

ITEM: 09/149
Doc: 12

Meeting: Trust Board
Date: 18 November 2009

Title: Quarter 2 NHS London Governance self assessment

Executive Summary: Each quarter the Trust submits a governance assessment to NHS London. The Trust received notification of a change to the NHS London Provider Regime for Q1 and the self certification return was discussed at the last board meeting in September. Appendix 1 confirms ratification by the board of the Q1 governance submission to NHS London.

NHS London advised of a further change to the information requirements in Q2 following the feedback that had been received from providers about the changes in format in Q1. The revised submission is presented in the attached paper and includes an exception comment where an indicator was marked 'no'. The return requires the CEO and Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. The governance assessment report was discussed with the Chairman and to maintain excellent Corporate Governance standards the Chairman wished to review the submission with the Trust Board before final sign off as the information required by NHS London has changed yet again. As timely submission of the return affects the SHA assessment of Trust governance the submission was submitted as you see it attached. NHS London has been advised that it is the intention of the Chairman to ratify the Q2 submission following Trust Board discussions. NHS London has advised that there will be no further changes to the information requirements in subsequent quarters.

Additional information that was requested with this return was:

- Evidence relating to board discussion of safeguarding children to which the item 09/130 board papers from the September Board was submitted and the trust's safeguarding declaration, available on the trust's internet web page and attached here at appendix 2.
- Evidence of trust board monitoring of performance against same sex accommodation and evidence of monitoring by the trust of patient experience of same sex accommodation. Appendix 3 a and b details the evidence submitted.

NHS London advised that preliminary assessment of the Q2 submission rated the trust as amber in relation to governance. Following discussions with NHS London and a review of the commentary provided relating to the trust's difficulty in obtaining payment for over performance from two PCTs at section 4, NHS London have revised their assessment to a green rating.

Action: To discuss and ratify report

Report from: Fiona Elliott, Director Planning & Performance

Sponsor: Rob Larkman, Chief Executive

Financial Validation Lead: Director of Finance	Name of finance officer Richard Martin
Compliance with statute, directions, policy, guidance Lead: All directors	Reference: NHS Performance framework