

## Board Assurance Framework

### BAF0001 – Recovery of Elective Services

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Georgie Brown		There is a risk that the NHS is unable to recover elective services and waiting times to pre-pandemic levels due to increased Urgent and Emergency Care pathway related pressures, workforce and financial constraints, or demand led pressures. This may lead to poorer patient outcomes, reputation damage and an inability to meet constitutional targets.	
Risk Lead			
Michael Ramsden			
Governance Board(s)			
Elective Collaboration Board / Quality and Performance Committee			
Date of Last Review			
10/07/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	5	20	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	5	20	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	3	12	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
05/10/2023	Elective continues to be challenging due to Industrial action and non-elective pressures. System activity is close to plan and the ICB is experiencing significant growth in the Independent Sector which will support recovery. A national choice campaign will allow patients more flexibility on where they receive treatment meaning all available capacity is maximised.
23/02/2024	Risk reviewed, no changes since last review
21/05/2024	New control (choice) and action (demand management) added
16/07/2024	Risk reviewed and actions updated. Elective recovery continues to be a challenge and therefore risk score remains high.
22/11/2024	Risk reviewed. 2 new actions added: Diagnostics and Surgical hubs. Action progress updated
20/01/2025	Review complete - no changes apart from reassigning controls to Georgie Brown
17/03/2025	No change - remains a challenge to recover elective services
23/05/2025	Tiering process moved to controls and some actions updated (i.e. surgical hub and diagnostic D+C). Risk score remains and risk remains as the operational plan has set new recovery targets
10/07/2025	Risk reviewed. New actions added.

## BAF0001 - Recovery of Elective Services

System Controls
The controls to support the UEC Pressures will support Elective performance. Strong demand management and flow, will reduce the likelihood of emergency medical patients outlying on surgical wards and concomitant elective cancellation will be mitigated.
Processes in place to ensure those with most urgent clinical needs are treated first. Quality - Supporting review of performance across service provision in particular Cancer services and associated Pathways & diagnostics. Triangulating information and soft intelligence such as serious incidents , complaints , HW engagement , Safeguarding partnership information.
Elective Collaboration Board and weekly leadership group provides system governance.
RTT reporting enabling Wait list size trends
Optimising use of available resources including independent sector and clinical prioritisation
Independent Sector and community services used to support Trusts in their wait reduction
Monitoring of Trusts Elective recovery plans
Promotion of Patient Choice
Regional Tearing Meeting
Implementation of indicative activity plans (IAPs) to support RTT improvement in some specialties (slowing down activity in overperforming.
Accreditation of new ISP providers
Weekly Elective Leadership Group with Trust COOs and NHSE
Ongoing oversight of Tier 1 Elective Delivery
NHSE led Tier 1 Process in MKUH.

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Trust transformation plans to increase productivity using GIRFT data	ICB	Michael Ramsden	31/03/2026	Ongoing but risk description amended to reflect the ownership of GIRFT improvements and the ICBs assurance process. This will be an ongoing action throughout the year and the target date has been adjusted accordingly
Delivery of national and local recovery priorities.	ICB	Michael Ramsden	31/03/2026	Ongoing action that aims to deliver the commitments set out in the operational planning process. Delivery will be overseen through the Elective Collaboration Board and the elective leadership group throughout the year
Development of a demand management program which covers unwarranted variation of referrals, triage and Advice and Guidance	ICB	Hema Sutton	31/03/2026	Diagnostic Demand and Capacity dashboard created and live for MKUH and MK CDCs. To add North Beds CDC and BHFT data once CDC live later this year
Review of Diagnostic Capacity	ICB	Michael Ramsden	30/11/2025	Diagnostic Demand and Capacity dashboard created and live for MKUH and MK CDCs. To add North Beds CDC and BHFT data once CDC live later this year.
Surgical Hubs Development	ICB	Michael Ramsden	31/08/2025	Seed funding awarded. Options appraisal being developed which will be considered nationally as options likely to exceed £25M envelope.

## BAF0002 - Developing suitable workforce

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Martha Roberts		If system organisations within BLMK ICS are unable to recruit, retain, train and develop a suitable workforce then staff experience, resident outcomes and the delivery of services within the ICS, ICB People Responsibilities and the System People Plan are threatened.	
Risk Lead			
Bethan Billington			
Governance Board(s)			
Finance & Investment Committee/Quality & Performance Committee			
Date of Last Review			
27/05/25			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	5	20	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	3	12	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
07/08/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 50k Nurse Programme: Nurse supply has improved Nov 2022 to Feb 2023 has seen a month on month increase and above programme trajectory, with March 2023 showing an above trajectory of 1.3%. This is driven mainly by international recruitment (13.3% above trajectory).</li> <li>- International Nurse Recruitment: Forecasting to March 2024, BLMK (Acute Trusts) will have recruited 709 IR. This is likely to be approx. 750 when including Community and Mental Health Trusts</li> <li>- Retention: Workstreams have been established as Flexible Working, Onboarding &amp; Early careers and Career Development: Mid to Late Careers.</li> <li>- Legacy Mentoring roles: Eight roles in place for Nursing, Midwifery and AHP (Physio) in Acute and Primary Care. Regional strategy developed from BLMK results for attraction and recruitment into these legacy roles. Legacy Paramedic with EEAST has commenced (first nationally), recruiting for Legacy Therapies post at BHFT. Discussions started re Legacy roles in Social Care, Community and Mental Health.</li> <li>- Late Career Nurse programme: HEE funding to Primary Care training hub to support Mid to late career programme more specifically targeting General Practice Nurses. This has also been offered across our system (8 places) to mid-late career staff. Programme started 22nd March 2023 it will run for 12 months. In discussion to run a 2nd Cohort in 2024 which will be extended system wide</li> <li>- HCSW Recruitment and Retention: Digital campaign is now live - landing page including Bedfordshire Hospitals and MKUH hyperlinks advertising band 2 HCSW vacant roles. Digital Posters and Billboards across BLMK and leaflet advertising roles distributed in likely postcoded areas with digital poverty.</li> <li>- HCSW Rotational Apprenticeships: Final draft of "advert" for all employing partners agreed; Partners' Apprentice Job Descriptions will be used. ELFT will now be employing a HCSW Apprentice for their community services in Bedfordshire. Draft rotation schedule shared with partners for comment. Lessons learned captured. Agreed to hold two separate recruitment days in North &amp; South Bedfordshire.</li> </ul>
07/11/2023	<p>The team have developed an inclusive recruitment toolkit that will be rolled out within the ICB from Dec 2023</p> <p>The 50k Nursing programme is due to complete and BLMK has met its target</p> <p>The ICS is working with Breaking Boundaries Innovators to develop supported employment pathways</p> <p>The ICB has signed up to the Lived Experience Charter and the ICS is supporting the care leavers covenant to support our local populations in to employment</p>
04/03/2024	Focus groups have been undertaken with frontline staff to know how to support and working with NHS England on the education allocations to meet the requirements. There is a productivity and efficiency group, the purpose of which is to strengthen substantive workforce and reduce reliance on contingent workforce. Safer staffing lead has been extended for twelve months to look at community and mental health staff levels.
23/08/2024	The turnover and vacancy rate are consistently decreasing, suggesting the risk is not materialising. As part of operational planning, there are restrictions on growth
07/10/2024	Continue to see reduced turnover, vacancies and sickness. Planned growth above workforce plan
16/01/2025	We have invested in workforce modelling as part of the clinical services strategy and are starting to roll this out with mental health and diagnostic workforce.
01/04/2025	Vacancy rates have reduced, noted as the top performing ICS for the region in retention. Zero growth for operational plans for 25/26. Clinical expansion and placement quality plan in place and being delivered. - re-scored with 3 additional controls and 3 new actions.
27/05/2025	Restrictions on growth in system partners and reductions in bank and agency. Specific areas that are difficult to recruit being supported through system working. Clarity needed on where this work transfer to in the new ICB.
20/08/2025	BLMK was successful in bidding for WAD funding to continue the supported employment pathways.

