

**Meeting:** Trust Board Meeting in Public

**Date:** 26 November 2025

### Assurance Report

<b>Agenda item</b>	Month 7 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 7 2025/26 Finance Report
<b>Onward governance</b>	Trust Board

### Report overview

The Trust has delivered its planned deficit of £(5.6)m with no variance, at Month 7 year to date (YTD). This position has been achieved in part through the release of unplanned one-off items totalling £6.9m. These benefits offset areas where expenditure is worse than plan, including lower than planned reductions in workforce costs £(6.8)m and in non pay costs £(4.5)m as well as additional unplanned costs for MARS £(0.6)m and Industrial Action direct costs £(0.2)m. Activity related income overperformance is £3.1m.

The Month 7 Capital spend is £14.0m against a plan of £21.1m. 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 £58.4m which includes allocations for National Constitutional Standards, Critical Infrastructure and UEC Incentive.

The closing cash balance at the end of Month 7 was £11.6m against a forecast of £10.2m, mainly due to the receipt of Capital PDC being earlier than planned.

### Level of assurance

<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
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<b>Previously considered</b>	<p><b>Executive Management Committee – 18 November 2025</b> The Committee discussed the need to identify additional savings to meet the year-end target and implement weekly oversight meetings and acknowledged a cash support application may be required in Q4</p> <p><b>Finance &amp; Business Performance Committee – 25 November 2025</b> A verbal update on the discussion will be provided to Trust Board</p>
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<b>Decision</b>	The Board is requested to take substantial assurance from the report, as above.
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### Relevant strategic priority

Outstanding Care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Healthy Communities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Great Place to Work <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Net Zero <input type="checkbox"/>
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### 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
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### Implications / Impact

<b>Quality</b>	Achieving outstanding quality of care
<b>People</b> (BHT colleagues)	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