

J Podkolinski clarified that the complaint process that she had mentioned and had

recommendations to improve processes, which management had accepted. S Harding said that a lot of the errors had to do with teething issues around the implementation of the SBS system. S Harding informed the Council that overall, it had been a good audit with minimal amounts of findings.

I Green thanked Grant Thornton for their reports and asked if Governors had any questions or observations.

J Mangan congratulated the Trust on getting such a positive report under such a difficult climate and in the new environment of the ICS.

B Morris expressed his thanks to the finance team and all the executive officers. B Morris stated that the quality of accounts that the Trust was producing and the quality of the staff producing these reports were second to none. B Morris said that they really enjoyed working with the Trust and wished it every success for the future.

The Governors noted both of the reports.

CoG
24/07/2.2

Non-Executive Director update Eiri Jones

I Green welcomed Eiri Jones to the meeting who had been invited to provide an overview on the activities that she has been involved in and also cover the Clinical Governance Committee (CGC) escalation report.

E Jones informed the Council that she would begin with the Clinical Governance escalation report from the previous month. E Jones reported that she had done quite a detailed report as the committee had done a stock take on quite a lot of issues, such as where the Trust was in terms of the Care Quality Commission (CQC), divisional updates from women in new-born as well as the normal maternity report that was going to the Board every month.

E Jones explained that the committee could see a shift month on month and that it was the third month now where the Trust is not so focused on the pandemic, there is more focus on the strategic direction. E Jones exemplified the cancer annual report that they had received which showed that there was a clear focus on the areas that need more support. E Jones stated that progress had been made in the 28-day measure but that there was still work to do around the 62-day metric, there has been improvement and the team have a really good grip on where the challenges were.

E Jones informed the Council that as a NED she reflected constantly and challenged herself around holding the executives to account, as well as providing enough support. As a clinician she had the added reflection of whether she is adhering to her ethical / professional code while performing her NED role.

E Jones noted that she did her due diligence on the other committees that she sat on such as the F&P committee, and that there was a better grip this year on trajectories, particularly around Cost Improvement Plans (CIP). E Jones went on to state that there was a much better focus this year than in previous years.

E Jones said that she would be happy to take any questions on the CGC report.

E Jones informed the Council that she was in her fourth year / second term as a NED and that she had been appointed as a clinical NED based on the Francis recommendations due to the Mid Staffs outcome where quality and clinical services required the same rigor of assurance as finance and performance metrics.

E Jones noted that, as a NED, whenever she challenged it was based on the values and behaviours of the Trust as it is very important how staff are treated so that they can treat the population with dignity and respect.

D Beaven informed the Council that the committee has received a really positive presentation around Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) performance that had come from the Improving Together methodology, and that it provided hope for continuous progress that could help the Trust deliver on the cost improvement programmes and improve quality of care.

D Beaven informed the Council that the Trust was a bit behind on the financial performance metrics, but that she thought that the Trust was in a much stronger place in terms of having identified the programmes and the level of reports that are being produced. Assurance that there was a high level of engagement across the whole organisation, and that divisions are delivering against their CIPs schemes.

D Beaven informed the Council that she was confident that the Trust will have made significant progress by the end of the year despite all of the challenges and cost pressures that come from the continued demand on escalation beds and the industrial action.

J Podkolinski enquired whether the other ICS partners could draw on Salisbury success as the Trust is doing well financially compared to them. S Hunter responded that yes especially as the Trusts are tied together in aggregate at a system level with system financial control totals. S Hunter informed the Council that the other system partners were confident that they would recover.

D Beaven assured the Council that the committee gained assurance about the wider system and how it impacted the Trust through the reports and updates that come directly from the Chief Executive and the Chief Finance Officer as well as the other executives in terms of their involvement in the system work. D Beaven iterated that there was room for improvement with better engagement particularly the NEDs. D Beaven said that there was a lot of collaborative work around some of the big investment projects and that the committee gets a sense of where the priorities are, and that NEDs receive a wide range of information from NHS Providers, other websites etc.

I Green reminded the Governors that he had mentioned previously that the cost improvement programme challenges for this year were really significant and that there was a lot of risk within the plan and that the Trust was looking at a lower level of cost improvement activity. I Green said that he was reassured and also assured that there was robust oversight and scrutiny from the NEDs on the Finance and Performance Committee and that there was a process in place at executive level to ensure that they rigor around that.

Audit Committee

No questions were raised.

Clinical Governance

Summary from E Jones on this committee included within E Jones' NED update.

No questions were raised.

Trust Management Committee S Hunter

S Hunter informed the Council that the report was pretty detailed and that she was happy to take questions or comments.

All the reports were noted and there were no further questions from the Governors.

CoG
24/07/2.4

Nominations Committee NED recruitment 2024

- The People Promise element 'We work flexibly' is significantly better than last year; some of the wellbeing questions have the most favourable results when compared with other Picker trusts, as does the ability to make suggestions for improvement.
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S Hunter informed the Council that the vast majority of the quality standards are holding out reasonably well and that there was nothing particularly worrying. S Hunter said that the report was really detailed.

S Hunter mentioned that the Trust was in its eighth month of continuous industrial action which would tip into the ninth month as the Trust goes into August and these would cross various professional groups notably junior doctors, which was ongoing and for the first-time consultants, who took action last week. S Hunter informed the Council that the industrial action was taking its toll on the organisation especially because of the amount of time and effort that the Trust had to put in to deal with it.

S Hunter noted that all in all the Board was content that the Trust is making some progress on some areas but advised that the Trust isn't complacent, especially as some national standards had to be lowered. The Trust recognises that even though they were doing well against these standards people on waiting lists were waiting a long time to access treatment in some instances, and the more the Trust can do to get ahead the better. Industrial action will hinder some of the headway that the Trust has made.

I Green thanked S Hunter for her report.

Discussion:

J Mangan stated that he was unhappy with the way that mortality was reported within the IPR report and said that it was vastly different to what the Council used to receive, and that the current report did not show the actual indicators. J Mangan noted that the previous report contained 1750 which explained the increase in the number of deaths (and why there was a rise on weekends and what the Trust was doing about it). He asked what actions were taking place in sorting the issue to reduce the number of deaths on the weekend.

CoG GOVERNOR BUSINESS

24/07/5

CoG Constituency meetings

24/07/5.1

Salisbury City Methodist Church

L Herklots provided feedback of the Salisbury City constituency meeting which was held in the Methodist Church on the 28th June. L Herklots informed the Council that

