

REPORT TO THE TRUST BOARD - PUBLIC
9 May 2018

Title	Audit Committee April 2018 – Chair’s report
Committee Chair	Paul Hendrick, Committee Chair

Purpose of the Report:

To bring to the Board’s attention key issues and assurances discussed at the Audit Committee meeting held on 23 April 2018.

Issues to be brought to Board’s attention:

The following key issues and assurances were considered by the Committee:

- **Internal Audit – audit reports:** The Committee received four audit reports: IG Toolkit and GDPR Governance (both reports advisory); Board Assurance Framework and Financial Reporting / CIP (both these reports received Amber / Red rating). There were areas of concern on each of these reports which were discussed in detail. The Committee received assurance that work was completed or in progress to address the concerns raised. The Committee also noted some delays in completing outstanding agreed remedial actions arising from earlier reports.
- **Internal Audit – annual workplan 2018-19:** The Committee approved the workplan.
- **Counter-Fraud – annual report 2017-18, annual workplan 2018-19 and fraud risk assessment:** The Committee received the annual report, self-review tool, and risk assessment, noting the areas where work was required. The Committee approved the workplan, which included pro-active work in the new service area of Bedfordshire Community Services.
- **Preparation for the submission of the Annual Report and Accounts:** The Committee were advised that preparation work was underway with External Audit. The draft Head of Internal Audit Opinion was received, with comparisons to the previous year. The draft annual accounts were tabled and key figures highlighted, and also the draft Annual Governance Statement. These are subject to final approval in May 2018 and Committee members will be reviewing in detail to allow appropriate recommendation to the Board from their meeting in May 2018.
- **Information Commissioner reportable breaches:** The Committee considered the most appropriate route to ensure that the Board was advised in advance of breaches reportable to the Commissioner, and the resulting reports and actions.
- **Annual Review of Standing Financial Instructions:** The Committee approved the SFIs.