

Trust Board Briefing Paper	
Reference Number:	TB144/11/G
Date of Meeting:	23 rd June 2022
Presenting Director:	Owen Harkin, Director of Finance
Subject:	Upgrade and replacement of water system equipment to address Water Safety concerns
Purpose: Approval/Noting	Approval of Business Case to allow water system upgrades required to ensure compliance with statutory regulations relating to water safety, and to reduce patient and staff risk of exposure to waterborne pathogens.
Background:	Domestic hot and cold water (DHCW) systems supply water to a wide range of users and services throughout the Trust, which are used across clinical and regular handwashing sinks, catering facilities, sluices, and clinical treatment rooms. It is essential that this water is delivered both safely and reliably to allow all departments to function effectively and in a timely manner. The safety of the water supplied is an area of focus for the Trust, as laid out in the Trust Water Safety Plan (WSP), which aims to meet the relevant statutory regulations. These regulations focus on DHCW temperatures and the impact this can cause on bacteria such as Legionella propagating through water systems. Given the high-risk susceptibility profile of service users across the Trust, it is vital to ensure that all equipment that forms part of the distribution system for DHCW are well maintained and invested in to ensure there is no reduction in the safety of the water supplied. A business case has been put together to request Backlog Maintenance funding for use on three key areas of DHCW systems throughout the Trust. These three areas have been identified as requiring investment to ensure current and future adherence to the relevant statutory regulations that will maintain the expected levels of water safety. These three areas of



investment have been identified via information obtained via a number of routes: equipment inspections, temperature monitoring, water sampling, and external audits.

Body of Paper (insert own heading, etc):

Options:

Three options were reviewed for consideration within the business case to improve water safety compliance and reduce risk of exposure to waterborne pathogens.

Option 2 is the preferred option:

Modernisation of the domestic water system (to include cold water storage tanks, pressure vessels, and associated hot and cold water distribution pipework).

Benefits:

Key benefits as outlined in the business case:

- The provision of water that complies with the required standards and provides suitable environmental conditions for service users
- Provide hot and cold water through a system that meets the requirements of HTM 04-01
- Ensure business continuity is maintained by providing water systems that do not have to be closed due to water safety concerns, or due to equipment that is unable to provide required water demands adequately.

Timeline:

All works will be complete in the 2022/23 financial year. Areas of the Trust that have been identified as higher risk and/or non-compliant with statutory regulations will be prioritised to ensure that a risk based approach is adopted to maximise water safety across the Trust.

Capital Costs:

Total capital costs of £499,000 are being sought out of the Estates 2022/23 allocation for Backlog maintenance.

Conclusion / Action Required: For approval by Trust Board