

MEETING:

Trust Board 17 June 2009

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

1. Ward refurbishment programme

A ward refurbishment programme to improve the environment in six wards in the Great Northern Building started with Meyrick ward which opened on Monday 15 June, and will be rolled out to the other wards on the Jeffrey Kelson Unit and three of our surgical wards over the next six months.

Each ward will be painted, have a new floor fitted, ceilings replaced, and the toilet and bathroom facilities upgraded. Air and oxygen points will be provided at each bed-head, and additional toilet and shower facilities will be installed and the bays reconfigured to improve patient privacy.

In order to limit the surgical admissions during the refurbishment of the surgical wards we will implement a summer programme of restricted elective inpatient activity. In effect this means that all non urgent elective surgical activity will be scheduled to cease during August. This is a time of the year when we experience high levels of annual leave from both staff and patients. The details of this closure period are currently being worked through and further information will follow.

For further information contact Kate Slemeck, Director of Operations on 020 7288 3588.

2. Birthing centre opened

On Monday 8 June, a midwifery-led birthing centre opened at the Whittington. The centre offers five modern, spacious rooms complete with birthing pools, double beds, birthing balls, stools and support ropes. These rooms are in addition to the eight obstetric delivery rooms on our labour ward thus providing women with more choice of where to give birth. The atmosphere of this centre has a calming and refreshing feel. It is anticipated that 100 women a month will use the centre.

For further information please contact Linda McGurrin, General Manager for Women and Children on 020 7288 5744.

3. Recruitment of Specialist Adviser to the Trust Board

The Trust is currently seeking a local individual to serve as a specialist adviser to the Board to help the Whittington continue to drive forward improvements to healthcare with particular emphasis on minority ethnic groups within our local population. Two evening information sessions have been held to provide an opportunity for those interested in the appointment to find out more about the Trust. The Appointments Commission is undertaking the recruitment campaign for the Trust and interviews are planned for July 2009.

For further information please contact Margaret Boltwood, Director of Human Resources on 020 7288 3395.