

ITEM:10/100
Doc: 02

MEETING: Trust Board 22nd September 2010

TITLE: Report from the Executive Committee

SUMMARY:

The executive committee has met weekly since the last Trust Board meeting in July.

The report summarises the discussions and decisions from Executive Committee from 20th July to 14th September. It covers:-

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

REPORT FROM: Rob Larkman – Chief Executive Officer

ACTION: For information

Executive Committee Report to the Trust Board July 2010

The Executive Committee has met weekly since the last Board meeting. Over the summer period of July, August and early September, non elective and emergency department activity continued to be higher than expected for the time of year. The new junior doctors started in early August.

There was an incident in Emergency Department in August which required the department to be shut for a two hour period. This was due to a problem arising during the installation of new ventilation plant causing dust to be expelled into the ED area. Staff dealt with the situation professionally and efficiently. We have since undertaken a formal review of our response and lessons learned, and will be taking forward a number of actions to strengthen our response if such an event recurs in the future.

We closed Bridges ward in July. At the same time we refurbished the old Reckitt Ward and moved Betty Mansell Ward (Gynaecology and Female surgical) to the refurbished Reckitt alongside the Gynaecology Assessment Unit and Early Pregnancy Decision Unit (EPDU) to create an integrated co-located service. This will improve the service's responsiveness, patient experience and support a length of stay reduction. The former Betty Mansell Ward is now being refurbished to become Montushci (cardiology) in order to support the expansion of the Acute Admissions unit into old Montushci Ward.

Policy news

A further five papers have been published by the DH, in support of the White Paper:-

- (19th July) Liberating the NHS: Transparency in Outcomes (Consultation document)
- (22nd July) Liberating the NHS: Local democratic legitimacy in Health
- (22nd July) Liberating the NHS: Commissioning for patients (Consultation document)
- (26th July) Liberating the NHS: Report of the arm's length bodies review
- (26th July) Liberating the NHS: Regulating healthcare providers (Consultation document)

NHS London has now produced commissioning planning guidance and detail on a Foundation Trust early assessment process. There have been discussions at the Executive Committee about the implications of these for the Trust and a substantive paper is included on the agenda.

Finance

Each week a different service area is reviewed by the CEO, DOF, performance and planning lead, service head, budget holder and Finance Manager. The focus is understanding the reasons for variances from budget and identifying ways to optimise the financial position. In addition, Super Tuesday continues and the monthly overall performance, including CIP, is discussed. The detailed financial position is described in more depth in the finance report, but headlines include:

- CIP Year to date (YTD) achievement of identified CIP schemes – Annual value (£8.6M) - now 88% of the target for the first 5 months (was 53% of the YTD target for 3 months at month 3). We have actually achieved £2.935m savings against a month 5 YTD target of £3.326m
- CIP ytd achievement of overall expenditure target (£12.5m) – now 59% (was 34% at month 3)
- Cash now £7.7m was £3.5m as at month 3
- Centrally held savings still required to balance to a break-even position - now £0.9m (was £3.2m in Month 2 and £1.9m in month 3)
- Actual surplus to date is £1.4m compared to target of £0.3m
- Income actual and forecast is still prudently shown
- Pay overspend is only £417k on a ytd budget of £51.7m - less than 1%

Human Resources (HR)

Weekly flash reports showing staff and establishment, and bank and agency usage continue to be reviewed. During August levels of temporary staffing maintained the gradual downward trend since the beginning of the financial year. This was despite the increased levels of annual leave taken during the period.

Sickness absence continues to be monitored on an ongoing basis and the figure remains near the 3.5% mark which is below the Trust target. Reducing sickness absence continues to be a major priority particularly in view of the potential cost savings that can be achieved.

Infection control

The Trust continues to be vigilant in infection prevention and control measures. To date performance with regard to the incidence of MRSA bacteraemia and C-Difficile is within the anticipated trajectory. There has been one MRSA bacteraemia since the last Board report, however this was identified on the patient's admission to hospital and is therefore not a hospital acquired Bacteraemia. A full Root Cause Analysis is being conducted by the relevant PCT.

Provider landscape

The EC discussed the latest developments in the provider landscape review work and agreed that the focus of this work will now be determining our Path to Foundation Trust status.

The Programme Director for the business transfer of community services is now in place; the programme working group is meeting bi-monthly; the Due Diligence process has commenced and we are in discussion with the Cooperation and Competition Panel.

An appraisal of future organisational form options is being conducted in collaboration with UCLH and the Royal Free Hospital. The result of the Option Appraisal is due to be reported in October.

2. Other items

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

2.1 Strategy

The following strategic items were discussed, taking into consideration the implications for the Trust:-

- The draft 'mini' integrated business plan was discussed, with agreement on format and structure, and key priorities.
- The development of the Urgent Care Centre (UCC) has been discussed regularly. The Trust continues the dialogue with NHS Islington regarding the opening of an UCC from March 2011.
- The latest NHS London planning guidance has been discussed.
- The NHS London Foundation Trust early assessment process has been discussed and programme arrangements agreed.
- Plans to deliver services from Hornsey Central were agreed.
- The UCLP integration project was discussed.

2.2 Operational policies and performance

- Multifaith prayer room proposal to improve environment agreed.
- Data quality report was reviewed and a follow up benchmark report.

Operational decisions and approvals

- The former 'Betty Mansell' Ward conversion costs from the PFI provider approved.

- A Tender waiver was approved regarding Education Centre development

Business cases approved

- Business case for business support for medical staff revalidation.
- Business case for Locum Respiratory Consultant.

Key policies

No new policies were reviewed since the last Board.

2.3 Governance, risk management and assurance

The following items were discussed:-

- Deaths in low risk conditions.
- Urology SUI action plan.
- Trust wide medication storage review and recommendations agreed.
- Missing controlled drugs action plan.
- CQC patient survey action plan.
- Shared service governance framework was agreed.
- PFI performance dashboard agreed.

There were no new risks identified in the last 4 weeks.

Submissions agreed

- Final STEIS SUI reports

Information received

- E-learning project board action notes.
- LAS cardiac arrest annual report.
- CQC registration update and quality and risk profile process.

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

Good Morning Television and **Mail on Sunday** filmed a day in the birth centre with Myleene Klass. It prompted local interest and Myleene wrote a piece for the Mail on Sunday on the achievements of midwives and the hospital on the back of the shoot. She will be returning to the hospital to meet new parents and follow up with them in the community.

BBC documentaries filmed in clinic 3A, cardiology shots of machinery in use and some presenter-to-camera pieces as part of a documentary on the increase in diabetes in the country, and its knock on effect in relation to heart conditions.

Maureen Lipman hosted a fundraising evening on Sunday 29 August for the Care of Older People appeal. It raised over £4,000 and generated regional press attention for three weeks.