

**MEETING:**  
Trust Board 21st April 2010

**TITLE:**  
Report from the Executive Committee

**SUMMARY:**

The executive committee has met weekly since the last Trust Board meeting in March with one exception in Easter week. This paper summarises only three meetings.

The report summarises the discussions and decisions from Executive Committee from 23<sup>rd</sup> March to 13<sup>rd</sup> April. It covers:-

- o key issues arising from standing items
- o other issues discussed
- o news to which the Board's attention is drawn

This has continued to be a busy period for the hospital. In addition work has been required in relation to a variety of year end issues and we have been involved in competitive tendering processes aimed at identifying partners for PCT Provider Services across the sector.

**REPORT FROM:** Rob Larkman – Chief Executive Officer

**ACTION:** For information

## **Executive Committee Report to the Trust Board April 2010**

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The Executive Committee has met weekly since the last Board meeting, with the exception of Easter week.

The hospital has continued to be busy with additional beds still open. Performance against key indicators remains overall strong, with some challenge in the beginning of April regarding the Emergency Department 4 hour target.

This report summarises the key topics discussed at the March and April meetings. This report does not include every item that was discussed at the meetings; the most significant are presented separately to Trust Board as substantive items. On a weekly basis there are a core group of items discussed. The following summarises the work of the Committee over the last 4 weeks.

### **1. Summary of key areas**

- **Finance**

The monthly position has been reviewed and scrutinised in detail.

The final year end position has been discussed.

Contracts were signed with the Acute Commissioning Agency for 2010/11.

The EC has also discussed the strategy and plan for our CIP 2010/11 programme, and developed plans further.

- **HR flash**

A flash report is examined on a weekly basis reviewing people in post versus establishment and bank and agency usage. The report covers overall Trust information and the 4 key areas of the Emergency Department; Maternity; Theatres and ITU, have been supplemented by data on medical and surgical wards

In addition a summary of key changes and the reasons for this is now included each week to enable more knowledgeable review of the weekly data.

Discussions have led to the development of the agency CIP programme for 2010/11.

- **Infection control**

During the period of the report there have been no new cases of MRSA bacteraemia in the Trust. The final performance for 2009/10 was eight MRSA bacteraemia cases; five pre 48 hour and three post 48 hour, against a target of 15.

- **Provider landscape**

The EC discusses the latest developments in the provider landscaper review work. This includes considering the work of the North Central London service and organisation of review. Communications have been discussed at every meeting. Discussions have continued with the Royal Free and UCLH. We have been involved in competitive tendering processes in relation to identifying a partner for PCT Provider Services across the North Central Sector.

## **2. Other items**

Discussion and decisions have been made in the following areas:-

### **2.1 Strategy**

The development of the urgent care and polysystem hub on the Whittington site

Communications Plan:

IM&T Service Development Plan 2010/11

Capital Plan revision

### **2.2 Operational policies and performance**

Preparation for final Core standards declaration Nov 09 – Mar 10

Quality Health 1009 Hospital inpatient survey

CQC Staff survey 2009

Mandatory training update

Conflict Resolution training

Capital Procedures – update for 2010/11

IM&T Workplan Outturn Report 2009/10

Absence returns

### **2.3 Operational decisions**

Proposal to introduce instrument containerisation

Facilities Budget setting – agreement and support for proposed service changes

Staff benefits changes

Business cases approved

### **2.4 Key policies that were agreed:-**

Guidance on patients who wish to pay for additional private care

General election guidance

### **2.4 Governance, risk management and assurance**

New risks identified - None identified this period

Information received

Agency C I P: discussion

## **3. News items to bring to the attention of the Trust Board**

### **GP led Health Centre in South Islington**

The GP Led Health Centre run by Angel Medical Services and based at Ritchie Group practice in South Islington opened formally on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April. The urgent care element of the service is provided by the Whittington. This is a very innovative model that enables emergency nurse practitioners to rotate from the Emergency Department out into Primary Care and we successfully recruited an additional number of Emergency Nurse Practitioners (ENPs) to deliver this new service.

### **Assuring the quality of senior NHS managers**

The Department of Health has issued a report following the Mid Staffordshire Inquiry which sets out proposals to further raise the standards of senior NHS managers at board level – non-executive and executive. It also aims to develop a framework to address poorly performing managers and arrangements to prevent poorly performing leaders from moving on to other NHS organisations inappropriately. The report's recommendations relate to:

- Clarifying standards  
(report to Ministers December 2010)
- Strengthening recruitment, vetting and employment processes  
(NHS Employers to develop by December 2010)
- Enhancing corporate governance  
(report to Ministers December 2010)
- Considering options for a more formal and independent system of assurance of board level NHS managers.  
(report to Ministers December 2010)

The full report "Assuring the quality of senior NHS managers" is available on [www.dh.gov.uk/publications](http://www.dh.gov.uk/publications)

### **Same sex accommodation**

Maintaining privacy and dignity for our patients is a key priority and over the past year we have invested over £1.2 million to improve the 'patient experience' on our wards.

We have carried out a ward improvement programme to help address this. To date we have refurbished six wards to ensure they comply with the single sex standard by the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 and the Trust's Statement has been pasted on the website.

There are some areas and occasions where this isn't possible and a patient's clinical need overrides their need for single sex accommodation, such as in our intensive care and high dependency units. In these circumstances our staff work hard to ensure that patients, while they are receiving what is often life-saving treatment, are put at their ease and maintain their dignity as much as possible.

### **Staff gain information technology Level two NVQs and professional English certificates**

Staff were presented with their professional English and NVQ IT certificates last week. For some staff in the hospital English is not their first language but the skills and experiences they can provide are invaluable, similarly IT skills are a must for most staff these days, it is part of our philosophy to develop staff and improve the patient care the hospital can offer.

### **Lord Mayors Walk**

Thirty mayors walked from The Whittington Hospital to the City on 11 April 2010 in an annual event to commemorate Dick Whittington. It was a very colourful occasion and the mayors enjoyed coffee and croissants before they set off in N19.

### **London Marathon Runners**

The Whittington has six runners in the London Marathon on 25 April and hope to raise well over for £10,000 for the Care of Older People appeal.