

EAST KENT HOSPITALS UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**REPORT TO: COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS – 7 NOVEMBER 2014****REPORT FROM: AWG LEAD GOVERNOR****PURPOSE: Information****Audit Working Group discussion:**

Thanks were noted especially to Reynagh and Jocelyn for all the work carried out in the tender process for appointing the Trust Auditors. KPMG were recommended and accepted after this thorough and detailed process.

The AWG met in February and received and discussed reports from KPMG on “External Audit Plan 2013/14” which highlighted ‘valuation of non-currents assets’ and ‘Delivery of £30 million Cost Improvement Programme target’ as high risk areas in terms of meeting financial targets. Identified as amber risk and discussed further were ‘Partnership working’, ‘Continuing business development’ and ‘Agreement of inter-authority balances’. KPMG also clarified that with regard to the Trust’s Charity it would seek to understand the charity arrangements but would not take an operational view. It was also agreed to forward the ‘Governor Roles document’ to KPMG.

In July we received and discussed “2013/14 report to CoG Audit Working Group” and “2013/14: External assurance on your quality report”. The Terms of Reference were reviewed and agreed with a reduction of membership from the Trust’s finance team. In sampling formal complaints KPMG’s view was that the Trust was at medium risk in terms of its ‘Compliance with the complaints indicator’. Action was agreed with the responsible officer being the Deputy Chief Nurse and Deputy Director of Quality. The Trust had performed well in comparison with its peers and KPMG paid credit to our finance team. KPMG reported that the Trust had achieved its financial targets in 2013/14. We still await the results of KPMG’s Governor survey.

It should be noted that at the time of the last KPMG report CQC and Monitor had found no areas of non-compliance but they were awaiting the report of the March 2014 inspection by CQC.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE’S FORWARD PLANS:

As well as the Monitor set indicators it was agreed to await the CQC’s report before setting forward plans. As agreed previously a training session by KPMG has been arranged for Governors on 11th September 2014, 13:00 hrs in the Boardroom at KCH.

Signed C P WELLS.

(Lead as of 10th July 2014 – therefore for work carried out thanks to Reynaugh during this period)

September 2014.