

**'You matter, we care'**

Trust Board Meeting (Part 1)	Date: 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2014
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<b>Title:</b>	Trust Chair's Report
<b>Item:</b>	BD/13/297

<b>Executive Director lead and presenter</b>	Trust Chair
<b>Report author(s)</b>	Trust Chair

<b>History:</b>	<i>n/a</i>
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<b>This report is for:</b>	
Decision	
Discussion	
To Note	X

<b>Executive Summary of key issues</b>
<p>To inform the Board of the focus of the Chair during the preceding month. January has seen the Board receiving the results of an independent review of its performance; in continuing its preparation for achieving the quality mark of FT status, and in continuing to oversee a major tender in Bristol.</p> <p>The Board is invited to note the report, and to ask any questions of the Chair it sees fit.</p>

<b>This report addresses these Strategic Priorities:</b>	
We will deliver the best care	X
We will support and develop our staff	X
We will continually improve what we do	X
We will use our resources wisely	X
We will be future focussed	X

## 1. Review

- 1.1. As we move into 2014 I think it is appropriate to reflect upon the major strides the Trust has taken over the past two years.
- 1.2. We are now a clinically strong, financially viable organisation with a dedicated staff who are working with user and carers to improve outcomes and promote recovery.
- 1.3. Our locality management structures have become effective management and assurance vehicles which I am confident will develop delivery models that will increasingly reflect their commissioners direction and their locality landscape.
- 1.4. Our committee structures are working well and are enabling comprehensive assurance together with freeing-up Board time for more creative and strategic work.
- 1.5. The Board itself concluded an external review which reflected the progress made in the last year to eighteen months. The independent review, focused on the ways in which the board could evidence its compliance with the Monitor Provider License requirements of Foundation Trusts, and the review report evidenced that the board is meeting all the requirements, and exceeding in some areas. This is testament to the focus which the Board has placed on ensuring its governance systems, and those of the Trust, are effective and meet best practice requirements.
- 1.6. I'd like to particularly thank the Assistant Company Secretary and the Governance Team for their hard work in ensuring the support systems in place to underpin the Board and its Committees are of a high quality.
- 1.7. The open and transparent way the Board conducts its business and moves around the Trust's broad geography I believe are essential ingredients of a Board which understands its responsibilities to the public and its members.
- 1.8. We have been subject to many inspections in recent quarters and, recognising there are many areas for improvement, the results continue to improve and our awareness of issues indicates a maturing organisation.
- 1.9. This has been aided by the IQ system which, together with Improvement visits, back to the floor and the quality assurance systems gives us a network of information and assurance, replacing a reliance solely on performance data.
- 1.10. The involvement of users and carers in many aspects of the running of the Trust from involvement workers through induction to interview panels into service design, is a trend which will only increase to the betterment of our care.
- 1.11. Our staff have endured another year of change and uncertainty from management change into IT advances and the trauma of a major tender process.
- 1.12. It is a credit to them that we continue to demonstrate clinical excellence in the vast majority of our teams.
- 1.13. 2014 will be a watershed year for the Trust as we face the first Inspection from the Chief Inspector of Hospitals, a final push to achieve the quality mark of FT status and the results of a major tender exercise in Bristol. I believe we are well positioned to emerge stronger than ever through these challenges.

## 2. Governance

- 2.1. We have demonstrated progress in our FT journey with a preliminary Board review and an quality review and visit by the TDA. Both indicated progress, areas of

excellence and opportunities to succeed. Further information is included in the report of the FT Steering Group later in the agenda.

- 2.2. I have attended FTN events covering the Hospital inspectorate and the NHS challenges. The former will be resource intensive and wide ranging with a remit to identify best practice as well as tick boxes. The latter continues the theme of no more money with an increasing urgency for radical change to support the year-on-year savings which progressively are becoming more daunting.
- 2.3. I met the Swindon CCG with Iain and two locality managers recently and was greatly encouraged that they wanted to develop strategic themes with the Trust covering areas such as R&D, Dementia and hospitalisation as well as co-producing a mental health strategy for Swindon.

### **3. Business or visits undertaken**

- 3.1. On a personal basis I have attended induction events where we continue to elaborate the values of the trust to new employees.
- 3.2. I have sat on three consultants interview panels and report that the process to ensure we appoint high calibre individuals continues to improve.

### **4. Appointments**

- 4.1. We have made two excellent consultant appointments for Salisbury and Swindon in important new roles.
- 4.2. As alluded to in the report of the Chief Executive, I participated in the interviews for the Director of Resources, which were a great success, with Sue Hall being offered and accepting the role in a strong field.
- 4.3. We were unable to appoint to the Executive Director of Nursing role and we continue our search.

### **5. Board**

- 5.1. The Board continues to meet in seminar session both to develop but also to reflect upon external learning and recently spent time considering how we facilitate intelligent kindness and compassionate care.

### **6. Bristol**

- 6.1. The Bristol bid continues to absorb time both in the review of the bid, consideration of partners but also in review of resource management, given the demands with the Bristol system. Whilst we are exhibiting the right level of diligence the tendering process is costing the healthcare system significant amounts of money at a time of austerity, this cannot be wise and will require some mature reflection once this process is complete.