**Item**

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| **Report to Board, January 2023** | |
| **Report title** | Emergency Preparedness Resilience and Response Assurance Process Review Report 2022 |
| **Report from** | Jon Spencer, Chief Operating Officer |
| **Prepared by** | Juliana Richardson, Emergency Planning Lead |
| **Previously discussed at** | EPRR Steering Group |
| **Attachments** | Action Plan for 2022 EPRR Assurance |

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| **Brief** **summary of report:**  The 2022 annual EPRR assurance process review for the trust took place on 17th November 2022. The aim of this process is to assure NHS England (London) of EPRR processes and policies within individual Trusts.  Prior to the meeting the trust carried out and submitted a RAG rated self-assessment against the NHS Core Standards for EPRR. In addition to this a set of ‘deep dive’ questions in relation to Evacuation and Shelter formed part of this year’s process.  This year the trust was awarded a green RAG rating with substantial compliance. | | | | | | | |
| **Action Required/Recommendation**  The board is asked to note the annual assurance survey outcome as substantial compliance, along with recommended next steps section. | | | | | | | |
| **For Assurance** | **√** | **For decision** |  | **For discussion** |  | **To note** |  |

**Executive Summary**

This paper provides a summary of the outcomes of Moorfields’ emergency preparedness, resilience and response (EPRR) annual assurance survey submission to NHS England during 2022. It assures as far as reasonably practicable, cohesive coordination in all aspects of emergency preparedness, resilience and response, across all sites and services provided by the trust.

**1. Introduction**

The trust is required to prepare for and respond to a wide range of incidents or emergencies that could impact on health or patient care. These could be anything from extreme weather events, infectious disease outbreaks, terrorist attacks to major transport accidents. The trust must be internally resilient and be able to respond safely to such incidents, or other internal disruptions, whilst maintaining its services to patients.

The Trust is termed as ‘a Category One Responder’ under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) due to its 24 hour A&E ophthalmic service; however Moorfields is not a designated receiving hospital. This being the case, the trust is still required to meet all EPRR core standards. The trust also has a duty to cooperate with the wider integrated healthcare and civil resilience systems to ensure there is a seamless and coordinated response for protecting both the health of local communities and the nation against the challenges of natural hazards, accidents, infectious disease outbreaks and the enduring threat of terrorism.

The NHS service-wide objective for emergency preparedness, resilience and response (EPRR) set by NHS England is to:

*‘ensure that the NHS is capable of responding to significant incidents or emergencies of any scale in a way that delivers optimum care and assistance to the victims, that minimises the consequential disruption to healthcare services and that brings about a speedy return to normal levels of functioning; it will do this by enacting its capability to work across organisational boundaries’*

**2.0 EPRR assurance process**

The EPRR Assurance process is an annual survey which is submitted to NHS England on behalf of the trust. The purpose of this process is to assess the preparedness of the NHS, both commissioners and providers, against common NHS EPRR Core Standards. The compliance levels are Full (green), Substantial (green), Partial (amber) and Non-compliant (red). The core standards are listed as follows:

* Governance
* Duty to assess risk
* Duty to maintain plans
* Command and control
* Training and exercising
* Response
* Warning and informing (duty to communicate with the public, partners etc)
* Co-operation
* Business continuity framework
* Hazmat (hazardous material) & CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear)

The organisation undertook a self-assessment, which entailed RAG rating the trust’s compliance on each of the core standards (53 in total) i.e. green, amber, and red. This self- assessment was submitted during early September 2022 to NHS England, followed up with a review meeting in November 2022.The Emergency Planning Lead in consultation with the COO RAG rated all core standards as green bar seven which was amber. Based on discussions in the Assurance meeting, four of the seven ambers were awarded green.

An additional set of ‘deep dive’ questions was included this year, which entailed a further 13 questions and encompassed Evacuation and Shelter. The trust RAG rated itself fully compliant in these planning questions. The outcome of the deep dive section does not affect the overall rating awarded to the trust.

NHS England awarded the trust a substantial level of compliance (green) RAG rating.

**2.1 EPRR assurance process Moorfields 2022 Results**

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| **EPRR Core Standards** | **Moorfields RAG Rating 2022** |
| Governance |  |
| Duty to assess risk |  |
| Duty to maintain plans |  |
| Command and Control |  |
| Training and exercising |  |
| Response |  |
| Warning and informing |  |
| Co-operation |  |
| Business continuity framework |  |
| Hazmat & CBRN |  |

**3. EPRR sustained improvement**

Year on year improvements have been achieved in regards to the EPRR work streams, ultimately improving the trust’s overall resilience when responding to incidents. NHSE stated that the trust had clearly demonstrated its commitment to EPRR. It was noted that the trust continues to maintain a high standard for EPRR arrangements and reference was made to continuous improvement.

**4. Next steps**

The EPRR function will continue to strive to maintain the high standards achieved this year, with the main objective of continuous improvement. The EPRR focus at present centres around resilience in relation to the contamination of buildings and other significant business continuity types of incidents, and how to mitigate against these.