**Committee Escalation and Assurance Report – Alert, Advise, Assure**

**Report from: Leeds Finance and Best Value Sub-Committee**

**Date of meeting: 14 March 2023**

**Report to: Leeds Committee of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board**

**Date of meeting reported to: 02 March 2023**

**Report completed by: Harriet Speight, Corporate Governance Manager, ICB in Leeds on behalf of Cheryl Hobson, Independent Member and Chair of Finance and Best Value Sub-Committee**

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| **Key escalation and discussion points from the meeting** |
| **Alert:** |
| **Finance Update at Month 10 (January) 2022-23**  The sub-committee received the finance update, and the following key areas were flagged:   * The baseline position as we enter 2023-24 financial year is still projecting a significant and recurrent shortfall across NHS organisations in Leeds alone. The planning process is ongoing as part of the overall WY system. * Leeds Place is still carrying risks to balancing to plan for 22/23, with a potential gap of £3.7m that is likely to be covered across the ICB as a statutory organisation as we close the financial year. However, mitigations to even reach this position are based upon technical flexibilities and non-recurrent measures, which presents a greater challenge for the 2023/2024 financial year in terms of how far away we are from resource and the need to develop recurrent proposals to stabilise the position in Leeds.   **Financial Planning 23-24: Feedback on 1st Submissions (February 2023)**  The sub-committee received a presentation detailing the first iteration of financial plans for 2023/24 submitted to NHS England at the end of February 2023, focused on the high-level income and expenditure assumptions across organisations and systems – and the derived gap. Members were advised that the next iteration will focus more closely on how various allocations are committed and the gap is likely to reduce as a result of this work  Members recognised that fast-moving nature of financial planning at this stage in the process, however alert the Leeds Committee to the significant projected funding gap and therefore risk to achieving a balanced position for 2023/24 and consequent impact on capacity, quality and outcomes for service users in Leeds. The sub-committee highlighted the importance of continuing to develop invest-to-save business propositions to support the longer term financial position of the Leeds Health and Care Partnership. The Committee is also reminded of ICB statutory rules whereby the Board cannot spend resources that are in excess of its allocations. Therefore the importance of efficiency and cost reduction measures is even more crucial if we wish to be making pivotal invest to save decisions.  **Risk Management Report**  The sub-committee received a report providing an update on the Risk Register and the risks aligned to the Finance and Best Value Sub-Committee and agreed that although it was assured that the processes were in place to mitigate against the financial risks for 2023/24, it had limited assurance in relation to mitigation plans for the medium to longer term financial risks. Further to earlier discussions on the initial financial plans for 2023/24, the sub-committee requested that an additional risk be added to the risk register setting out the risk to achieving a balanced position for 2023/24 following the next submission at the end of March 2023, to be shared with risk colleagues across WY to ensure consistency. |
| **Advise:** |
| **People’s Voices**  The sub-committee received a [‘How does it feel for me?’ report and video](https://healthwatchleeds.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Emma-and-Adam-summary-report-FINAL-v2.pdf) from Healthwatch Leeds depicting Emma and Adam’s experience of accessing healthcare services in the period between June 2021 and June 2022. Members welcomed the report and recognised that Emma’s experiences clearly show the risks of services not being joined-up and importance of avoiding duplication to reduce costs and improve patient outcomes. The sub-committee were pleased to hear the positive feedback on more recent developments putting Emma and Adam at the centre of planning and treatment and the consequent impact on their health and wellbeing.  **Population and Care Delivery Board Bi-annual Reports**  The sub-committee received reports from the Children & Young People Population Board, Maternity Population Board, Healthy Adults Population Board, and the Same Day Response Care Delivery Board, which are part of the wider 11 Population and Care Delivery Boards that were set up across the Leeds Health and Care Partnership as the governance framework for the Healthy Leeds Plan and will report to each of the sub-committees to provide assurance on a bi-annual basis. The sub-committee welcomed the comprehensive reports that evidence the relationship between positive outcomes for patients and financial benefits, highlighting the integral role of the boards in financial planning and the importance of developing this further. |
| **Assure:** |
| **Sub-Committee Annual Report and Review of Terms of Reference**  The sub-committee received an annual report outlining the activities and assurances provided since becoming established on 1 July 2022, and a summary of the self-assessment survey that was undertaken by members and attendees. Members agreed that the annual report and survey enabled the sub-committee to identify areas that require further improvements as the sub-committee becomes more established and membership evolves. The amends to the terms of reference were agreed and referred to the Leeds Committee for approval. |