## BAF0002 - Developing suitable workforce

System Controls
EDI & Wellbeing: People Board Subgroup focusing on supporting the wellbeing of staff across the ICS. Also responsible for improving workforce inequalities relating to protected characteristics and development and implementation of initiatives e.g. 'no more tick boxes' to address recruitment inequalities.
Leadership & OD: People Board Subgroup focussing on building the OD capacity and skills within the system to support workforce transformation across health and care. Development of leadership and development programmes for the ICB and system partner organisations in conjunction with regional and national bodies
Primary Care: People Board Subgroup focussing on workforce programmes as they relate to Primary Care Workforce. Wellbeing, career development, new roles (e.g. ARRS), international recruitment and workforce planning and OD
Workforce Modelling & Supply: People Board Subgroup focussing on the development of workforce strategy, recruitment, retention programmes and innovative role pilots
Primary Care Training Hub supporting in recruitment, retention and training of primary care workforce
People Board: ICS Executive Group with responsibility for People Plan delivery to meet ICS workforce priorities linked to BAF and People Board workforce risks. This enables delivery of ICS Strategic Objectives, ICB People Responsibilities and development of Workforce strategy
Education Partnership: People Board Subgroup responsible for development and co-ordination of CPD fund use & demand scoping for system as well as use of apprenticeship levy, school and university engagement and development of innovate courses and training courses across health and care workforce
Anchor Employment Workstreams - supporting those further from employment into careers in health and social care.
Long Term Workforce Plan - clinical expansion to meet demand and improvements in quality of education. Monitored by NHSE.
'No more tick boxes' recruitment approach has been embedded into ICB and Trusts ensuring diversity and fairness in recruitment practices (Inclusive Recruitment)

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Delivery and evaluation of Rotational Apprenticeship Pilot - level 3 Senior Healthcare Support Worker rotational apprenticeship between health and care providers in Bedfordshire as proof of concept	ICB	Catherine Jackson	31/12/2025	First phase evaluation/lessons learned report now produced, working with UoB re wider evaluation, impact on apprentices won't be available until they complete in 2026.
Long Term Workforce Plan - trajectory for meeting long term requirements in conjunction with education providers and employers	ICB	Bethan Billington	30/10/2025	The Long Term workforce plan is currently being reviewed and is expected to be published Autumn 2025 where system plans will be developed.
Passport to NHS Careers - Supporting those furthest from employment/experiencing barriers to employment within our local population in to supported employment opportunities within our system Identified Cohorts for BLMK: Young people 18-30 NEET, Care experienced, economically inactive, long-term unemployed. Young unpaid Carers.	ICB	Bethan Billington	30/09/2025	158 attendees to date undertaking 2 week programme. 44 economically inactive for over 3 years, 16 gaining employment, 19 undertaking work experience, 20 moving into volunteering and 43 into further training
Expansion of Health and Care Academy over coming year - Was just Bedfordshire, to now include Luton, MK and Social Care. Plus expansion from 14-18 to then include 18-30	ICB	Bethan Billington	30/09/2025	Recruited practice development nurses and made contact with 100% of secondary schools. First cohort of 18-30 starting in April. Expansion ongoing.

## BAF0003 - Pressure on Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) in the BLMK System

Risk Owner		Risk Description
Georgie Brown		<p>As a result of multiple and interconnected factors across the BLMK system, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Population growth in BLMK (2.5 times faster than national average)</li> <li>- Demand exceeding capacity across all Health and Care Services leading to people's inability to access services in a timely manner.</li> <li>- Lack of effective and coordinated response to prevent use of emergency health and social care services (admission avoidance)</li> <li>- Poor flow and discharge from acute hospitals, leading to overcrowding and delayed ambulance offloading, increased complexity and the changing nature of patient needs, coupled with fragile capacity in community services and social care</li> <li>- Challenged financial environment and pressures across the system, limiting resources and capacity for improvement</li> <li>- Workforce limitations impacting staffing levels across all areas of the UEC pathway</li> <li>- Lack of a unified and consistent approach to risk appetite and responding to system pressures, hindering flexibility in criteria to meet complex health needs and manage demand and capacity</li> </ul> <p>There is a risk of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Services being overwhelmed with system-wide bottlenecks and delays in accessing appropriate UEC services, particularly for patients with complex needs</li> <li>- Unsafe waits for assessment in 111 services and/or ambulance services.</li> <li>- Unsafe overcrowding in Emergency Departments (EDs) and acute hospitals</li> <li>- Increased risk of harm to patients due to delayed or missed clinical assessment / intervention / avoidable admissions.</li> <li>- Increased delays and waiting times and reduced choice in the community, in ED and in discharge from hospital</li> <li>- Higher health and social care costs due to out-of-area placements, reliance on expensive temporary accommodation, increased rehabilitation, over prescribing care, potential financial performance related penalties / loss of income opportunities.</li> </ul> <p>Resulting in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Negative patient outcomes and harm including longer wait times, poorer quality care, avoidable complications, deconditioning and increased dependence on statutory services.</li> <li>- Increased strain on resources and staff well-being and morale, recruitment and retention potentially leading to further workforce challenges</li> <li>- Reduced system efficiency and effectiveness in managing patient flow across UEC pathways</li> <li>- Impaired ability to respond to surge in patients</li> <li>- Longer ambulance response times and further system strain</li> <li>- Lack of public confidence in the NHS and social care</li> <li>- Cancellations and delays in elective care</li> <li>- Reduced capacity and ability to respond in the case of a Major Incident impacting Health Services.</li> <li>- Critical System Safety thresholds occur: ie 8hr + ambulance offloads</li> <li>- Unplanned expenditure and unsustainable costs across health and social care services.</li> </ul>
Risk Lead		
Michael Ramsden		
Governance Board(s)		
Quality and Performance Committee		
Date of Last Review		
10/07/2025		
Risk Movement		
→ No change		
Inherent Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
4	5	20
Current Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
4	4	20
Target Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
3	4	12

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
20/07/2023	Winter plan being managed by MK together and Bedfordshire Care Alliance, to be presented at the ICB September Board and deep dive review completed by Quality and Performance Committee in August. Work is underway with NHSE Regional Team to reconfigure all partners performance and delivery group to oversee PUEC recovery metrics.
16/04/2024	The SCC team are currently reviewing system risks with our partners in MK Together and BCA
21/05/2024	2 new actions added (unscheduled care Hub and Decompression in Bedfordshire)
16/07/2024	Actions and controls remain but new actions added
04/09/2024	Risk Reviewed. New controls added on Winter Planning and review of D2A beds
23/10/2024	Risk reviewed - new actions added: escalation and SDEC
22/11/2024	Risk reviewed and continues. Action progress updates applied in a number of areas
20/01/2025	Risk reviewed. No changes other than amended action to the correct assigned person
04/04/2025	Risk reviewed. Controls and actions updated where necessary. Recommend current risk score reduced to 16 to reflect the improved control of UEC pressure and maturity of some UEC transformation. The impact remains.
29/05/2025	Risk reviewed. Remains current and no score changes made. Some alterations made to action owners to reflect the changing responsibility in the ICB/Place team
10/07/2025	Risk reviewed. Minor changes to control leads. Winter planning exercise added to actions
20/08/2025	The KRIs are within the UEC Board Scorecard, the SCC also track the KRIs in their daily monitoring of operational delivery and management of escalation. New action added as BHT are now part of the GIRFT UEC Further Faster programme. A number of controls are listed which would be the responsibility of partners rather than the ICB - to discuss approach and assignment with EPRR

Key Risk Indicators
<p><b>Community Referrals</b></p> <p>Reduced capacity in the community leads to a falling rate of accepted referrals into the 2 hour pathway AND a reduced % of 2 hour urgent referrals accepted seen within the 2 hour timeframe</p>
<p><b>Non-Inpatient Ward Accommodation Usage</b></p> <p>Increased number of consecutive days exceeding a pre-defined threshold of patients bedded overnight in non-inpatient ward accommodation</p>
<p><b>Ambulance Cat 1 / Cat 2 Response</b></p> <p>Increase % in the length of response times for cat 1 and 2, resulting in delays in accessing appropriate pathways, over a given period</p>
<p><b>Rolling Discharge Deficit</b></p> <p>Increased backlog of patients waiting for discharge, indicating inefficiencies in patient flow and hospital bed utilisation. (i.e. if BHFT need 215 P1-P3 discharges a week, and in week one deliver 210, week 2 deliver 200 and week 3 deliver 220, the rolling discharge deficit is 15.)</p>
<p><b>Ambulance Handover Time over 15 Minutes</b></p> <p>Increased % of ambulance handovers exceeding 15 minutes at Emergency Departments (EDs) over a 7-day rolling average.</p>
<p><b>Call Abandonment Rate</b></p> <p>Increased % of calls to the NHS 111 service and primary care that are abandoned.</p>
<p><b>MH Discharge Delays</b></p> <p>Increased number of CYP and adults requiring a MH discharge in Acute Trust or a discharge from inpatient MH Ward.</p>
<p><b>Critical System Safety thresholds occur:</b> i.e. 8hr + ambulance offloads</p>

