

Public Board Meeting

Report

Subject: Chair's Report
Date: Wednesday 6th July
Author: Louise Scull, Chair
Lead Director: Louise Scull, Chair

Executive Summary	
This report provides an update on progress, plans and regulatory developments.	
The Board are asked to note the content of this paper.	
Relevant Strategic Priorities (please mark in bold)	
Ensure the highest standards of safe care are consistently delivered by, and for, individuals, teams and departments	Ensure that patients experience the very best care, building on good practice and listening and learning from both negative and positive feedback and events
Provide timely access to diagnosis, treatment and care when people need it and safely reduce the time patients spend in hospital	Raise the level of staff engagement through strong leadership, communication, feedback and recognition
Reduce the scale of our financial deficit by reducing costs, improving utilisation of resources and productivity, and achieving best value for money	Work in partnership to keep people well in the community, and enable them to return as soon as they are ready to leave hospital
Develop and implement a programme of work in conjunction with Nottingham University Hospital NHST to create a new combined organisation	

How has organisational learning been disseminated	N/A
Links to the BAF	N/A
Financial Implications/Impact	N/A
Legal Implications/Impact	N/A
Partnership working & Public Engagement Implications/Impact	N/A
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before	N/A

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday 6th July

CHAIR'S REPORT

Regulatory Activity

As in previous months, the main interaction with NHSI has been focussed on development of the long term partnership. More details are set out below.

At the time of writing, the routine performance review meeting scheduled for Monday 4th July will primarily focus on agency spend for nursing and medical staff, although we will take the opportunity to update NHSI on other aspects of financial position and performance.

In June, we received the welcome news that one of the improvement notices (Section 31) previously issued by the CQC has been lifted as a result of the step change in sepsis management and in recognising and rescuing deteriorating patients.

Long Term Partnership

Integration progress to merger continues to be positive and on track, with very positive engagement across the Trust in all the workstream planning activities. The NHSI Board meeting on 26th May discussed but did not ratify the preferred legal form for the new organisation. At the time of writing, a decision on legal form is still awaited, along with consideration by the Competition and Mergers Authority, both of which are on the critical path for completion of the merger.

The programme of weekly and monthly meetings associated with the merger process continues, with strong representation from both Trusts. Prem Singh, Chair of Derbyshire Community Health Services Trust, has been appointed as Independent Chair of the Sustaining Services Board for the partnership.

Planning to ensure the long term financial viability of the new organisation against a very challenging external funding context continues; the required documentation (Value for Money paper, Long Term Financial Model, Financial Improvement Plan and Full Business Case) is being prepared for approval by SFH and NUH Boards (via the sub committees as appropriate) in due course.

Governors

The Council of Governors meeting on 1st June 2016 made a number of important decisions following the recent Governor elections:

- Agreed new sub Committee memberships, and NED/Governor pairings
- Elected Sue Holmes as the new Lead Governor
- Appointed myself as Chair, and ratified Peter Homa's appointment as Chief Executive

I have scheduled weekly telephone conversations with Sue Holmes in her new role.

Since the last Board meeting, there have also been meetings of the Council of Governors Safety and Experience Committee and Performance and Strategy Committee, and the latest in a scheduled programme of Governor Development sessions. This session focussed on Regulation and Assurance and received excellent feedback. The next will focus on Finance, Performance and Commissioning and will be held on 12th July.

A series of 'Meet your governor' sessions have taken place across all three hospital sites earlier this week, with the aim of introducing newly appointed members of the Council of Governors to Trust members and the public.

Finally, following feedback in Summer 2015, it is proposed that the Council of Governors meeting currently scheduled for August is moved to early September, and this will be confirmed in the near future.

Membership & Engagement

To mark National Volunteers' Week in early June volunteer led information stands were held across all three hospital sites. The stands provided information to members and the public on the excellent work undertaken by our hospital volunteers and also informed people how to become a volunteer for the Trust. A tea party was also held to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday and was attended by volunteers and staff members from across the Trust. The volunteers have donated a further £10,000 to the Dementia appeal, bringing their total donated to £103,000.

The AGM of the League of Friends of Newark was held on 16th June and was attended by Peter Wozencroft on behalf of the Trust.

A governor led membership information and recruitment stand was held at the Nurse Recruitment Day in early June. A total of seven members were recruited.

A further emergency lifesaving training session took place in Newark in May. Although the session was not fully booked, feedback received was excellent.

My apologies that I can't be with you in person today, and I look forward to joining you at next month's meeting.

Louise Scull
Chair