

Report to:	Public Trust Board	Agenda item:	14
Date of Meeting:	27 February 2013		

Title of Report:	Chairman's Report – February 2013
Status:	For information
Board Sponsor:	Brian Stables, Chairman
Author:	Brian Stables, Chairman
Appendices	None

The key items of note from the Chairman's perspective are:

- I held update meetings with the Chair of NHS Wiltshire and together with James, the MP for Chippenham, Duncan Hames and the MP for North East Somerset Somerset, Jacob Rees-Mogg
- I attended my fifth and final day of the NHS Foundation Trust Chairs' Academy jointly organised by the Foundation Trust Network (FTN), Monitor and Cass Business School. The day focused on leadership, partnerships and Integrated care.
- It was a pleasure to be invited to attend the "Be a Brick" launch for the Cancer Care Campaign being organised by the Forever Friends Appeal.
- External to the RUH, I was asked to be the independent Chair and participate in interviews for 3 vacant NED posts at Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS trust – over 2 days in Amersham.
- Following on from the publication of the Francis Report of the NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry, all Chairman of Trusts have received a letter from the Secretary of State for Health as below

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Dear colleagues,

I know that in the coming weeks we will all be reflecting on the findings of the Francis report into what happened at Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust. I am determined that this will not be another report to Government that creates a lot of short-term noise but no long-term change. We need to seize this moment and ensure that the legacy of Mid Staffs is a safer, more open and compassionate NHS.

Robert Francis has been clear that to achieve this, significant cultural change is required. We all know how hard this will be – and that it depends on us finding ways to talk about things that may be uncomfortable. This is a moment of truth for the whole system and we must not shy away from it.

I know that Sir David Nicholson, NHS CE, has written to all Chief Executives in the NHS today to ask them to consider the report carefully in a public board meeting, and to work with us as we take forward our response.

We know that staff who feel engaged, supported, involved and listened to are able to provide more compassionate care to patients. We must care for staff to care for patients. The first step in engagement is listening. To prevent another Mid Staffs, I believe that we need to start by really listening, to patients and families, and to all the dedicated NHS staff working on the frontline in the NHS whatever their seniority or experience.

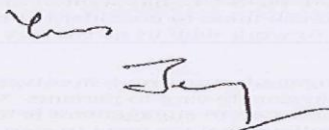
Many organisations already provide absolutely brilliant care. But I know this is becoming ever more difficult as the NHS gets busier and the needs

of patients more complex, so I want to thank you for your continuing effort and commitment.

If you are not already doing so I would like to ask you to hold internal events to listen to staff and ask them not just what we can learn from Francis, but also how, in an ever busier NHS, we can make sure that we provide every patient with a service that stays true to our core values of care and compassion. I believe this needs to be a conversation in every team, in every ward of every hospital, to ask ourselves if we really are listening to our patients and giving them the care we would want for our own loved ones. Many wards – indeed I am sure the majority – already do this, but for all of us there is a great deal to learn from this challenging moment for the NHS.

Along with my Ministerial team and the most senior NHS leaders, I really want to hear the insights from your discussions, and we will be visiting hospitals up and down the country over the next year, to listen and understand what more needs to be done to make a lasting difference for staff and, most importantly, patients.

I also ask you to set out for your local community the ways in which you are listening to staff and patients, to rebuild public confidence in the safety and quality of NHS care. I hope that we can find ways to tell people the kinds of inspiring and moving stories, which I hear about care every time I visit an NHS hospital, and which remind people of the meaning and the challenging reality of the work that NHS staff do every day.



JEREMY HUNT

Trust Board Away Day – 21 January 2013 – Summary

Apologies were received from Nicholas Hood, Non-Executive Director and Moira Brennan, Non-Executive Director.

NHS Foundation Trust Application Update

The Chief Executive gave an update on progress of the application and highlighted that a significant amount of information had been passed to the Monitor assessment team. Crib sheets for each of the pillars were being updated to ensure the Board were also fully briefed. The format and content of the Board to Board presentation had been considered and it was proposed that this would focus on the five strategic pillars, with a slide for each outlining the key strengths, risks and weaknesses in each.

In addition, KMPG had been undertaking an assessment of Monitor's assessment of the Trust from a quality governance perspective. Interviews had been undertaken and informal feedback had been positive.

Commissioning Intentions

The Commercial Director gave a presentation on the proposed commissioning intentions related to local clinical commissioning groups and specialised commissioners. There was an increase in the classification of specialised commissioning income from £17m to £27m for the Trust. A significant number of new service specifications had been developed which were being reviewed by the Business Development team. These included vascular services and NICU which were now classified as specialised commissioning.

Four national and a further seven local CQUIN targets had been identified. The final shortlist now needed to be agreed.

The Executive Directors were tasked with agreeing tactics to manage the CQUIN negotiations.

Action: Executive Directors

It was also recognised that there needed to be greater divisional engagement in the delivery of CQUINs. This would be taken forward by the Chief Operating Officer and Director of Nursing.

The Commercial Director was asked to ensure a briefing on changes to specialised commissioning was included in the crib sheets.

Action: Commercial Director

Board Memorandum

The Director of Finance led the Board through a review of the Board Memorandum and supporting appendices. The Director of Finance was asked to circulate confirmation of acceptance of the working capital loan from the DoH.

Action: Director of Finance

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A number of amendments to the content of the draft report from Bevan Brittan were requested.

Action: Trust Board Secretary

Mock Board to Board

John Murray, Deloitte, attended the meeting and ran a mock Board to Board question and answer session in preparation for the Monitor Board to Board, due to be held on 7 February 2013. Feedback on responses was provided to the Board and will be used to inform further preparation session prior to the Monitor Board to Board.

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