## BAF0003 - Pressure on Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) in the BLMK System

System Controls
BLMK Primary Care access programme
Use of SHREWD / OPEL framework actions and system wide escalation with predetermined actions and response to pressures across the system.
Specific ICB focus on community bed management across BLMK
Optimised Patient Transport Services to facilitate swifter discharge
Exec Team Performance Meeting on a monthly basis
System Control Centre (SCC) 7 day capability to monitor, oversee, respond and coordinate increasing system pressure across BLMK
Cancellations of routine / planned care activities to enable diversion of resources to UEC pathways.
Maximising out of hospital pathways to avoid ED attendance e.g. UTC / Community Services / Silver Line.
Support from VCSE, mutual aid and cross cover across sites and organisations
Dynamic staffing arrangements to flex to the demand needed.
SOPs such as 999 validations, 24 hour dispositions etc to help manage demand and flow.
SDEC Improvement embedded into UEC programme plan across BLMK which identifies performance and metrics to achieve, KPIs, improvements and outcomes which are monitored by the STT programme. National focus on bedding of SDEC which SCC report on daily to NHSE.
UEC Assurance Programme plan lists admission avoidance and discharge and flow system priorities
Alternatives to ED reducing pressures at peak times
Operational delivery governance, including UEC and development of ICB operating framework, supporting the identification of and resolution of pressures reviewed for assurance.
Winter Planning and Delivery
Enhanced KRI monitoring
UCCH steering group with ICB, UCR teams and EEAST continues development of unscheduled care hub and associated admission avoidance pathways.
Multiple channels (newsletter, whatsapp, email, contractual levers via HWE ICB) for quick communication alert to Community Pharmacies of the system pressures thereby helping to manage patient expectations of managing non urgent issues (ICB Primary Care)
Forecasting Tool provides early warning signal of any surge in demand

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Decompressions exercise in Bedfordshire and MADE events in Milton Keynes	ICB	Chess Cummings	31/03/2026	MADE events will continue throughout the year and be strategically timed to support periods where pressures have historically been evident. The target date now reflects the end of the financial year
System UEC transformational planning	ICB	Georgie Brown	30/09/2025	A system wide transformation plan is being developed. MK ISF and Bedfordshire partners are now reviewing the transformation areas of focus and agreeing the priorities. In addition, the ICB will begin to lead on a admission avoidance programme and the MK ISF/BCA focusing on flow and discharge. A system wide winter learning event was held in May to ensure plans align to the operational planning assumptions made by Trusts
Review of Discharge to Assess Beds	ICB	Kaysie Conroy	30/09/2025	Revised Business case currently going through the three LA BCF groups and ICB for approval. The business case has been presented to the Operational Group and Execs.
Winter Planning Exercise /Scenario Testing and revision of OPEL and escalation framework	ICB	Chess Cummings	31/08/2025	All systems required to undertake winter scenario testing, utilising nationally developed scenarios. Dates being confirmed.
Further Faster GIRFT UEC	ICB/BHFT	Chess Cummings	31/03/2026	New Action

## BAF0003 - Pressure on Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) in the BLMK System

Milton Keynes Controls
Milton Keynes improving system flow programme
Joint approach across MKCC, MKUH and CNWL working together in the Integrated Discharge Hub
Robust staffing management to ensure we optimise resources against short term forecast. (SCAS)
Utilising and where possible increasing clinical pathways to avoid transportation to the ED for patients who can be managed away from the ED (SCAS)
Making full use of Consultant Connect and clinical validation lines (SCAS)
When under demand pressure, will pull resources outside of the area to support or implement intelligent conveyancing until demand reaches a manageable state (SCAS).
Making full use of intelligent conveying when appropriate but remaining within the SCAS footprint (SCAS)

Bedfordshire Controls
Bedfordshire Care Alliance UEC Transformation
Daily staffing sit rep informed by demand and capacity tool to inform any staffing flex arrangements required (CCS)
Pan HUC delivery model for NHS 111, CAS and OOHs service, increasing resilience through wider network for resources and infrastructure. Sophisticated forecasting tools in place to ensure that demand and capacity are aligned as closely as possible (HUC).
Mutual assurance scheme across care providers including in-house teams (BBC).
Handover45 implemented – Ambulances will leave patients at hospitals (safely) after 45 mins. (EEAST)
Unscheduled Care Hub (UCCH) in Bedfordshire
Senior leadership Group stood up for weekly/daily briefing and action (BBC)

Milton Keynes Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Milton Keynes improving system flow programme - Development of enhanced admission avoidance schemes such as virtual wards and call before you convey	ICB	Rebecca Green	31/03/2026	Ongoing action
Unscheduled Care Hub Improvement - MK	ICB	Michael Ramsden	31/10/2025	SCAS and MK Place lead on the project to support greater flow from the ambulance stack. Some improvements noted in July and August with 10-15 patients transferred and avoiding A+E per week. Project meetings continue between SCAS and CNWL to support improvement.

Bedfordshire Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
UCCH steering group with ICB, UCR teams and EEAST	ICB	Michael Ramsden	31/02/2025	Action complete. Delivery group established to drive the implementation of the regional service specification. Focus now moving to business as usual as the UCCH is fully mobilised
Implementation of the ITK link (999 back to 111) regional led operation with EEAST and HUC	EEAST	Steve Gutteridge	TBC	
Completing regular deep dives looking at rejected calls from the 999 stack and reviewing rejections	EEAST	Oliver Yarrow	TBC	
New contract for Patient Transport Services between and ICB and EEAST to include modelling patient numbers for to match increased demand of same day PTS requirements	ICB	Michael Ramsden	30/09/2025	EEAST and ICB modelling complete. Reviewed option to transfer discharge PTS responsibility but not financially viable and creates a procurement risk. New activity plan to be implemented from September. Strategic options being explored.
Bedfordshire and Luton Discharge Transformation: to reduce average days MFFD and ti improve left shift of discharge intervention	Bedfordshire Partners	TBC	TBC	

## BAF0004 – Widening Inequalities

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Sarah Stanley		There is a risk that inequalities and outcomes for specific demographic groups within BLMK population will widen (e.g. cost of living, health and care demand pressures) compromising our ICS purpose to improve outcomes and tackle inequalities.	
Risk Lead			
Sarah Watts			
Governance Board(s)			
Quality & Performance Committee			
Date of Last Review			
11/07/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	5	20	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	3	12	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
30/10/2023	Inequalities Improvement team due to be in place by December/January. Inequalities funding at place. £2m has gone to place boards. EDI plans have been completed for both staff and services and deny review recommendations are coming to the ICB Board in December
25/07/2024	A weekly inequalities delivery group is in place, there is also a monthly inequalities system meeting. The 11 transformation priorities of work is underway to improve health equities and a whole programme focusing on health equity with a team SRO will be worked through over the next three years.
16/09/2024	Meeting to take place with Chief of Staff and Chief Nurse to review risk.
03/12/2024	Monthly Inequalities system delivery meeting in place. System transformation priorities launched with place focus and with resident engagement to support work. Cohort populations have been identified.
03/03/2025	Health Equity planning meeting took place on 12/3/2025 to align plan to three strategic priorities a
27/05/2025	Weekly Health Equity Programme meet in place to review system priorities and on-going work in relation to reducing health inequalities across BLMK. Health Equity Programme Board being developed (with Terms of Reference now agreed) with first board meeting planned for 11th August 2025.
11/07/2025	Weekly Health Equity Program team currently reviewing risk objectives to link to current work streams and drivers

## BAF0004 – Widening Inequalities

System Controls
Annual resource allocation to help to reduce inequalities and draw out learning for future investment
Cross-ICS inequalities steering group and working group to coordinate inequalities activity across the ICS framed around the core20plus5 approach
Health inequalities defined at place and PCN level
Work with resident voice groups e.g maternity Voices, parent carer forums, SEND in coproduction of outcomes
Business Intelligence reports for key health outcomes/NHS constitutional standards by place
Monthly System Health Equity meetings in place to ensure momentum and action takes place within the Health Equity Programme
Equity Improvement Team in place which will support how we are making improvements through the system through an equity lens and ensuring balancing measure are in place to ensure we are not widening inequalities and how that is affecting the rest of the system.
System high-level equality metrics agreed and monitored over the short and long term. These will demonstrate changes and improvements or worsening in health inequalities to provide priority focus for system transformation.
Public Health Intelligence Unit and ICB Performance Team have an agreed data pyramid (set of measures) of population health outcomes (children, young people and adults) showing progress against widening health inequalities
Weekly Health Equity Program Board meetings in place with quartile Board Meetings due to commence in August 2025

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Improving Health Equity Transformation Priority Programme (response to Denny including Women's Health)	ICB	Sarah Stanley	28/08/2025	Weekly Health Equity Programme meet in place to review system priorities and on-going work in relation to reducing health inequalities across BLMK. Health Equity Programme Board being developed (with Terms of Reference now agreed) with first board meeting planned for 11th August 2025.
Dynamic Risk Assessment to identify whole system risk, actions and controls and review to further mitigate action	ICB	James Bielby	30/09/2025	currently reviewing the CRR to identify risks which can be linked to this to identify specific effective action and then assigning KRI's

## BAF0005 – System Transformation

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Maria Wogan		There is a risk that due to sustained operational pressures and complexity of change, there will be reduced delivery and benefit from strategic transformational change to deliver improved outcomes for our population.	
Risk Lead			
Tara Dear			
Governance Board(s)			
Finance & Investment Committee/Governing Body/Quality & Performance Committee			
Date of Last Review			
06/06/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	5	20	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	5	20	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	2	6	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
20/07/2023	Operational planning and transition plans to the new target operating model have commenced.
12/04/2024	Risk remains as we develop our transformation programmes as a system and ongoing performance management and reporting is in place to seek to mitigate
25/09/2024	Risk reviewed, refresh required with exec involvement.
03/12/2024	No change
03/03/2025	Risk reviewed - further action added regarding Board Champions which is in progress.
08/04/2025	System Charters have been completed for Complex Care CYP and End of Life, subject to approval by System Champions and leads. Complex Care Adults and Admission/Discharge Pathways to follow. System Champions now identified for the three priorities and four enablers and initial discussions taken place or planned. Additional resource requirements identified and being reviewed by ICB Execs on 09/04/25.
28/05/2025	Transformation progressing with agreed leadership. Progress reported in the May 25 Portfolio Report. Resource needs identified and being progressed. Update to be provided by System Champions at ICB Board on 27/06/25 along with proposed updates to the risk description in needed. Action complete, new control added.
06/06/2025	Transformation progressing with agreed leadership. Progress reported in the May 25 Portfolio Report. Resource needs identified and being progressed. Update to be provided by System Champions at ICB Board on 27/06/25.
29/08/2025	Two actions completed and controls added. Work continues to be reported in the System Portfolio Report, ICB Board expecting a progress update by System Champions at the end of September.

