ENCLOSURE 2

Birmingham Women's NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

SUBJECT :	Report by the Management Board: Reference on whether Business Continuity/ Disaster Recovery should be added to the BAF
REPORT BY :	Professor Ros Keeton, Chair, Management Board
AUTHOR :	Steve Parsons, Head of Corporate Affairs

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board of Directors is invited to concur in the recommendation of the Management Board, that the risks related to Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery not be included within the Board Assurance Framework as strategic risks; but should be managed as operational risks within the risk register.

Links to Strategic objectives	

Links to BAF risks	

Links to compliance requirements	*From 1st April* Requirement to have Business Continuity plans in place- Standard Contract
	From 1st April Having systems to identify and manage material risks to compliance with the Monitor licence

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting in January 2013, the Board received a report from the Audit Committee that, *inter alia*, suggested that the risks to the Trust from the current position on Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery should be considered for inclusion on the Board Assurance Framework. The Board referred that question to the Management Board, for consideration and report.

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Supported by a full paper from the Chief Operating Officer, the Management Board considered the reference from the Board at its meeting on 19th February.

After careful consideration and discussion, the Management Board recommends to the Board of Directors that these items are operational risks, and should be managed through the risk register rather than the BAF. The Management Board did not consider that these risks linked directly to the strategic objectives of the Trust, and therefore were not ones that should be included within the Board Assurance Framework, which is designed to record strategic risks to the achievement of the strategic objectives.

For Business Continuity, there is an appropriate risk on the risk register, regularly monitored through the Management Board, and a number of mitigating steps have been identified and are being implemented. The current grading of the risk is Amber. The Board may also wish to be advised that (subject to the Board's approval of budget allocations) arrangements have been made to access temporary resource to assist the Trust in further developing its Business Continuity plans; when developed, regular review and updating will be a Directorate responsibility.

Specifically in terms of Disaster Recovery, which is often focussed on IT, the Board will be aware that, through the IT strategy, plans have been developed to improve the Trust's preparedness. These are dependent for effective implementation on partnership with the Trust's IT supplier (currently UHB), and discussions to improve implementation are ongoing. There are related risks on the Register, all of which are currently rated as Amber.