

PRIVATE BOARD PAPER - NHS ENGLAND

Title: Draft Annual Report 2014-15

From:

Karen Wheeler, National Director: Transformation & Corporate Operations and Senior Responsible Owner for the Annual Report & Accounts 2014-15

Paul Baumann, Chief Financial Officer

Rationale for this Paper Being Discussed in the Private Session:

The Annual Report & Accounts are laid in Parliament, in accordance with the Health & Social Care Act 2012, and are therefore subject to parliamentary privilege until that occurs. This precludes consideration of drafts in public session.

Purpose of Paper:

To provide a copy of the draft Annual Report 2014-15 for Board comment.

To set out the next steps of the process up to Accounting Officer signature.

The Board is invited to:

- Provide comments on the content of the draft documents presented.
- Authorise the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee to undertake the final detailed review of the Annual Report & Accounts 2014-15 (planned for 22.06.15) and recommend approval to the Accounting Officer for signature (planned for 26.06.15).

Purpose

- 1 To provide a copy of the draft Annual Report 2014-15 for Board comment and set out the next steps of the process up to Accounting Officer signature.

Background

- 2 The Health & Social Care Act 2012 requires that the National Health Service Commissioning Board produces an Annual Report & Accounts (ARA) document which must comply with directions issued by the Department of Health including the Department for Health (DH) Group Manual for Accounts 2014-15.
- 3 The Act requires the ARA to report on the performance of the organisation in delivering the Mandate and its statutory duties to secure continuous improvement in the quality of service, reduce health inequalities, and involve and consult the public. The DH is required to publish, and lay before Parliament, a response to NHS England's assessment.

Draft Annual Report 2014-15

- 4 To date the draft ARA has been subject to the following review:
 - i. The National Director: Transformation & Corporate Operations has been fully involved with and overseen the drafting and production of all sections of the draft ARA.
 - ii. The Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Executive have also reviewed all sections of the draft ARA and their comments have been incorporated.
 - iii. The Audit & Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) meeting on 06.05.15 undertook an extensive review of the Annual Governance Statement and the comments made have been incorporated.
 - iv. The Chief Executive is overseeing the preparation of the key narrative for the ARA. An outline is included for this section to show the key areas expected to be covered. The full narrative is not included in this version but will be shared when available.
- 5 The accounts were reviewed by the ARAC on 06.05.15 and the Investment Committee also reviewed the financial year-end position on 11.05.15.
- 6 It is proposed that the Board considers the draft content and discusses it at the Board meeting on 28.05.15. Any substantive written comments can be sent to the National Director: Transformation & Corporate Operations in advance and these will be compiled into a précis which will be made available to inform discussions on 28.05.15.

Next Steps

- 7 While the Board is considering the draft ARA, the document will also be shared and discussed with DH officials and their comments sought. Prior to the final audit review, the draft ARA will also be shared with External Audit.

- 8 As NHS England is required to use its legal name (the National Health Service Commissioning Board) within the ARA, confirmation is being sought from the Journal Office and the Department of Health Parliamentary Team about how the NHS England brand and its legal name are presented on the final document.
- 9 As there will be no further Board meetings before the ARA is required to be laid before Parliament, it is proposed that the Board authorises the ARAC to undertake the final detailed review of the ARA (planned for 22.06.15) and recommend approval to the Accounting Officer for signature (planned for 26.06.15).

Recommendations

- 10 The Board is invited to:
 - i. Provide comments on the draft documents presented.
 - ii. Authorise the ARAC to undertake the final detailed review of the ARA 2014-15 (planned for 22.06.15) and recommend approval to the Accounting Officer for signature (planned for 26.06.15).

Karen Wheeler – National Director: Transformation & Corporate Operations
Paul Baumann – Chief Financial Officer