
<b>Appendices:</b>	None		

**Ockenden Report Assurance Committee**  
**25 July 2023**  
**Co-Chairs' Summary Highlight Report**

1. The twenty-second meeting of the Ockenden Report Assurance Committee was held on the 25 July 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. Ms Maxine Mawhinney chaired the meeting on this occasion.
3. 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 Mrs Annemarie Lawrence (Director of Midwifery) on progress in implementing actions from the first and final Ockenden Reports. We also had a detailed presentation from Dr Mei-See Hon (Clinical Director for Obstetrics) and Ms Jo Jacques (Specialist Midwife) about informed consent/choices and, in particular about the Lighthouse Service and Birth Options Clinic.
4. **Progress Update in implementing the actions from the Ockenden Reports**

Mrs Lawrence confirmed that as of July 2023, of the total 210 Ockenden actions 152 had been evidenced and assured, 28 delivered not yet evidenced and 30 not yet delivered. This compared favourably with projected delivery position (i.e. 113 evidenced and assured, 59 delivered not yet evidenced- and 38 not yet delivered).

Mrs Lawrence went on to explain that the completion rates of the actions from the first Ockenden Report, 47/52 (90%) of actions had been implemented and of these 45 (87%) had been evidenced and assured, 2 (3%) were delivered and not yet evidenced, and 5 (10%) of actions had not yet been delivered with 4 of these de-scoped as lying outside of the Trust's control. From the final Ockenden Report, 133/158 (84%) of actions had been implemented and of these 107 (68%) had been evidenced and assured, 26 (16%) had been delivered and not yet evidenced, and 25 (16%) actions not yet delivered with two-thirds of these underway for delivery.

We also heard about actions from the first Ockenden report which had been approved to 'go green' (evidenced and assured) at the recent Maternity Transformation Assurance Committee (MTAC) meeting. Notably, these were LAFL 4.88 requiring obstetric anaesthesia services to develop or review the existing guidelines for escalation to the consultant on-call, and IEA 4.3 requiring the development of maternal medicine specialist centres as a hub and spoke model. For the final Ockenden report we heard about the two 'go green' actions LAFL 14.40 about the development of the role of the labour ward co-ordinator and the positive preceptee feedback, and LAFL 14.44 requiring a compassionate and learning culture amongst clinical staff and the evidence of the positive staff survey results.

Finally, we had a review of the ten 'de-scoped' actions when it was confirmed that each of the actions still remained to be delivered.

## **5. Ockenden Theme – Informed Consent/Informed Birth Choices**

Dr Mei-See Hon gave a presentation on informed consent/informed birth choices and together with Jo Jacques (Specialist Midwife) explained the part played by the Lighthouse Service and Birth Options Clinic. Dr Hon started by reminding the meeting that all of the actions relating to this theme had been evidenced and assured with the one outstanding action (IEA 2.4) being a 'de-scoped' action requiring CQC inspections to include an assessment of whether women's voices are truly heard by the maternity service. Dr Hon reminded the meeting of the range of initiatives that were now in place to support women to make birth choices and develop a personalised care plan, including a birth preference card supported by birth options clinic, personalised care planning meetings and a comprehensive leaflet library available on Badgernet.

The role of the weekly Birth Options Clinic run jointly by the Consultant Obstetrician and Specialist Midwife was explained and, in particular, its role in supporting women's choices and its links with the Lighthouse Service where certain 'triggers' have been identified (e.g., tocophobia (fear of childbirth), birth trauma and loss). The Lighthouse Service is a collaborative partnership between the Trust and the Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust which provides a tailored package of psychological support in support of women and families. As part of the presentation we heard very positive video feedback and testimony from two women who had been supported by the service and who consequently had gone on to have very positive birthing experiences.

## **6. Discussion and Reflection**

In discussion there were two issues that it was felt should be specifically drawn to the attention of the Board of Directors, as follows:

- The current progress in implementing the Ockenden actions based on the projected and actual delivery of completed actions which encouragingly is ahead of schedule.
- The very positive video feedback and testimony from two women who had been supported by the Lighthouse Service and who had consequently gone on to have very positive birthing experiences. It was felt that it would certainly be worth sharing the video clips in due course with the Board.

## **7. Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting is Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 2.30pm (livestreamed).

**Dr Catriona McMahon and Ms Maxine Mawhinney  
Co-Chairs, Ockenden Report Assurance Committee  
1 August 2023**