## BAF0005 – System Transformation

System Controls
Operational performance management process in place taking account of responses to operational pressures
The ICB Operational Group - manages immediate operational issues
Chief Execs Group - regular reviews of operational performance issues to agree mitigations
Agreed strategic priorities and BLMK Joint Forward Plan across the system in place
EPRR - monitor, plan for and respond to incidents within BLMK
System and Place Transformation Teams established to provide dedicated capacity for transformation
SCC monitor and support system pressures and coordination, 7 days a week
ICB Transformation Priorities agreed and monitored through portfolio report
System champions confirmed for each priority area
Charters for the three system transformation priorities agreed
Project resource for three system transformation priorities and four enablers agreed

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Review transformation priorities as part of 25/26 planning to target resources and effort on the most beneficial transformation schemes and pause / re-schedule lower priority schemes to reduce the extent of change the system is seeking to deliver in parallel and increase the chances of success.	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/08/2025	A Stop & Pause session was undertaken at the Executive Team meeting on 11/06. The result was 6.5WTE being freed-up to undertake priority workstreams. Further prioritisation and rationalisation work is being schedule for July & August

## BAF0006 - Financial Sustainability & Underlying Financial Health

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Dean Westcott		As a result of increased inflation, significant operational pressures and patient backlogs, there is a risk to the underlying financial sustainability of BLMK that could result in failure to deliver statutory financial duties.	
Risk Lead			
Stephen Makin			
Governance Board(s)			
Finance & Investment Committee			
Date of Last Review			
30/07/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
5	4	20	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
5	4	20	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	3	12	

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
11/12/2023	The underlying financial challenge in the ICB remains and is exacerbated by a deterioration in the costs of prescribed medicines and continuing healthcare packages.
11/04/2024	The financial position of the ICB and the system is significantly challenged, the risk remains live and is a significant focus of the ICB as part of the 24/25 financial operational planning
04/12/2024	one action closed, now control. No further changes. Scoring remains appropriate.
16/01/2025	The ICS remains on track to deliver it's financial plan for 24/25, all actions are being progressed by action owners
28/03/2025	Reviewed with Stephen Makin. No change to risk. One action completed
03/06/2025	Actions all complete and closed. Controls updated. Risk score remains the same.
30/07/2025	Risk reviewed, no changes since last update

System Controls
Monthly financial reporting to Finance & Investment Committee and Integrated Care Board - includes analysis of financial performance: revenue, capital, underlying financial performance plus risks & mitigations.
System led financial oversight through System Chief Execs Group; Acute, Mental Health and Community services Sector Finance and Operational Delivery Executive Meetings and System DoFs Group.
Updated system Medium Term Financial Plan for 2023/24 to 26/27. Includes scenario modelling of key variables and downsides.
ICB Financial Improvement Group - responsible for developing and delivering additional efficiency schemes to achieve break even position.
ICB and Acute Trusts have established additional executive governance - responsible for controls on discretionary spend including staffing.
System PMO established to track progress of financial plan delivery
Financial Recovery Plans implemented by ICB and all Trusts - BHFT have developed a FRP. MKUH have recovery action plan and enhanced PMO supported by external resource. ICB has implemented Financial Improvement Group (FIG) and Investment Oversight Group (IVOG). These will introduce additional controls around new investment and strengthen the delivery of existing efficient plans plus support identification implementation and delivery of new savings and mitigations.
System efficiency and transformation programmes are reported to Board and quality and performance Finance and investment committee for assurance withing the governance cycle (bi-monthly).
Productivity dashboard will be published in June 2025 and will provide oversight of key indicators for assurance and monitoring.



## BAF0007 - Climate Change: Health Inequality and Healthcare Service Impacts from Climate Change and Environmental Degradation and risk of not achieving net zero

Risk Owner		Risk Description
Dean Westcott		<p>As a result of climate change and wider impacts on the environment and biodiversity, there is a risk that the health of the population, health inequity, and the ability to deliver services will be negatively affected due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) exacerbation of existing health conditions (e.g. CVD, COPD, Asthma, mental health);</li> <li>ii) new health challenges (e.g. tropical disease prevalence, population migrations);</li> <li>iii) extreme weather events resulting in harm (e.g. storms, floods, wildfires);</li> <li>iv) disruption to day-to-day healthcare provision (e.g. supply chain, workforce availability, power outages, infrastructure damage);</li> </ul> <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>v) a deterioration in population health outcomes.</li> </ul> <p>This is resulting in worsening health, inequalities, access to healthcare, and additional pressures on health services. This risk is materialising now, in some contexts, and will increase in both likelihood and severity as climate change progresses.</p>
Risk Lead		
Tim Simmance		
Governance Board(s)		
Audit & Risk Assurance Committee		
Date of Last Review		
05/06/2025		
Risk Movement		
→ No change		
Inherent Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
4	4	16
Current Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
4	4	16
Target Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
2	4	8

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
08/06/2023	Risk rating remains unchanged. Work has begun on actions identified to work towards reducing risk impact.
11/07/2023	Risk rating remains unchanged. Some progress on actions.
31/08/2023	Risk reviewed - no change
01/12/2023	Actions are progressing
14/03/2024	Risk reviews - no change
24/05/2024	No significant change to overall risk.
19/07/2024	Risk reviewed. No change.
16/10/2024	Risk Reviewed. risk description updated to reflect more explicit link to population health and health inequalities. Likelihood of >2degree heating internationally considered more likely, thus despite progress the risk rating is considered to remain the same.
13/12/2024	Reviewed - no adjustments.
10/03/2025	Risks briefly reviewed at Environmental Sustainability Leadership Group meeting January 2025. No change to risk rating. Work in progress on Green Plan refresh and other underpinning actions.
05/06/2025	Achieving Net Zero element removed (separate risk created for this element - BAF0022). No change to risk rating.
18/08/2025	No change to current risk rating. BLMK Green Plan 2025-2032 approved at BLMK ICB Board 27 June 2025. Delivery of the Green Plan activities required to mitigate current risk.

System Controls
Partner Green Plans and Sustainability Plans.
Local Resilience Forum Adverse Weather Plans
BLMK ICS Green Plan 2022-25
ICB Adverse Weather Plan
Green Plan Operational Working Group
Climate Adaptation Task & Finish Group
Green Plan System Leadership Group

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Deliver ICS Green Plan 2025-2032	ICB	Tim Simmance	05/06/2025	Delivery of Y1 of BLMK Green Plan commenced. Progress monitored through Green Plan Leadership Group quarterly.

## BAF0008 – Impact of Population Growth on Health and Care Services Infrastructure

Risk Owner		Risk Description		
Dean Westcott		As a result of fast rate of population growth in BLMK, there is a risk that our infrastructure will not keep pace with the needs of our population, which will exacerbate widening inequalities and outcomes.		
Risk Lead				
Nikki Barnes				
Governance Board(s)				
Finance & Investment Committee				
Date of Last Review				
26/06/2025				
Risk Movement				
→ No change				
Inherent Risk Rating				
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating		
4	5	20		
Current Risk Rating				
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating		
4	5	20		
Target Risk Rating				
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating		
3	4	12		

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
20/07/2023	All actions in progress as planned
10/04/2024	Housing growth trajectories obtained from three of the four local authorities. Place based estates workshops taking place end of April and beginning of May.
23/07/2024	Infrastructure strategy developed for signoff by the ICB Board end of September
11/10/2024	Risk reviewed, risk remains the same
28/02/2025	No change to risk. BLMK Infrastructure Strategy in development
26/06/2025	Infrastructure strategy due for sign-off by ICB Board 27th June 25

System Controls
Local Authority Place Plans - address local population growth and inequalities
BLMK Joint Forward Plan 2024 - 2040, agreed by board sets out population growth and plans to mitigate
Developer Contributions - partnership working with local authorities to secure financial contributions for health from housing developments

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Development of BLMK Infrastructure Strategy	ICB	Nikki Barnes	30/09/2025	No update

## BAF0009 - Impact of Rising Cost of Living on Residents and Staff Wellbeing.

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Maria Wogan		As a result of rising cost of living, in particular the impact of cold weather and cost of heating, keeping warm and eating well,	
Risk Lead		There is a risk that our residents and staff will not be able meet their basic needs	
Martha Roberts		resulting in	
Governance Board(s)		- deteriorating physical and mental health	
Finance & Investment Committee/Quality & Performance Committee		- pressure on all public services	
Date of Last Review			
29/07/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	4	12	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
11/04/2024	The ICB has submitted a request for a living wage status. Lived experience charter has been achieved. Work is being carried out with BBI (Breaking Barriers Innovators), unpaid carers, lived experience of the cared system and neurodiversity.
24/07/2024	Risk ongoing, a health and wellbeing festival is coming up and most system partners are contracting with Vivup.
03/12/2024	Risk Reviewed - rephrased risk wording for clarity
27/02/2025	Reviewed with Martha Roberts - no change. Added an additional control
29/07/2025	Work and mitigations continues. Successful results with people starting employment in healthcare following programmes for NHS careers. Supported ex-Vauxhall employees into NHS employment.

