

Public Trust Board paper G2

Meeting title:	Public Trust Board				
Date of the meeting:	13 November 2025				
Title:	Escalation Report from the Finance and Investment Committee (FIC) 29 October 2025				
Report presented by:	Mr A Inchley, FIC Non-Executive Director Chair				
Report written by:	Ms G Belton, Corporate and Committee Services Officer				
Action – this paper is for:	Decision/Approval		Assurance	X	Update
Where this report has been discussed previously	Not applicable				

To your knowledge, does the report provide assurance or mitigate any significant risks? If yes, please detail which

Yes. BAF risks within the remit of FIC are listed below:

BAF ref	Risk Cause	Risk Event
06-FIC	Insufficient capital funding	Unable to address statutory requirements such as health and safety standards and legislation, and address backlog maintenance requirements (concerning medical equipment, estate and IM&T)
07b-FIC	Significant financial challenge over 2023/24 and for the future 3 years across the LLR system to meet both operational and inflationary pressures and recovery from COVID	Failure to deliver the 2023/24 financial plan and achieve long term financial sustainability
08-FIC	IT Infrastructure unfit for the future	Unable to provide safe, high quality, modern healthcare services
09-FIC	Estate Infrastructure unfit for the future	Unable to provide safe, high quality, modern healthcare services

Impact assessment

N/A	
Acronyms used: BAF – Board Assurance Framework CIP – Cost Improvement Programme CHUGGS – Cancer, Haematology, Urology and General Surgery	FIC – Finance and Investment Committee ICB – Integrated Care Board NHSE - NHS England W & C – Women’s and Children’s

1. Purpose of the Report

To provide assurance to the Trust Board on the work of the Trust’s Finance and Investment Committee (FIC) and escalate any issues as required.

2. Recommendations

There is one item from the FIC meeting of 29 October 2025 requiring public Trust Board approval (please see item 4.1 below).

3. Summary

The FIC meeting was quorate.

4. Items for Approval:

4.1 UHL Annual Fire Report 2024/25

The Director of Estates and Facilities presented the UHL Annual Fire Report for 2024/25, the purpose of which was to inform FIC of the current state of Fire Safety provision in all Trust premises. The report also indicated where further Fire Safety related improvements were necessary.

In presenting this report, the Director of Estates and Facilities noted that the template utilised for this report was the same as that utilised in previous years, however would be strengthened for future such reports. Any gaps identified had been taken through the Risk Committee and mitigations considered. In the future, it was noted that this Annual Fire Report would be signed off by an External Authorising Engineer.

FIC endorsed the Annual Fire Report for 2024/25 for onward submission to the Trust Board for formal approval.

The UHL Annual Fire Report 2024/25 was endorsed for onward submission to the Trust Board on 13 November 2025 for formal approval and is attached as an appendix to this report for this purpose.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 Board Assurance Framework (BAF)

The Committee received and approved the latest iteration of the BAF relevant to its remit. Note was made that there were no proposed changes to the risk scores this month. Also noted was the fact that the draft risk appetite statement had been included in this month's report.

The FIC NED Chair made note of the lengthening of completion dates for some actions, particularly those relating to workforce and discussion took place on the iterative nature of this process and the need for realistic expectations in terms of what could be achieved within the stated deadlines. The Committee noted the intention for all possible action to be undertaken to balance finance, performance and quality, noting that plans would continue to evolve.

This item is highlighted to the Trust Board for information.

5.2 Finance Restructure KPIs

FIC received and noted the contents of a report which outlined the progress made against the set of KPIs which measured the improvement in performance and culture within the Finance Team and outlined the actions for those KPIs not yet delivering. Appendix 1 of the report presented outlined the annual trend against the March 2022 baseline, and the first 6 months of 2025/26.

FIC acknowledged the positive work undertaken by the organisation and specifically the Finance Directorate with regard to financial governance and expressed assurance at the report presented, noting the external triangulation provided to this report by Internal and External Audit.

Following discussion, FIC concluded that any further follow-up against these KPIs should be addressed via monitoring at the Audit Committee, rather than FIC, potentially via submission of such a report to the Audit Committee on an annual basis. It was subsequently agreed that the Chair of the Audit Committee, Chair of FIC and the Chief Financial Officer would meet outside the meeting to discuss what (if anything) was required for submission to the Audit Committee in future and this item would be removed from the FIC work plan.

This item is highlighted to the Trust Board for information.

6. Estates Items:

6.1 Sustainability Report

The Director of Estates and Facilities presented a quarterly update from the UHL Sustainability Team, which reflected progress against the UHL Green Plan and carbon footprint in alignment with NHS England's guidance for delivering a carbon Net Zero Health Service. Additionally, the report provided an update for the service areas of travel, waste, and energy & utilities.

In response to a request for assurance from the FIC NED Chair, the Director of Estates and Facilities noted that work was in progress within the team to optimise the opportunity to seek access to third party funding streams, where available.

The contents of this report were received and noted.

7. ICB Finance Update 2025/26 M6

FIC received and noted the 2025/26 Month 6 financial position for the LLR ICB. The overall Year-To-Date (YTD) system position at Month 6, before deficit support, was a deficit of £63.82m, which was £5.93m adverse variance to plan.

This item is highlighted to the Trust Board for information.