

**Meeting:** Trust Board Meeting in Public

**Date:** 29 October 2025

### Assurance Report

<b>Agenda item</b>	Month 6 2025/26 Finance Report
<b>Board Lead</b>	Jon Evans – Chief Finance Officer
<b>Author</b>	Katherine Archer – Deputy CFO, Financial Management Nicola Peters – Deputy CFO, Financial Control
<b>Appendices</b>	Month 6 2025/26 Finance Report
<b>Onward governance</b>	N/A

#### Report overview

The Trust has delivered its planned deficit of £(5.8)m with no variance, at Month 6 year to date. This position has been achieved through the benefits from unplanned one-off items totalling £5.9m: prior year income accrual releases £3.6m; release of 2024/25 annual leave accrual £1.0m; prior year drugs accrual releases £0.6m and prior year Q4 VAT refund £0.7m. These benefits offset areas where expenditure is worse than plan, including lower than planned reductions in workforce costs £(5.5)m and in non pay costs £(3.5)m as well as additional unplanned costs for MARS £(0.4)m and Industrial Action direct costs £(0.2)m. Activity related income overperformance is £2.2m.

The Month 5 Capital spend is £10.5m against a plan of £15.1m. The expectation is that spend will increase as the year progresses, schemes are approved and contractors appointed. The 2025/26 full year Capital plan is £54.7m which includes allocations for National Constitutional Standards, Critical Infrastructure and UEC Incentive.

The closing cash balance at the end of Month 6 was £13.1m against a forecast of £7.1m, mainly due to the receipt of Capital PDC being earlier than planned.

<b>Level of assurance</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Substantial assurance</b> High level of confidence in delivery of objectives	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Acceptable assurance</b> General confidence in delivery of objectives	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Partial assurance</b> Some confidence in delivery of objectives	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No assurance</b> No confidence in delivery of objectives
<b>Previously considered</b>	Executive Management Committee – 21 October 2025 Finance and Business Performance Committee – 28 October 2025		
<b>Decision</b>	The Board is requested to take substantial assurance from the report, as above.		

#### Relevant strategic priority

Outstanding Care  Healthy Communities  Great Place to Work  Net Zero

#### Relevant breakthrough objective – 2025/26

<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction in emergency admissions <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction in elective waiting times	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting people to live healthier lives	<input type="checkbox"/> Zero tolerance to bullying	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governance / Statutory Requirement
--	--	---	--

## Implications / Impact

<b>Quality</b>	Achieving outstanding quality of care
<b>People (BHT colleagues)</b>	Achieving great place to work
<b>Risk: link to Board Assurance Framework (BAF) and local or Corporate Risk Register</b>	Principal Risk 2: Failure to deliver our annual financial plan
<b>Financial</b>	Achieving our financial targets for 2025/26
<b>Compliance</b>	Achieving the NHSE approved 2025/26 financial plan
<b>Partnership: consultation / communication</b>	Achieving BHT element of BOB ICB 2025/26 financial plan
<b>Equality</b>	Equality is considered in all aspects of financial planning, support and reporting