## BAF0009 - Impact of Rising Cost of Living on Residents and Staff Wellbeing.

System Controls
Delivery of ongoing communications to support population access to support services in partnership with Trusts and Local Authorities.
Local Authority support schemes for residents - Warm spaces/hubs - Food banks etc
Partner Support Schemes for staff e.g. BHFT Staff loan scheme enables small temporary loans
Partner and national NHS financial plans for managing increased costs due to inflation
Clinical and operational prioritisation of waiting lists is now part of business as usual to support access to services as appropriate
Monthly System Health Equity meetings in place to ensure momentum and action takes place within the Health Equity Programme
Equity Improvement Team in place which will support how we are making improvements through the system through an equity lens and ensuring balancing measure are in place to ensure we are not widening inequalities and how that is affecting the rest of the system.
ICB - living wage employer ensuring staff are at a minimum pay of living wage rather than minimum wage
ICS Work Health and Skills Stewardship - 40 system partners in attendance. To support resident population who suffer from long term health conditions or long term economic activity to become economically active and improve their health

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
[EDI & Wellbeing People Sub-Group established]: Ongoing work plan for maximising support for staff across BLMK.	ICB	Bethan Billington	31/12/2025	No update
Develop approach to prioritise residents waiting for treatment who are unable to work as a result of their condition	ICB	Tim Simmance	30/06/2025	No update
To develop an employment and health systems strategy	ICB	Martha Roberts	04/08/2025	No update
Passport to NHS Careers - Supporting those furthest from employment/experiencing barriers to employment within our local population in to supported employment opportunities within our system  Identified Cohorts for BLMK: Young people 18-30 NEET, Care experienced, economically inactive, long-term unemployed. Young unpaid Carers.	ICB	Bethan Billington	30/09/2025	No update

Bedfordshire Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Luton 2040 programme to ensure that Luton is a healthy, fair, and sustainable town where everyone can thrive, and no one has to live in poverty. (CEO-LBC)	ICB	Andrew Rochford	31/01/2040	Action in progress

## BAF0010 - Partnership working

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Maria Wogan		In the challenging financial environment, there is a risk that the development of the ICS's public position on an issue is inconsistent with the public position of one or more partner member(s), resulting in a lack of clarity for the public and stakeholders	
Risk Lead			
Dominic Woodward- Lebihan			
Governance Board(s)			
Audit & Risk Assurance Committee			
Date of Last Review			
13/06/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	4	12	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	3	9	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	2	6	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
12/07/2023	No substantive changes to the existing risk profile; joint ICP/ICB seminar on 2107 supporting system to reach coherent and collective position on issues. Issues relating to funding and estates remain the most likely cause of public disagreement most notably the ICBs inequalities funding which was the subject of strong debate at June's Board meeting.
07/09/2023	No substantive changes to the existing risk profile, but notable announcement of by-election in Central Bedfordshire in October creates a heightened sense of political sensitivity which all ICB partners are alert too (especially those operating in the mid bedfordshire footprint)
04/12/2023	Risk review complete
12/04/2024	Controls are presently offering good mitigation to this ongoing risk which has the potential to increase in an election year
26/07/2024	Good partnership efforts throughout pre and post election period on politically sensitive topics. Communications teams across ICS in regular conversation, new joint post between ICB/MKUH has commenced
22/11/2024	No immediate concerns as regards issues which are causing incompatible public positions, intense work continues on healthcare estates matters between partners.
04/03/2025	The Operational Planning process has this year, including the Board Seminar in January, has supported the development of a clear system narrative to which all partners can subscribe. This work continues throughout Feb and March. Plans for developing an updated system strategy for 2026 have been agreed initially by the BLMK Health and Care Partnership and will be reported to the ICB Board.
15/03/2025	Development of difficult decisions to meet the financial balance being undertaken in line with the agreed governance structures, including through CAG, so that all system partners can be engaged and give views, with the most impactful decisions brought before the Board.
13/06/2025	Development of difficult decision to meet financial balance being undertaken in line with the agreed governance structures, including through cag, so that all system partners can be engaged and give views, with the most impactful decisions brought before the Board.

System Controls
Place link directors have a coordinating role at Place and lead on place relationship management for the ICB.
Decision Planner gives partners notice of forthcoming decisions
Engagement Planner enables system wide coordination of engagement activity
Chair quarterly session with local leaders enables discussion of current issues facing the system
Chair quarterly session with local leaders enables discussion of current issues facing the system
Chair quarterly session with local leaders enables discussion of current issues facing the system
Core script/key lines now includes main thematic areas of concern outlined re cllr inductions
Exec has an open space session on stakeholder management more generally so there is understanding of individual and collective responsibilities
Chair quarterly session with local leaders enables discussion of current issues facing the system
Proactive briefings to key stakeholders as required: - Briefings for newly elected councillors - Pre-briefing good practice to local leaders
Integrated communications framework to enhance partnership effectiveness, which includes a weekly communications grid for systematic information sharing, a robust communications network fostering collaboration among partners, proactive engagement through partnership social media platforms, regular dissemination of the 'Live Well' newsletter to promote health and wellbeing, and the implementation of a comprehensive media and social media strategy to ensure coherent and strategic messaging across all channels
Coordinated articulation of partnership progress and areas to develop further agreed by HCP in Feb 25, and reflected in the 2025 update to the Joint Forward Plan presented to the ICB Board in March.

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Continue to promote Joint Initiatives	ICB	Dominic Woodward-Lebihan	20/04/2026	Ongoing

## BAF0011 - Health literacy - Denny Review

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Maria Wogan		As a result of challenges with health literacy and understanding of health services as identified in the Denny Review, there is a risk that members of minority, disadvantaged and seldom-heard communities in BLMK are not able to properly access or navigate between health and care services, potentially leading to an exacerbation of health inequalities, increasing a sense of fragmentation between services, and resulting in adverse health outcomes.	
Risk Lead			
Tara Dear			
Governance Board(s)			
Audit & Risk Assurance Committee			
Date of Last Review			
06/08/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	2	8	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
04/12/2023	Additional control added.
12/04/2024	Partnership working on the Denny response is increasingly responsive to health literacy concerns including recent launch of videos to support autistic people to navigate health and care system. 17 May seminar will help this progress further alongside new shared transformation team. Reasonably we expect this risk to take many years to fully address.
28/08/2024	The improving health equity programme has been identified as one of the 11 priority workstreams for the ICB and the response for the Denny recommendations are encompassed within it.
04/12/2024	Risk Reviewed, actions updated and no changes to scoring.
06/03/2025	Risk reviewed and actions updated.
06/08/2025	Announced closure of CSUs and Healthwatch, and potential transfer of functions to ICBs, will impact the future of coproduction approaches in BLMK, and are being considered in the round as part of the design of the new ICB.
29/08/2025	On action complete and control added.

