Title of Report: Maternity Risk Management Strategy

Aims: To approve the Maternity Risk Management Strategy

Executive Summary:
During the last 18 months, the Trust has developed the ‘general’ governance and risk management strategy with the aim of improving the Trust’s governance systems and processes.

The governance team have been working with the maternity team during the last 3 months to update and align the maternity risk management strategy (see appendix 1) to ensure the maternity risk processes are linked into the Trust’s main systems for governance and risk management.

It is important to highlight that maternity services have a very explicit governance framework to follow as part of their CNST arrangements which are reflected in this strategy.

The key areas which have been updated are summarised below:

- Roles and responsibilities within maternity have been refined to provide greater clarity
- Roles and responsibilities following new Director appointments and implementation of the new governance structure
- Changes to committees (introduction of SMT).
- Incident management escalation within maternity and how this links into the Trust’s systems
- Updated to reflect organisational values and CQC standards
- Trust’s core framework for governance included in the strategy
- Governance in practice defined for maternity and how this links into the Trust’s systems
- Risk management and escalation

Overview of key areas for consideration or noting:

The work that has been progressed on the maternity strategy now ensures that the systems and processes in practice are fully reflected and dovetailed into the Trust’s main systems for governance.

The Governance and Quality Committee reviewed the updated strategy in December 2011 and approved the strategy, subject to any final amendments, prior to the Board receiving the strategy in January 2012 for ratification.
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<th>Specific implications and links to the Trust’s Strategic Aims:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ensure we provide high quality, safe and effective care for all our patients including meeting essential standards of safety and quality as set out by the CQC</td>
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<td>Develop a viable integrated clinical strategy for secondary care services which is sustainable and affordable</td>
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<td>Develop a new healthcare facility in West Cumbria that is fit for the 21st century</td>
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<td>Achieve sustainable financial balance through the delivery of the Trust’s internal Cost Improvement Programme, securing a viable contract income from our GP commissioners and contributing to the system wide cost reductions</td>
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<td>To develop and implement a successful merger or acquisition plan that enables the Trust to become part of an existing NHS Foundation Trust</td>
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**Recommendations:**

That the Trust Board to RATIFIES the updated Maternity Risk Management Strategy.

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**Presented by:** Ramona Duguid, Acting Director of Governance and Company Secretary