

Board of Directors Meeting

Subject: Chairman's Report
Date: Thursday, 26th March 2015
Author: Sean Lyons
Lead Director: Sean Lyons

<p>Executive Summary</p> <p>This report provides an update on progress, plans and regulatory developments.</p>
<p>Recommendation</p> <p>The Board are asked to note the content of this paper.</p>

Relevant Strategic Objectives (please mark in bold)	
To consistently deliver safe, effective high quality care achieving a positive staff and patient experience	To eliminate the variability of access to and outcomes from our acute and community services
To reduce demand on hospital services and deliver care closer to home	To develop extended clinical networks that benefit the patients we serve
To provide efficient and cost effective services and deliver better value healthcare	

Links to the BAF and Corporate Risk Register	Strategy items impact on all strategic objectives
Details of additional risks associated with this paper (<i>may include CQC Essential Standards, NHSLA, NHS Constitution</i>)	
Links to NHS Constitution	
Financial Implications/Impact	
Legal Implications/Impact	
Partnership working & Public Engagement Implications/Impact	
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before	
Monitoring and Review	
Is a QIA required/been completed? If yes provide brief details	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

26th March 2015

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. Monitor Activity

Two meetings involving Monitor were held during this period.

- a) On 4th March 2015, the Trust met with Monitor, CCG, CQC and NHS England. The purpose of that meeting was to review the Trust's progress on the journey of quality improvement and to ascertain the stakeholders views on readiness for the next CQC inspection. The outcome of that inspection will determine whether the CQC recommends that the Trust is removed from special measures.

No formal feedback from that meeting has been received. However, the Executive Team have reflected further on their view of the Trust's readiness for an inspection. This view is that, if possible, more time to demonstrate improvement would be appropriate - although a precise view on how much time has not yet been developed.

Further Board discussion will take place to determine a view on this matter, however, Monitor have been notified of the general point.

- b) On 10th March, the Trust met with Monitor for the monthly performance Review Meeting (PRM). The meeting was almost entirely focussed on the Trust's financial situation, and at Monitor's request, the NED Chairs of both Finance and Audit Board Sub Committees were in attendance.

Jason Dorsett, Monitor's Director of Finance led the meeting, and in my view, posed challenging and fair questions, especially control on staffing, creditor management, balance sheet visibility, 15/16 Plan and CIP's, and the change in PDC support to be in the form of a loan.

The summary comments were that the Trust is one of the 'top two' worries for Monitor financially and that

- Performance on controllable aspects of the Trust's finances has not been good enough
- There is a need to demonstrate short term grip on finances
- The Trust should expect much more scrutiny financially
- Any unplanned expenditure that the Trust incurs inevitably reduces funding available elsewhere.

Other Monitor Activity

The Trust has not as yet received any formal feedback from the PRM meetings of 6th February and 10th March 2015 or any regulatory position, although I believe this to be forthcoming soon.

The SMART action plan mentioned in last month's report has developed from a reporting perspective, to a point where Monitor are happier with the detail provided.

The Trusts Improvement Director is providing ongoing guidance on this reporting.

2. Governor Activities

It was a pleasure to hold an Induction meeting with Louise Knott, our new nominated Governor from West Nottinghamshire College.

The first of this year's Governor Development Sessions was held on 3rd March, covering Governance, Audit and Information Governance with the sessions being well received.

The next topic is Better Together, Vanguard Status and Annual Planning on 9th April 2015.

3. Membership Update

The membership and engagement sub-committee was held on 12 February and the committee has agreed that the primary focus for 2015/16 will be on engaging with our existing members but the recruitment focus will be to increase representation of males and under 21s.

The communications team met with representatives at Newark College to discuss ways in which we can promote membership to their students. The college are keen to support the Trust and a recruitment stand is being arranged.

This month will see the launch of the new membership magazine, SFH News. The magazine, which replaces Best, has been given a fresh new look and will increase from three to four editions per year thereby improving engagement with our members.

To ensure that our membership offering meets the needs of our members the communications team have created a survey that will be distributed with the first edition of SFH News. The survey asks members about the types of articles that they would like to see in the magazine, how they would like to become more involved with the Trust and the type of member events they are interested in.

To reduce postage costs the communications team are also asking members to indicate that they still wish to receive the magazine via post, otherwise all future editions will only be available via email, on our website or within our hospitals.

4. Board Remuneration & Nominations Committee

This committee met on 25th February 2015.

5. Ward Visits/Consultant Shadowing/Patient & Family Comments

It's a pleasure to support the programme of ward visits and consultant shadowing. Visits have been made to Wards 31, 43 and ED plus 4 shadowing sessions have been completed so far. A verbal update on these and other interactions will be given at the Board meeting.

Sean Lyons

Date