

Meeting: Trust Board Meeting in Public

Date: 26 November 2025

Assurance Report

Agenda item	Month 7 2025/26 Finance Report
Board Lead	Jon Evans – Chief Finance Officer
Author	Katherine Archer – Deputy CFO, Financial Management Nicola Peters – Deputy CFO, Financial Control
Appendices	Month 7 2025/26 Finance Report
Onward governance	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"/> Substantial assurance High level of confidence in delivery of objectives	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable assurance General confidence in delivery of objectives	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial assurance Some confidence in delivery of objectives	<input type="checkbox"/> No assurance No confidence in delivery of objectives
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Previously considered

Executive Management Committee – 18 November 2025
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

Finance & Business Performance Committee – 25 November 2025
A verbal update on the discussion will be provided to Trust Board

Decision

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
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Implications / Impact

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