

Item: 11.2

REPORT CLASSIFICATION	✓	CATEGORY OF PAPER	✓
Official	✓	Proposes specific action	
Official: Sensitive Commercial		Provides assurance	✓
Official: Sensitive Personal		For information only	

BOARD

28 JANUARY 2025

Report Title:

**Quality and Safety Committee Highlight Report
and Confirmed Minutes**

Purpose of report

To provide the Board with a summary of the key points from the meeting of the Quality and Safety Committee held on 9 January 2025 and the confirmed minutes from the 14 November 2024.

Key points

The Committee considered several issues and supporting papers at its meeting held on 9 January 2025 and the key points are summarised below.

- **Quality Report** - The report provided the committee with oversight of key quality themes, risks and exceptions outlined in the ICB Area Quality reports for Central, North, North Cumbria and South. Updates and assurance were provided on a number of areas including: Never Events - were increasing in the North, this issue had been discussed at quality and oversight meetings. The PSIRF new methodology was being used to investigate these; Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI) rate increases and plans in place to address; concerns in relation to high numbers for Flu/ Covid and Norovirus and the impact on flow across Trusts and secondary care; Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) system pressures and quality concerns relate to use of escalation spaces, waits and handovers with a new quality assurance process being introduced to review the effectiveness and safety of processes in UECs.
- **Patient Safety Centre** - The report informed the committee of the key features, and core functions of the patient safety centre. The committee were assured that a blueprint document is being developed during January 2025 and will be presented to Board in March 2025.
- **North East and North Cumbria ICB Commitments and Arrangements to meet the Statutory Responsibilities Outlined in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023** – The Committee received an update regarding the North East and North Cumbria ICB Safeguarding commitments and arrangements. The report gave assurance to the committee regarding our ICB safeguarding functions and outlined the continued fulfilment of our statutory safeguarding duties and responsibilities.
- **Clinical Effectiveness Subcommittee Highlight Report** - An update was provided on the medicines and guidelines decisions taken at the 12 December 2024 clinical effectiveness and governance subcommittee meeting. The report outlined the outstanding medicines decisions and the current positions and mitigations which are in place.

Risks and issues

The Committee will continue to receive and review the corporate risks aligned to the quality and safety portfolio to provide assurance to the Board that the quality and safety risks contained within the corporate risk register reflect the current environment.

Assurances and supporting documentation

The Committee received several items for assurance including:

- Quality and Safety Risk Register and Board Assurance Framework
- Patient Voice Subgroup Update – providing an overview of statutory involvement and engagement duties.
- ICB Well Led Self-Assessment report - oversight of new CQC ICS assessment process
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Update Report
- Patient Voice Subgroup Minutes Area Quality and Safety Subcommittee Minutes
- Health Care Associated Infections Subcommittee Minutes

Recommendation/action required

The Board is asked to note the key highlights from the meeting held on 9 January 2025 and receive the confirmed minutes from the 14 November 2024 meeting for information and assurance.

Acronyms and abbreviations explained

As described in the report.

Sponsor/approving executive director	Sir Pali Hungin, Chair of Quality and Safety Committee and Independent Non Executive Member Ann Fox, Interim Chief Nurse
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Date approved by executive director	16 January 2025
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Report author	Rebecca Herron, Corporate Committee Officer
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Link to ICP strategy priorities (please tick all that apply)

Longer and Healthier Lives	✓
Fairer Outcomes for All	✓
Better Health and Care Services	✓
Giving Children and Young People the Best Start in Life	✓

Relevant legal/statutory issues

Note any relevant Acts, regulations, national guidelines etc

Any potential/actual conflicts of interest associated with the paper? (please tick)	Yes		No	✓	N/A	
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Equality analysis completed (please tick)	Yes		No		N/A	✓
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If there is an expected impact on patient outcomes and/or experience, has a quality impact assessment been undertaken? (please tick)	Yes		No		N/A	✓
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Key considerations

Financial implications and considerations	N/A
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Digital implications	N/A
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Clinical involvement	Clinical representation within the committee
Health inequalities	N/A
Patient and public involvement	The committee receives regular updates concerning patient and public engagement
Partner and/or other stakeholder engagement	N/A
Other resources	N/A