**BAF0011 - Health literacy - Denny Review**

System Controls
Engagement with the public via Healthwatch and VCSE to explain the differences in services available, so that people can make the right choices for them and we can protect emergency provision.
Inequalities senior leadership group - looking at how funding is prioritised in each place based on the Denny review and evaluating impact.
Our working with people and communities strategy defines how the ICB listens and responds to the views of our residents, VCSE groups and harder to reach communities
Embedding of co-production into ICB processes and operations allowing us to co-design and coproduce of services and pathways with the people that use them. This is supported by our system wide co-production training
Memorandums of Understanding with Healthwatch and with the VCSE underpin our strategic intention to embed diverse resident insight into everything we do
The "Big Conversation" Programme of Work, led by the ICB with support from Healthwatch and wider partners, gathered resident insight from diverse communities, and supports the onward development of relevant policies and plans, most notably the Joint Forward Plan
The ICB's "Decision Planner" which is publicly available, sets out the decisions the Board will take over the next 12 months
Publication of the Denny Review - provides a baseline understanding of inequalities in BLMK and informs all transformation and improvement programmes
Translation and interpretation services across BLMK reviewed and appraisal presented to system partners at Q2 Health Equity Programme Board

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Delivery of the Improving Health Equity transformation programme	ICB	Sarah Watts	30/06/2025	No update- 3 year programme
Accessible communications produced and campaign to explain how to access health / care services	ICB	Dominic Woodward-Lebihan	01/08/2025	No update

## BAF0012 - System Collaboration

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Maria Wogan		There is a risk that diverse and competing activities within the Integrated Care System (ICS) could lead to inefficiency and diluted accountability across the health and care sector organisations. This situation may result in a loss of focus on key priorities and ineffective use of resources, jeopardising the delivery of value to the BLMK population.	
Risk Lead			
Matt Hollex			
Governance Board(s)			
Board of the Integrated Care Board			
Date of Last Review			
08/07/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	3	12	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	3	9	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
1	2	2	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
26/07/2024	As per board agreement on 1907, newly agreed ICB transformation priorities will support focusing of resources underpinned by new ICB portfolio tool
22/11/2024	Risk reviewed, no changes since last review
19/02/2025	The February update of the Portfolio Report is currently being compiled
06/03/2025	The Feb-25 update of the Portfolio Report has been published on the ICB Intranet and the ICS website. This report continues to create awareness of what is happening in BLMK to support and facilitate cross-organisational discussions and collaboration
20/05/2025	The May-25 update of the Portfolio Report and the associated Q&P Committee paper that contains a series of remedial actions to address slippage, escalations and assurance gaps, is a key action in reducing risk BAF0012. PMO will work with SROs and leads to work through each of the actions from the Q&P Committee paper.
08/07/2025	The request for the August update of the Portfolio Report goes out on the 23/07
21/08/2025	Management of BLMKs portfolio of transformation, programmes and projects will become harder as the ICB Transition / Reconfiguration impacts on more teams and people. Mitigations are in place, however the risk will never be fully mitigated.

System Controls
Partnership Governance Structures oversee transformation programmes within the remit e.g. MK Health and Care Partnership oversee MK Deal.
Joint Forward Plan provides strategic alignment of transformation priorities across partners
Regular reporting of transformation progress and system performance and outcomes via Verto and the portfolio report to board, System Chief Executives Group and other governance groups.
ICB CEO has regular 1-2-1s with Trust and Local Authority CEOs to share information and discuss areas of mutual interest.
ICB Stakeholder Management Plans developed for transformation programmes to support effective collaboration and information sharing
Verto 365 reduces the risk of duplication as the system is better enabling collaboration between partners and therefore greater awareness of work
The independent review for BCA and Bedfordshire Places was commissioned and has concluded with the final report and recommendations presented to the ICB Board in June 2025

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
OD Initiatives to reduce reliance on key individual leaders such as Leading Beyond Boundaries	ICB	Bethan Billington	30/06/2025	Launch of springboard leadership programme with 2 cohorts planned for 2025, procurement for Ready Now leadership programme underway.
Develop a Place Maturity Framework based on learning from independent reviews of Milton Keynes and Bedfordshire	ICB	Michelle Evans-Riches	30/09/2025	No update – response wont be available until the end of September 2025
Clarify relationships, interdependencies, responsibilities and accountabilities for initiatives in the Portfolio Tool to remove duplication and improve clarity	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/09/2025	The August version of the Portfolio Report will be completed by 22-08-25
Undertake governance review for all ICB committees and partnership arrangements	ICB	Michelle Evans-Riches	21/03/2026	Update presented to the ICB Board on 27 June. Response due in September.
Strengthen Performance Reporting Processes to include outcome measures and implementation of the data pyramid.	ICB	Dominic Woodward-Lebihan	13/07/2025	The May update of the Portfolio report is complete and continues to support the identification of interdependencies and will connect people across the system

## BAF0013 - VCSE sustainability - Impact on Delivery of ICS Strategic Priorities

Risk Owner			Risk Description
Maria Wogan			<p>As a result of multiple factors affecting VCSEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Perceptions and understanding of the sector in relation to knowledge, business operations, impact and value</li> <li>- A reduction in charitable donations to VCSE organisations, increase in national insurance contributions and a challenging financial climate for statutory partners</li> <li>- Short term funding mechanisms and financial instability from using reserves to maintain services</li> <li>- Workforce challenges, including difficulties with recruitment, retention, and redundancy</li> <li>- Complex operational functions, less agility and diminished flexibility as a result of service decommissioning</li> <li>- Disproportionate reporting requirements</li> <li>- Engagement fatigue within the VCSE and communities</li> <li>- Reductions or closures of VCSE services</li> </ul> <p>There is a risk that the ICS will not deliver its vision and strategic priorities because the VCSE sector may not be in a position to adequately support the design and delivery of alternative approaches and services to deliver the left shift towards prevention and early intervention</p> <p>Resulting in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Poorer resident experience and health outcomes</li> <li>- Loss of VCSE knowledge, organisational memory and service expertise</li> <li>- Reduced outreach to seldom heard and disadvantaged communities, increasing inequalities</li> <li>- Increased demand and costs for statutory partners</li> <li>- Reduced external funding coming into BLMK</li> <li>- Loss of opportunities for collaboration and innovation with the VCSE in areas such as research and workforce</li> <li>- Reduced economic and social development</li> <li>- Trust and reputational damage for all partners</li> </ul>
Risk Lead			
Sonal Mehta			
Governance Board(s)			
Board of the Integrated Care Board			
Date of Last Review			
09/07/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	3	9	

## BAF0013 - VCSE sustainability - Impact on Delivery of ICS Strategic Priorities

System Controls
VCSE Strategy Group influences and facilitates greater collaboration between the BLMK Health and Care Partnership and the VCSE Sector
MoU in place to support partnership development between VCSE and ICB, which includes a commitment to sustainable funding
ICB employ VCSE Partnership Lead and fund VCSE Development Officer in VCSE sector to support development of the partnership
ICB Non-executive and Executive member roles provide strategic links between the ICB and VCSE sector to ensure the sector is advocated for at Board level
ICB has developed a Procurement and Market Management Strategy taking account of feedback from VCSE Strategy Group for more effective engagement
Prompts incorporated into policies and impact assessments e.g. Verto PMO tool, to support earlier engagement with VCSE in planning and decision making
Allocate 23-24 health inequalities funds to VCSE for work relating to recommendations in Denny Review

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Determine plan to use NHSE VCSE quality development tool to track progress and identify improvements to the partnership	ICB	Sonal Mehta	01/09/2025	Publication delayed until at least summer
Deliver procurement support for VCSE including training and workshops to enable market development	ICB	Sonal Mehta	24/09/2025	SM attended BLMK procurement practitioners group. To present VCSE briefing and agreed the partners would identify co- working opportunities. e.g. delivering a joint market engagement event.
Implement joint assessment with commissioner and provider on impact of decision to withdraw funding, including other partners	ICB	Sonal Mehta	25/09/2025	as part of the system wide assessment a KRI is being developed to monitor investment in VCSE delivery models
ICB Place teams and STT are developing working arrangements with VCSE to support more effective collaboration	ICB	Sonal Mehta	15/10/2025	as part of the system wide risk development a KRI will be developed before this action is completed. There is an engagement structure in place, KRI's re the strategic alliance are in development to motivate system wide engagement
Ensure 23-24 inequalities funding allocated to support VCSE partners as part of NHS planning	ICB	Sonal Mehta	31/08/2025	£4k remaining and being reviewed within total VCSE programme budget to ensure work is sustained through ICB transition
Sustain the three VCSE mental health alliances across BLMK to support more effective delivery	ICB	Sonal Mehta	31/08/2025	CMHT case for change meetings set up with MHA alliance leads. Wording regarding strengthened partnership working with VCSE to be added to letters that are sent alongside contracts to NHS MH providers
Determine VCSE representation in provider collaboratives and place based partnerships to ensure VCSE is advocated for	ICB	Sonal Mehta	24/09/2025	Representation on MK health and care partnership and mental health learning collaborative in place. Gaps in central Bedfordshire place board. VCSE rep is discussing membership
Improve understanding of impact and value from VCSE contracts and grant funding from other system partners	ICB	Sonal Mehta	10/09/2025	MS met with senior contract manager in the BLMK ICB where work is ongoing to help to understand how this can be achieved. The recommendations of the meeting will be escalated and fed back.

