

Subject:	Audit Committee – Trust Board Update
Prepared by: Sponsored & Presented by:	Lee Williams, Head of Financial Accounting Steve Erskine, Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Audit Committee
Purpose of paper	For information and awareness of items raised at the Audit Committee on 8 th January.
Key points for Trust Board members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representatives from Hampshire Fire & Rescue and the Trust Estates team attended to provide an update on progress against the draft enforcement notices. The progress of the fire risk assessments had been hindered due to sickness within the contracting company carrying them out. The expected completion date is now the end of February 2015. - Internal Audit Reports are not always being reviewed by the Executive Director prior to them being issued as final. This has led to some Assurance Ratings being questioned by the Committee after the report has been finalised. Mazars will now seek sign off from the executive lead for the area being audited. - As part of the Business Continuity internal audit it was noted the Trust's major incident plan was out of date. The Committee discussed the importance of ensuring the major incident plan, policy and action cards are all up to date and consistent. - The Head of Financial Accounting informed the Committee of two significant upcoming debt write offs. £181k relates to an overseas patient admitted for 16 months. Discharge was delayed by 2 months due to commissioner disputes over the eligibility of access to continuing health care. The patient was an illegal immigrant of no fixed abode and following being granted leave to remain was discharged to the community at which point the cost of care became the responsibility of the CCG. £47k relates to the liquidation of a company the Trust provided seconded dietitians to. The Trust has registered this debt with the liquidator. - The Committee received the interim report from the Local Counter Fraud Specialist which provided an update on recent counter fraud activity. - The Committee received and approved the Charitable Fund Annual Report and Accounts.
Options and decisions required	N/A
Next steps / future actions:	N/A
Consideration of legal issues	N/A
Consideration of Public and Patient Involvement	N/A

Links to Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust Board Strategic Aims, Assurance Framework/Corporate Risk Register	
Strategic Aim	N/A
BAF/Corporate Risk Register Reference (if applicable)	RR 5-1415 - Fire risk assessments across the whole of the estate are not considered suitable and sufficient. BAF 10-1415 - Lack of technical fire risk assessments throughout the whole of both new and retained estates and associated remedial works
Risk Description	As above
CQC Reference	N/A
Committees/Meetings at which paper has been approved: Audit Committee	January 2015