

Audit Committee Report to Grampian NHS Board Committee Meeting 10 September 2019

Purpose of Report

To brief the Board on key issues, discussed on 10 September 2019, which the Audit Committee consider should be of interest to all Board members.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Board Members note the issues outlined below.

Key Issues

- 1. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).** The Committee received a report from Professor Nick Fluck, Medical Director, detailing progress against key actions to address the recommendations from the GDPR readiness review prepared by our internal auditors, PwC in December 2017. Members noted that some progress had been made towards establishment of formal governance arrangements and the development of an information asset register but expressed some concern that these tasks are not yet complete. Members did however recognise the resourcing issues affecting the service and welcomed the recent recruitment in to the Information Governance team in order to progress matters. Members also noted the challenge in encouraging local ownership of GDPR compliance and that this would be a key part of the role of the new Information Governance Manager. Professor Fluck was asked to provide a further report on progress to the next Audit Committee meeting in December 2019.
- 2. Sustainability and the Impact of Carbon Emission Regulations.** The Committee received our annual update on sustainability and the impact of compliance with carbon emissions regulations, from Dr Robert Hobkirk, Head of Sustainability, Compliance and Risk. Members were briefed on the Sustainable Development Goals that form part of the Government's National Performance Framework and were encouraged by the various initiatives in place to mitigate the impact, particularly our policies and arrangements to support responsible waste management and to reduce carbon emission from our estate.
- 3. Audit Committee Development Session 17th March 2020.** The Committee agreed that our next annual development session should focus on the continually evolving area of Cyber Security and that the session should be open to all Board Members and to members of the System Leadership Team. The session is scheduled for 17 March 2020 from 2pm to 4pm and will be led by a Cyber Security Specialist from PwC, our internal auditors, and members of our own eHealth team. Those interested in attending please advise Else Smaaskjaer at else.smaaskjaer@nhs.net.

Sandy Riddell
Audit Committee Chair
13 September 2019