

ITEM:11/005  
Doc: 02

**MEETING:** Trust Board  
**DATE:** 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011

**TITLE:** Report from the Executive Committee

**SUMMARY:**

The executive committee has met weekly with one exception at Christmas since the last Trust Board meeting.

The report summarises the discussions and decisions from Executive Committee from 14<sup>th</sup> December to 18<sup>th</sup> January. 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 December 2010**

The Executive Committee has met weekly with one exception at Christmas, since the last Board meeting.

### **1. Key issues arising from standing items:-**

#### **Finance**

The Trust is currently reporting a surplus of £549k for the first nine months of the year and this is £1,403k better than expected. Higher levels of income combined with some one off benefits have to date compensated for the shortfall on the CIP. Savings equivalent to 73% of the target for the year to date have been achieved and there is a forecast achievement of £10.4m or 83% of the annual target by the year end.

An income cap with North Central London commissioners is in place and has now been reached and any further SLA over-performance will not result in any higher levels of income this year. The focus on cost control and minimising the use of expensive temporary staff needs to continue.

Looking forward to 2011/12, the CIP is initially being set at £12.1m and this is slightly lower than the initial value last year of £14.5m

#### **Human Resources (HR)**

The usage of bank and agency staff has been reviewed on a weekly basis. A considerable reduction was experienced during the Christmas and New Year periods due to reduced activity in some areas such as theatres. EC agreed major new work should commence on ways of reducing the Trust's reliance on agency staffing and have agreed in principle to work with UCLH and the Royal Free to achieve this.

#### **Infection control**

The Trust had 4 hospital acquired Clostridium-Difficile (C-Diff) incidents in December 2010. All necessary action to prevent hospital acquired C-Diff continues and the Trust remains well below its trajectory at this time. EC monitors the incidence of C-Diff weekly on a ward by ward basis.

There has been one C-Diff related death associated with a hospital acquired C-Diff since the last report and a full Root Cause Analysis is currently being conducted.

There has been one additional hospital acquired MRSA Bacteraemia since the last report. This case involves a premature neonate who is currently being treated in UCLH. A full Root Cause Analysis is being conducted. This brings the total of hospital acquired MRSA bacteraemias to two this year against a target of a maximum of four.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 the Trust is required to report the number of cases of hospital acquired MSSA Bacteraemias (Methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus).

Pandemic Flu continues to create pressures across London and Nationally. To date there have been 89 laboratory confirmed H1N1 cases, 24 seasonal flu cases and 13 Human Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) cases in the Whittington Hospital.

### **Path to Foundation Trust**

The work to merge with Islington and Haringey Community Alliance continues at pace with workstreams working towards the deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011.

Jon Ota, Chief Operating Officer for the Alliance has now joined the Executive Team.

The trajectory to Foundation Trust remains April 2013 for authorization. The programme arrangements have been finalised and the inaugural meeting for the FT programme board is the 27 January – further information is presented to the Board today under FT programme item.

### **Capital Update**

Progress with the capital investment strategy for 2010/11 was reviewed and the following points noted;

- The Clinical Director for Patient Safety has been invited to join the committee and will attend from February 2011
- The additional CRL of £496k for the Urgent Care Centre was been confirmed and has been received by the trust
- A number of schemes are now complete and closed, and the obstetrics ventilation scheme has been deferred to the new financial year.
- Schemes from 2011/12 are in the process of being brought forward to ensure that the full allocation is committed and spent in the current financial year.
- The Procurement Shared Service went live on 1 December 2010. The service has been established between the two trusts as part of a rationalisation of back-office functions and is hosted by the Whittington Hospital. Over 40 staff formerly of the Royal Free Hospital transferred to the Whittington Hospital payroll with a number of them physically transferring to the Whittington from 16 December 2010.

## **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 development of the urgent care centre. The Executive Committee has received regular updates on the development of the urgent care centre which is due to open at the end of March 2011. Building improvement works have now started. EC have also discussed the pharmacy proposal within the urgent care centre and agreed a Trust approach.
- Hard and Soft Service 'Back office Functions' - UCLP Engagement
- Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Strategy for Public Health in England
- A Review of the Staff Engagement Strategy
- The future strategic direction of vascular surgery in North Central London(NCL)
- The potential financial impact of NCL Quality Innovation Productivity and Prevention plans (QUIPP) and Commissioning Intentions
- LBI consultation on proposed changes to hospital social work team for children's services
- 2011/12 CIP detailed planning

## **2.2 Operational policies and performance**

### **Operational decisions and approvals**

- .Reduction of Temporary staff usage
- .Surgical Admissions and junior doctor cover at night
- Car parking charges
- Extension of ESR manager self service roll out
- Nursing Visible Leadership Review
- QIPP for the Colorectal Clinic
- COPD service being strengthened by Islington in regard to smoking cessation support

### **Business cases approved**

No new business cases were approved

### **Key policies agreed**

- Bleep Management Policy
- Trust Health and Safety Policy
- Health and Safety Committee Policy
- Staff retirement policy
- Pay Policy incremental freezing

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

The following items were discussed:-

- Performance measures update
- Emergency Surgery Audit
- 2011/12 Operating Framework performance trajectories
- CNST – Update
- Patient feed back report Qtr 2 2010/11
- Compliance with the CQC's Essential standards of Quality and Safety
- Mandatory training
- Patient Related Outcome Measures (PROMS)

### **Risks identified in the last 4 weeks.**

Since the last report there has been 1 new risk added to the Risk Register:-

Processes relating to decontamination of sigmoidoscopes

### **Submissions agreed**

No new submissions have been agreed.

### **Information received**

- National Enabling Framework on Pay 2011/12 and 2012/13
- The Operating Framework
- Sir David Nicholson's letter and annex

- UCLP Executive group papers

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

On 14 January 2011 NHS Haringey chose Whittington Health as their preferred provider for children's services. This has received coverage in the Hornsey Journal.

"The Nurses" (four Whittington nurses and midwives) have launched their musical career with national interest. They are promoting their album to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Care. A launch event was held at the hospital on Friday 21 January. There was wide media coverage.

The Lesley Garrett concert was a success and raised £10,000 for the Care of Older People campaign. It received blanket coverage in the locals, Ham & High, Camden New Journal, Hornsey Journal and Islington Gazette.

Dr Ben Timmis retired in December. There was a large leaving party and an interview with Ben printed in the Islington Tribune.

The Arsenal football team visited the children's wards on 21 December. It was a popular event and the team signed autographs for patients and had their pictures taken with them. The event made the front page of the Islington Tribune and Camden New Journal.

This year's New Year baby pictures were cover stories in the Islington Tribune, Camden New Journal and Ham & High.

The Whittington has facilitated requests from Mr Sufi and Professor Leeds to arrange filming of bariatric surgery for a documentary for The Biography Channel. The programme tracks two patients who have their surgery here at The Whittington. It is also following patients through four other hospitals and has a transmission date of August.

The best dressed ward and department winners for 2010 were ITU and Ifor Ward and Human Resources.

A story on emergency department nurse Donna Barleycorn's successful Florence Nightingale travel scholarship ran in the Islington Tribune.

There were many requests for information, statements and statistics on swine flu and bed capacity during the busy winter. Requests came in from the Sunday Times, Daily Telegraph, Daily Mail and Ham & High.

Radio 4's Today programme did a piece on 31 December 2010 featuring pharmacist Eve Hurst, The Whittington's Bounty lady.