

RISK APPETITE STATEMENT – JULY 2019

The Board recognises that risk is inherent in the provision and commissioning of healthcare services, and therefore a defined approach is necessary to articulate risk context, ensuring that the organisation understands and is aware of the risks it is prepared to accept in the pursuit of its aims and objectives.

The Board places fundamental importance on the delivery of its strategic objectives and its relationships with its patients, the public and strategic partners in achieving delivery of the ten-year Health and Care Strategy, '*A Healthy, Caring Powys*'.

The Board is not open to risks that materially impact on the quality or safety of services the Health Board provides or commissions; or risks that could result in the organisation being non-compliant with UK law, healthcare legislation, or any of the applicable regulatory frameworks in which we operate.

The Board has greatest appetite to pursue innovation and challenge current working practices and financial risk in terms of its willingness to take opportunities where positive gains can be anticipated, within the constraints of the regulatory environment.

Risk Category	Description
APPETITE FOR RISK: Low (Risk Score 1-6)	
Quality & Safety of Services	<p>The provision of high quality services is of the utmost importance to the Health Board and we have a cautious appetite to risks that impact adversely on quality of care.</p> <p>We consider the safety of patients and staff to be paramount and core to our ability to operate and carry out the day-to-day activities of the organisation. We have a low appetite to risks that result in, or are the cause of incidents of avoidable harm to our patients or staff.</p> <p>This means we are not open to risks that could result in poor quality care or clinical risk assessment, non-compliance with standards of clinical or professional practice, unintended outcomes or poor clinical interventions.</p> <p>We will not accept risks associated with unprofessional conduct, underperformance, bullying, or an individual's competence to perform roles or tasks safely and, nor any incidents or circumstances which may compromise the safety of any staff member or group.</p>
Regulation & Compliance	<p>We will not accept risks that could result in the organisation being non-compliant with UK law or healthcare legislation, or any of the applicable regulatory frameworks in which we operate.</p>

APPETITE FOR RISK: Moderate (Risk Score 8-10)	
Reputation & Public Confidence	<p>We will maintain high standards of conduct, ethics and professionalism at all times, espousing our Values and Behaviours Framework, and will not accept risks or circumstances that could damage the public's confidence in the organisation.</p> <p>Our reputation for integrity and competence should not be compromised with the people of Powys, Partners, Stakeholders and Welsh Government.</p> <p>We have a moderate appetite for risks that may impact on the reputation of the health board when these arise as a result of the health board taking opportunities to improve the quality and safety of services, within the constraints of the regulatory environment.</p>
Finance	<p>We have been entrusted with public funds and must remain financially viable. We will make the best use of our resources for patients and staff. Risks associated with investment or increased expenditure will only be considered when linked to supporting innovation and strategic change.</p> <p>We will not accept risks that leave us open to fraud or breaches of our Standing Financial Instructions.</p>
APPETITE FOR RISK: High (Risk Score 12-15)	
Innovation & Strategic Change	<p>We wish to maximise opportunities for developing and growing our services by encouraging entrepreneurial activity and by being creative and pro-active in seeking new initiatives, consistent with the strategic direction set out in the Integrated Medium Term Plan, whilst respecting and abiding by our statutory obligations.</p> <p>We will consider risks associated with innovation, research and development to enable the integration of care, development of new models of care and improvements in clinical practice that could support the delivery of our person and patient centred values and approach.</p> <p>We will only take risks when we have the capacity and capability to manage them, and are confident that there will be no adverse impact on the safety and quality of the services we provide or commission.</p>

This Statement will be regularly reviewed and modified so that any changes to the organisation's strategy, objectives or our capacity to manage risk are properly reflected. It will be communicated throughout the organisation in order to embed sound risk management and to ensure risks are properly identified and managed.