



Title of Paper: Terms of Reference - Patient Safety & Quality Committee

For Decision

Requires majority decision prior to implementation or action.

For Discussion

~~Requires consideration and debate.~~

For Noting

~~Contains information Members should be made aware.~~

1.0 Background

Following receipt of Ministerial Statement dated 19 February 2026, a review has been undertaken of Trust Board committee structure to ensure that arrangements support and enable enhanced oversight and assurance on matters related to patient safety and quality.

This has resulted in the establishment of a Patient Safety & Quality Committee (PSQC) which expands upon and subsumes the remit of the Governance Assurance Committee (GAC).

Following consideration by the outgoing Governance Assurance Committee at its meeting on 29 April 2026, the draft Terms of Reference are tabled for consideration by Members with a recommendation to approve.

If approved, there will be a need to update the Trust's Standing Orders to give effect to the changes. The Integrated Governance & Assurance Framework will also need to be updated.

2.0 Key Issues

The PSQC Terms of Reference reflect the requirement to strengthen Board oversight of patient safety and quality, ensuring greater visibility of risk, performance and learning at Board level.

The Committee will provide focused scrutiny of Serious Adverse Incidents, complaints, patient safety indicators and quality improvement activity, supporting improved triangulation and to provide assurance.

3.0 Resources Implications (inc Organisational, Financial, Human Resources)

Not applicable

4.0 Impact on Safety, Quality and Experience (SQE)

The introduction of PSQC will enhance the Trust's ability to provide assurance to Board on safety and quality by strengthening oversight, challenge and accountability. The PSQC will support earlier recognition of risks, improved escalation and a more systematic approach to identification and embedding of learning across SET.

5.0 Key Risks and Proposals to Mitigate

Not applicable.

Lead Director: Professor Stephen Kirk, Medical Director

Date: 20 May 2026