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
05/04/2024	Inconsistent comms around delayed NHS planning guidance means that some VCSE orgs have started to issue redundancy notices to staff, and limit or withdraw services. VCSE have already been holding risk within contracts due to lack of uplift in recent years and have supplemented costs through fundraising, which is becoming more difficult due to cost of living. Other partners are decommissioning VCSE services and this will have knock on effects for the NHS. For these reasons, parts of the sector are hesitant to engage with statutory partners as it is deemed a risk to them.
24/05/2024	Risks assessment currently being undertaken with VCSE Strategy Group to consider for BAF at end of June
09/07/2024	risk assessment going to Board on 19th July and audit and risk cttee on 26th July
16/08/2024	System risk now on BAF. Feedback from audit and risk cttee being taken to VCSE Strategy group in September. Further work with partners required to develop KRIs
25/09/2024	Current controls and draft actions added in preparation for ICB audit and risk committee on October 11th
07/11/2024	Risk description redrafted following feedback from ARAC in October. Maria Wogan attending core VCSE group on 20th Nov to agree final description and determine next steps
13/12/2024	Risk description updated for ICB board report on 13/12/24
13/02/2025	VCSE contract spend under review
26/02/2025	Potential for further inequalities funding from 24-25. Proposal being worked up. BBC place team progressing re ACT project and further NHS planning funds secured for strategic VCSE engagement. Workplan and budget under review in light of model ICB transition.
28/05/2025	BBC place team progressing re ACT project and further NHS planning funds secured for strategic VCSE engagement. Workplan and budget under review in light of model ICB transition
09/07/2025	target updated - current position remains the same due to capacity barriers and appetite within the NHS

## BAF0014 - Maternity Services at BHFT

Risk Owner		Risk Description
Sarah Stanley		<p>As a result of a number of factors across BHFT maternity services, relating to staffing and governance processes, which were identified and outlined at the Maternity Quality and Safety summit on 16th September 2024, not being fully addressed and rectified including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate staffing in the triage unit to manage all functions safely.</li> <li>Inadequate medical staff training and mandatory training completion as per Trust targets</li> <li>Not confronting unacceptable behaviours, including racism and discrimination</li> <li>Inappropriate management of incidents</li> <li>Insufficient number of qualified, competent, skilled, and experienced midwives to ensure safe care.</li> <li>equipment checks are not performed and documented as per Trust policy.</li> </ul> <p>There is a risk of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased incidence of avoidable harm</li> <li>Higher than expected mortality.</li> <li>Patient dissatisfaction</li> </ul> <p>Resulting in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Negative patient outcomes and harm</li> <li>backlogs of outstanding incidents hindering the identification of themes and trends necessary for shared learning</li> <li>Increased strain on resources and staff well-being and morale, recruitment and retention potentially leading to further workforce challenges.</li> <li>Increased health and social care costs</li> <li>Lack of patient confidence, satisfaction and experience</li> <li>Impact to reputation of BHFT maternity services and the NHS</li> <li>Legal action / enquiries</li> </ul>
Risk Lead		
Sarah Watts		
Governance Board(s)		
Audit & Risk Assurance Committee/Quality & Performance Committee		
Date of Last Review		
08/07/2025		
Risk Movement		
→ No change		
Inherent Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
4	4	16
Current Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
4	4	16
Target Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
3	3	9

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
06/03/2025	Good progress has been made with all must do CQC recommendations achieved. Scores to remain currently.
25/05/2025	Bedfordshire actions completed and controls added. MNVP voice and equal partner recruited. All posts recruited and staff in place from April 2025. PMA in post for both sites full time. Will support staff experience and improve safety.
08/07/2025	following discussion at Q&P consider deescalating this risk in September
28/08/2025	Gaining assurance has been an ongoing issue however the perinatal improvement programme work is being completed and shared as part of the improvement board. The CQC have visited this provider twice in August 25 and we are waiting for the report to be published with its findings.

## BAF0014 - Maternity Services at BHFT

System Controls
Maternity Improvement Action Plan in Place to track and monitor progress and provide timely feedback.
Oversight provided through System Maternity Improvement Board
Trust Maternity Dashboard to monitor and track changes.
LMNS Board Meeting with ongoing oversight at LMNS Quality and Safety Meeting for assurance and reassurance
Monthly Trust Audit for quality assurance, check compliance, identify any risks and for continuous improvement
Maternity Improvement board meet monthly includes: ICB Chief Nurse (Chair), Screening Team, MNVP, NMC, GMC, Regional Workforce Training and Educational Team, CQC, Healthwatch to deliver all recommendations from CQC report, maternity summit actions, 60steps to safety and national screening team recommendations and resident feedback.
Maternity Support Programme - NHSE programme to support actions and delivery of recommendations (external clinical support within Acute)
BHFT Labour Ward Coordinator Framework promotes effective leadership and improvements in team culture
System Mortality / Harm review - monitored within Women, Children and Maternity Board which ensures the actions from recommendations are implemented and monitored
Bedfordshire control - BHFT increased staff and oversight resource to increase robustness of failsafe system.
Health Innovation East to support BHFT with one day per week to effectively implement NEWTT2 and MEWS across the whole trust not just maternity.
Antenatal screening programme resource - temporarily recruit an experienced screen coordinator to fill sickness gaps

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Focus on learning from incidents/harm with evidence of changes in practice.	ICB	Felitta Burney-Nicol	30/09/2025	No update
Establish a daily LMNS Mutual Aid Meeting for monitoring purposes.	ICB	Felitta Burney-Nicol	02/09/2025	The TOR for engagement have been completed and the KRI's have been agreed. These KRI will be established with Shrewd to support dynamic risk assessment and TBC within 21 days. Staff will then be trained and the system will then be tested (approx. 2 months to complete). Support is being provided as required.
Tommy's app pilot to commence (Funding agreed for 3 year post to implement app 0.8 funded from BHFT, 0.8 from ICB).	ICB	Sanhita Chakrabarti	30/10/2025	Ongoing

Bedfordshire Controls
Maternity Improvement Director has been appointed by BHFT who are a dedicated resource to lead the implementation of action plan and improvement.
BHFT appointed interim governance lead provide cross site governance, support and implementing governance framework and embed practices.
Bedfordshire Trust - Programme Director and Maternity Improvement Director in place to oversee and manage programme
BHFT have agreed an Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) policy.
BHFT increased staff and oversight resource to increase robustness of failsafe system.
MNVP voice and equal partner recruited. All posts recruited and staff in place from April 2025.
PMA in post for both sites full time. Will support staff experience and improve safety.
EDI Policy and strategy to be implemented by BHFT
Implement a cultural strategy
Tier 3 weight management pilot
BHFT to develop a comprehensive workforce strategy
BHFT to develop a comprehensive culture strategy

Bedfordshire Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
BHFT to develop and implement a Maternity Governance Risk Framework, including an associated action plan with clear timeframes	ICB	Felitta Burney-Nicol	24/07/2025	New governance lead is undertaking this.
Quadrumvirate Meetings: Regular and minuted Quadrumvirate meetings to be established by BHFT, in line with the Clinical Negligence Scheme for trusts, to be monitored by Improvement Board	ICB	Sarah Stanley	24/06/2025	No evidence received but the ICB has been informed this is taking place. We are chasing for evidence of minutes for assurance.
BHFT to ensure and learn from feedback loop on user experience and reporting (including complaints, users, incidents and outcomes. Themes, actions and learning). Monitored via Improvement Board	ICB	Sarah Stanley	30/09/2025	ongoing, under continuous review

## BAF0015 - Failure to Deliver the Operational and Financial Plan 2025/26

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Maria Wogan		As a result of BLMK ICS failing to fully implement and mobilise its Operational and Transformational plans for 2025/26, there is a risk that BLMK ICS will not fully achieve the Financial, Performance and Workforce targets set out in 25/26 Financial & Operational Plan, which will result in failure to fully fulfil our commitment to improving services for our residents, poorer outcomes for patients and heightened scrutiny from NHS England, which could include less control over our finances and governance.	
Risk Lead			
Dominic Woodward-Lebihan			
Governance Board(s)			
Audit & Risk Assurance Committee / Quality & Performance Committee / Finance and Investment Committee			
Date of Last Review			
22/05/2025			
Risk Movement			
→ No change			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	5	20	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	2	6	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
	No Update Update

## BAF0015 - Failure to Deliver the Operational and Financial Plan 2025/26

System Controls
BLMK ICS has 88 Service Change Proposals (including Difficult Decisions) and over 120 active programmes and projects. These have agreed Governance Process to manage them including reporting to the Performance Exec, Operational Group, Quality & Performance committee, CEO Group and Board of the ICB for oversight.
BLMK ICS has over 100 Efficiencies / CIP schemes that total £118m and an agreed Governance Process to manage them
BLMK ICS has agreed 3 Transformational Programmes, 4 Priority Enablers and 6 Areas of Focus (from the Health Services Strategy) to support sustainable financial improvement and improved health outcomes for 2025/26 and beyond. Fortnightly highlighting reporting has commenced using the Verto Governance Report to ensure groups/forums have oversight of progress. Programme Charters have been agreed for CYP Complex Care and EOL.
NHSE region have oversight via monthly ICB and Trust reporting
Grip & Control measures implemented in 24/25 including: Fortnightly & monthly Financial & Operational Plan meetings between the ICB and all providers Acute Financial Recovery/Turnaround Teams & associated governance Acute Transformation/CIP teams & associated governance Acute Spend/Investment/Cost Scrutiny Panels Acute Boards and Committees holding FTs to account ICB Investment Oversight Group (IVOG) Transformation Programme Boards UEC and Elective Recovery Oversight Groups ICB Financial Recovery Group (FIG)
System Champions appointed to address BLMK ICS transformational plan deviations via associated governance.
Portfolio and Performance reports are being produced now. Both reports should be used at the Performance Exec, Operational Group, Quality & Performance committee, CEO Group and Board of the ICB to address poor performance and off-track programmes/projects.

