

Trust Board

TB2008.73

From: Mr Andrew Stevens, Director of Planning & Information
Date: September 2008
Subject: **Information Management and Technology Strategy**
For: **Decision**

Synopsis

The Trust's Information Management and Technology Strategy has been updated to ensure that it supports the Trust's overall strategic direction and the requirements of the Trust's path towards becoming a Foundation Trust.

The key features of the updated strategy are:

- The alignment of the IM&T objectives and investment with the Trust's strategic objectives. The IM&T strategy has a major contribution to make towards the delivery of both the Trust's strategic clinical objectives and the underpinning strategic business objectives, helping to deliver both high quality patient care services and also an agile and high performing organisation.
- The commitment to the delivery of the national CRS programme.
- A robust risk management approach for responding effectively to the delays to the national CRS programme. This risk management has two strands. Firstly the strategy seeks to secure the existing business critical systems, particularly the patient administration system. Secondly, the strategy seeks to preserve flexibility so that tactical developments can be made to secure organisational benefits in parallel with the longer term work associated with the delivery of the CRS programme.

Financial, legal and risk impact

The risks associated with the delivery of the IM&T strategy are managed as part of the overall risk management policy. The CRS programme itself has a strong risk management dimension built into the project management structures. In addition, the Oxfordshire Health Informatics Service and the Directorate of Planning & Information also ensure that key risks associated with IM&T are identified and appropriate risk mitigation strategies are implemented as part of the Trust's overall approach to risk.

The increasing reliance of the Trust on IT systems has significant risk implications for both the delivery of patient care and for the business performance of the Trust. This places a premium on robust risk management activities.