

MEETING:

Trust Board 19 November 2008

TITLE:

Chief Executive's Report

SUMMARY:

The CEO report updates the Board on key issues that do not warrant at this stage a full board paper.

ACTION:

Information

REPORT FROM:

David Sloman, Chief Executive

SPONSORED BY:

Not applicable

Financial Validation

Lead: Director of Finance

Not applicable

Compliance with statute, directions, policy, guidance

Lead: All directors

Not applicable

Compliance with Healthcare Commission Core/Developmental Standards

Lead: Director of Nursing & Clinical Development

Reference: Not applicable

Compliance with Auditors' Local Evaluation standards (ALE)

Lead: Director of Finance

Reference: Not applicable

Compliance with requirements of FT application and monitoring regime

Lead: Director of Strategy & Performance

Reference: Not applicable

1. Hygiene Code inspection

The trust has been advised by the Healthcare Commission that it will be visiting the Whittington between 1 January 2009 and 31 March 2009 to undertake an inspection against the Hygiene Code.

The visit will be unannounced, to ensure that the inspection team see the hospital as a patient or visitor would see it. It will be conducted over two days, and will include a lead assessor and at least one adviser with specialist knowledge in infection prevention and control.

For further information contact Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing and Clinical Development 020 7288 3588.

2. NHSLA Risk management standards

The trust was assessed against level 2 of the NHSLA's risk management standards for acute trusts (formerly CNST) on 10 and 11 November. The standards cover five areas:

- governance
- competent and capable workforce
- safe environment
- clinical care
- learning from experience

The assessor has confirmed that the trust has achieved level 2 of the standards.

For further information contact Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing and Clinical Development 020 7288 3588.

3. Mixed sex accommodation

Feedback has been received from NHS London, following the visit on 7 October, which was reported to the last board meeting. Although the tone of the letter is positive, there are a number of areas highlighted from the visit that are now being actioned;

Monitoring: wards that are breaching the single sex standard are now reported on the daily bed state.

Reducing the incidence of mixed sex accommodation: a meeting with key staff is being organised in November to identify all the challenges in maintaining single sex accommodation. It is hoped to be able to report the initial outcome of that to the December board meeting

Single sex bays on mixed wards: the facilities department has proposed a scheme to install frosted glass above the half-height walls into the bays on the wards in the Great Northern Building.

Patient information: patients being admitted to the medical assessment unit, Mary Seacole ward, will be given written information explaining that they may be in a mixed area until they are admitted to a main ward.

The following areas have reported breaches of the single sex accommodation requirements over the last month:

- Mary Seacole Ward (medical admissions unit): patients are in this area for less than 24 hours before being admitted to a main inpatient ward
- Nightingale Ward (respiratory): where patients have required admission to a high dependency bay for close monitoring
- Coronary Care unit

For further information contact Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing and Clinical Development 020 7288 3588

4. Chief Knowledge Officer – Celia Ingham Clark

In 2007 a report was published on knowledge management in the NHS. It recommended that each trust should identify an individual at Board level who adopts the role of 'Chief Knowledge Officer' and leads the development, management and sharing of knowledge within their organisation.

Medical Director Mrs Celia Ingham Clark has been appointed the Chief Knowledge Officer for the Whittington.

She will champion the use evidence across the organisation, and ensure systems are in place so that all staff can access the knowledge and evidence that they need to do their job well. She will also ensure that the organisational strategy and culture are aligned with evidence-based healthcare.

For further information contact Celia Ingham Clark Medical Director 020 7288 3395

5. Senior Information Risk Officer – Richard Martin

The creation of the role of a Senior Information Risk Officer (SIRO) in each NHS organisation is one of several measures to strengthen controls around information security outlined in a recent Cabinet Office review and report on data handling following the loss of personal data by Government departments.

I recommend to the Board that Director of Finance Richard Martin be appointed Senior Information Risk Officer (SIRO) at the Whittington.

For further information contact Richard Martin Director of Finance on 020 7288 3190

5. Nursing Times Awards

The Whittington was only the only trust in the country shortlisted for three awards at the ceremony on 12 November 2008.

The categories were:

Chief Nursing Officer leadership award – Deborah Wheeler was a finalist

Infection control award – the visible leadership team were runners up (highly commended)

Improving maternity services award – the Holloway prison midwifery team were the winners in this category.

My congratulations go to all of the finalists. These nominations demonstrate the high quality of nursing and midwifery at the Whittington.

For further information contact Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing and Clinical Development 020 7288 3588.

6. Silver Clinical Excellence Awards

We congratulate the following consultants Heulwen Morgan, Jonathan Ledermann and Alison Jones on achieving Silver Clinical Excellence Awards.

Clinical Excellence Awards are given to recognise and reward the exceptional contribution of NHS consultants, over and above that normally expected in their job, to the values and goals of the NHS.

For further information contact Celia Ingham Clark, Medical Director 020 7288 3395