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
BLMK ICS Transformational Programme Charter to be completed for Admissions Avoidance / Discharge Pathways.	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/08/2025	The charter is still outstanding.
QEIAs to be populated and assessed by BHFT, MKUH, ELFT and CNWL internally to obtain CMO/CNO approval.	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/08/2025	A number of ELFT & CNWL QEIAs have been supported by CAG - there are very few if any left to come from ELFT & CNWL. However we are yet to see any QEIAs from BHFT or MKUH
CAG to review QEIAs to provide an approve or reject recommendation, in addition to determining the level of resident engagement required and associated risk assessment	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/08/2025	CAG has reviewed circa 25 QEIAs from ELFT and CNWL to date. We are still waiting on MKUH and BHFT QEIAs
As a Category 2: Further regionally led intervention needed - BLMK will be supported by NHSE via additional assurance meetings with the regional teams.	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/08/2025	Future meetings with NHSE have been put in the diary
ICB Financial Improvement Group (FIG), BHFT and MKUH Financial Turnaround Teams to identify additional efficiencies schemes	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/08/2025	FIG continues to identify additional efficiencies schemes and reducing the risk in the ICB Efficiencies Programme. The ICB continues to support BHFT/MKUH efficiencies that require system support
Deviation from plan to be picked up at established system collaborative forums including the "Delivering our Financial & Operational Plan" meetings	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/08/2025	DoFP continues to meet fortnightly
The finalisation and agreement of 2025/26 contracts will provide clarity on financial allocations, activity/outcome expectations and reporting requirements	ICB	Matt Hollex	31/08/2025	Final contracts agreed for 2025-26. Most issues resolved. Additional efficiencies have been identified as a result of finalising contracts

## BAF0016 – ICB Reconfiguration and Potential Destabilisation of BLMKs ICB's Delivery & Impact on Statutory Function Delivery

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Maria Wogan		As a result of BLMK ICS failing to fully implement and mobilise its Operational and Transformational plans for 2025/26, there is a risk that BLMK ICS will not fully achieve the Financial, Performance and Workforce targets set out in 25/26 Financial & Operational Plan, which will result in failure to fully fulfil our commitment to improving services for our residents, poorer outcomes for patients and heightened scrutiny from NHS England, which could include less control over our finances and governance.	
Risk Lead			
Dominic Woodward-Lebihan			
Governance Board(s)			
Audit & Risk Assurance Committee / ICB Board			
Date of Last Review			
02/06/2025			
Risk Movement			
★ New Risk			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	5	20	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	4	16	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
3	2	6	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
26/08/2025	Risk assessment and follow up action complete.

System Controls
BLMK ICB Transition Team in place
Regular BLMK ICB Transition Team calls established
Model ICB Blueprint made available to staff
Draft ICB Reconfiguration Timelines shared
Model ICB Directorates identified
Model ICB Design Groups established
Stop & Pause exercise undertaken at Exec to reduce the number of programmes and projects
Model ICB Chief and VSM Structures drafted
Regular ICB Staff Huddles being conducted
The voluntary redundancy scheme for very senior managers was approved by NHS England and the scheme was offered to VSM in BLMK, deadline was 12 <sup>th</sup> August.
'Risk Assessment' exercise at Exec (follow on from the Stop & Pause exercise)

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Greater Clarity on the Timelines for staff	ICB	Dominic Woodward-Lebihan	30/07/2025	In progress
Confirmation of the Chair appointment	ICB	Dominic Woodward-Lebihan	30/07/2025	In progress
Confirmation of the CEO appointment	ICB	Dominic Woodward-Lebihan	30/07/2025	In progress
Confirmation of Executive Directors in the new ICB	ICB	Dominic Woodward-Lebihan	27/08/2025	In progress
Regular ICB Staff Huddles being conducted	ICB	Dominic Woodward-Lebihan	22/09/2025	In progress

### BAF0017 – Data Security breach within or impacting BLMK System

Risk Owner		Risk Description  As a result of multiple factors across the BLMK System including: Increasing number of cyber / information security incidents (e.g., ransomware, phishing, or denial-of-service attacks) Increasing reliance on technology / digital interconnectedness / Artificial Intelligence / Robotic Process Automation Rapidly advancing and emerging technologies Increasing complexity or astuteness of cyber-attacks Human error / human ambivalence Geopolitical threats / tensions / worldwide events Increasing reliance on third-party systems (supply chain) e.g. cloud-based services and software Supply chain vulnerabilities / Variation in cyber maturity across different industry sectors Increasing demand in maintaining existing digital systems to ensure systems are able to remain up to date with security updates (i.e. implementing effective digital estate refresh programmes (eg: laptops, PC's, networks), software compliance and maintaining inventory, ensuring compliance with DSPT and CAF (Cyber Assurance Framework) standards)  There is a risk of Loss or compromise of one or more digital systems (including clinical, financial, business / administrative systems) and associated data.  Resulting in: Individual, multiple, departmental or organisational wide or supply chain systems being taken offline Loss of, exposed or damaged patient / confidential data / sensitive information / non-sensitive data Direct or indirect harm to patients due to disruption to critical services / overall service provision at Trust, Place and ICS levels, with possible Critical System Safety thresholds reached Cancellations or Delays in treatment / diagnostics / discharges / medicine management Protracted business continuity response, and impacts to wider system and regional / national capacity in support, including incident recovery Increased strain on resources and staff well-being and morale Reputational Damage (loss of trust as data controller) Societal impacts (unrest, disinformation) Missed opportunities for intervention (safeguarding) Financial losses through direct loss of funds and/or recovery costs Legal Repercussions (litigations, regulatory fines) Reduced capacity and ability to respond in the case of a concurrent incident / patient surge impacting Health Services.
Martha Roberts		
Risk Lead		
Mark Peedle		
Governance Board(s)		
Audit & Risk Assurance Committee / Board of the Integrated Care Board / Digital Transformation Board		
Date of Last Review		
07/07/2025		
Risk Movement		
★ New Risk		
Inherent Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
5	5	25
Current Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
4	5	20
Target Risk Rating		
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating
4	4	16

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
07/07/2025	No update

System Controls
BLMK ICS Cyber Huddle – Incident Sharing & Stakeholder Coordination
SYS Onboarding to Central Cyber Services
SYS Cyber Defence Services
SYS System-wide Compliance with DSPT/CAF Information Security Standards
SYS CCA 2004 – Legal Basis for Information Sharing
Incident preparedness EPRR
ICB triage of national cyber funding
SYS NHSE digital cyber security threats and remediation bulletin
SYS DCB1 596 Secure Email Accreditation
SYS Data Security Protection Tool-Kit
SYS Business Continuity Planning
SYS NHSE National Cyber Security Operations Centre
SYS Regional Cyber Resilience Forum Meetings
ICB IG Team to receive ad hoc updates from partners re any issues regarding DSPT

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
ICS ePRR Cyber Incident Response Exercise - June 2025 with post exercise report and lessons	BLMK	Tammy Harding-Edwards	31/10/2025	Exercise completed June 2025. Awaiting Post Exercise Report from NHSE Region cyber lead

**BAF0022 – Achieving Net Zero**

Risk Owner		Risk Description	
Dean Westcott		As a result of competing priorities, availability of finance, resource constraints, inaccurate or incomplete data, and the current state of technological advancement, there is a risk that health and care services within BLMK may not reach net zero targets for emissions; this includes targets of 2032 (80% reduction) and 2040 (100%) for directly controllable emissions, and 2039 (80%) and 2045 (100%) for influenceable emissions (supply chain). This would result in contributing to uncontrolled climate change and could create the future risk of regulatory and enforcement action.	
Risk Lead			
Tim Simmance			
Governance Board(s)			
Audit & Risk Assurance Committee / Quality & Performance Committee			
Date of Last Review			
05/06/2025			
Risk Movement			
★ New Risk			
Inherent Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	3	12	
Current Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	3	12	
Target Risk Rating			
Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	
4	2	8	

Risk Updates	
Date	Update
06/08/2025	No update

System Actions				
Action	Lead Org.	Lead	Due Date	Update
Deliver ICS Green Plan 2025-2032	BLMK	Tim Simmance	05/06/2026	N/A

System Controls
Partner Green Plans and Sustainability Plans.
BLMK ICS Green Plan
Green Plan System Leadership Group Monitoring Plans