

ITEM: 2

MEETING:
Trust Board
21 March 2007

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

Financial details supplied/checked by: (Name of finance officer) [not applicable](#)

Recommendations contained within this paper have been checked for compliance with relevant statute and regulations/directions/policy as follows:

(Relevant law/direction etc.)

(Name)

[None applicable](#)

1. New Building

Good progress is being made with the installation of the new staircase in the outpatients building, with the works scheduled to complete at the end of March. The project is extremely complex with many co-ordination and design issues to resolve on a day-to-day basis, but we are optimistic we can meet the original deadline.

Once the stairs are opened, redecoration to the landings on levels 3 and 4 can be completed. In addition some light refurbishment work will be carried out on the link corridor to the Kenwood Wing.

For more information contact Philip Ient, Director of Facilities on 020 7288 5577.

2. Health and Safety Inspection

The HSE completed their two-week inspection of the Trust on Friday 2 March 2007. A formal report into their visit is expected towards the end of this month. However, informal feedback is positive. At a debriefing session the HSE confirmed that they will not need to carry out a formal presentation of their findings, nor will they require the Trust to prepare a formal action plan to deal with the recommendations.

The feedback indicated that staff regarded the Trust very positively both in terms of how we manage health and safety, and in general as an organisation to work for. Staff particularly valued the high visibility of senior executives.

The inspectors were very impressed by the skills and knowledge of our middle and senior management teams in matters relating to Health and Safety, and viewed our risk assessments as good examples of the management systems we have in place. The emergency department was mentioned in particular as a department that represented a particular challenge to Trusts, but one where at the Whittington was demonstrating a very thorough and professional approach to health and safety.

There are some minor issues to address with delivery of some aspects of the policies and these will be addressed once we have received the report in full.

For more information contact Philip Ient, Director of Facilities on 020 7288 5577.

3. Community dermatology service

The Whittington has won a bid to deliver Islington PCT's Community Dermatology Service. The Whittington was one of four organisations to bid for this service. Our bid was successful because our care model offered an appropriate range of services to patients and our dermatology consultants have an excellent reputation with local GPs. We are currently working with PCT commissioners to finalise the details of the service, which is expected to begin in April.

For more information contact Siobhan Harrington Director of Primary Care on 020 7288 5436.

4. Care Watch

Members of the Whittington Patient and Public Involvement Forum will be visiting the Whittington on 19 and 26 March, as part of a national survey to find out what patients think about patient dignity in the NHS. They hope to speak to a cross-section of patients and/or visitors.

A national summary of all forums' findings will be published later in the year.

For more information contact Deborah Wheeler Director of Nursing and Clinical Development on 020 7288 3589.

5. International Nurses Day

International Nurses Day is marked every year on 12 May. Board members are once again invited to spend a day working alongside a nurse in the hospital, which will be planned for Monday 14 May, as 12 May is a Saturday in 2007.

Board members are asked to confirm their availability and preferences for any clinical area with Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing and Clinical Development, by Monday 30 April.

For more information contact Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing and Clinical Development on 020 7288 3589.

6. Healthcare Commission standards assessment

Listed below is the final timetable for the completion of the Trust's declaration for the core and developmental standards assessment to the Healthcare Commission.

Date	Action	Lead
28.2.07	Internal spreadsheet to be completed, listing all evidence to demonstrate compliance with each standard	All directors

14.3.07 Clinical Governance Steering Committee	Spreadsheet to be reviewed to ensure all appropriate evidence listed	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development
PPI Forum public meeting	Presentation to enable the PPI forum to comment on the standards	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development
22.3.07 Haringey Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Presentation to their annual health scrutiny conference, to enable OSC to comment on the standards	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development/ Director of Strategy and Performance
23.3.07	All available evidence to be reviewed in detail to ensure complete submission	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development
27.3.07 Islington Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Presentation to enable the OSC to comment on the standards	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development
4.4.07 Hospital Management Board	Spreadsheet to be reviewed, with confirmation of appropriate evidence	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development
5.4.07 Assurance Committee	Spreadsheet to be reviewed, with confirmation of appropriate evidence	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development
18.4.07 Trust Board	Board ratification of compliance with core and developmental standards	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development
27.4.07	Submit declaration to Healthcare Commission (required by 1.5.07)	Director of Nursing and Clinical Development

For more information contact Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing and Clinical Development on 020 7288 3589.

7. Healthcare for London: The Case for Change

Last autumn NHS London commissioned Professor Ara Darzi to undertake a review of health services in London. The review entitled Healthcare for London: A Framework for Action, will be completed later this spring.

However, the first stage in this review, The Case for Change, has now been completed and a copy of the report is now available. It makes a compelling case for why healthcare in London has to change.

For more information on Healthcare for London, please go to www.healthcareforlondon.nhs.uk

8. Climate Change Partnership

At the beginning of March the Whittington was present at the launch of Islington Council's 'Climate Change Partnership'. This is a unique partnership being pioneered by the council to reduce carbon dioxide emissions across the borough by 55,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide by 2010.

As one of the major contributors to carbon dioxide emission in the borough the council has asked us to sign up to the pledge reduce our own emissions by 15 per cent and to work with other partnership organisations to achieve the overall borough reduction target. The Royal Mail and Council were first to sign the pledge and this represents a good opportunity for us to get credit for our work to reduce emissions and assistance in developing and delivering new initiatives.

For more information contact Philip Ient, Director of Facilities on 020 7288 5577.

9. Emergency Planning

The Whittington NHS Trust is required to ensure that it has plans for Emergency Preparedness and Recovery as part of the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act (2004), and associated Board self-certification is required as part of the 2007/2008 planning round.

Under the Act the Trust is required to lead and participate in internal and external planning and training exercise to ensure we are up to date and in a position to respond efficiently and effectively to local and national emergency incidences.

Over the last 12 months, the Trust has contributed to a number of **external** planning exercises and forums including:

- ⇒ Haringey PCT Exercise Cold Play - flu pandemic tabletop exercise
- ⇒ Haringey Local Authority - bomb blast table top exercise
- ⇒ Islington PCT Pandemic Flu - table top exercise

In terms of **internal** planning, the Whittington's major incident planning has focused on the following three key themes over the past year and updated Trust Plans to ensure they are up to date and fit for purpose now the new building is operational:

- ⇒ Chemical, Biological, Radioactive and Nuclear (CBRN) planning
- ⇒ Pandemic flu planning
- ⇒ Running regular training exercises, including the EMERGO table-top simulation exercise involving a large number of staff from a broad range of specialties that participate and test the Trust major incident plan in depth over two days.

A Major Incident Strategy Team is now being established to oversee the annual planning and training cycle and major incident training will become a mandatory training requirement and be incorporated into the Staff Induction Programme. Also the Trust plans to set up a clinical skills database to support

staff contingency planning for all incidents as part of the Electronic Staff Record (ESR) Project.

Details of the compliance with the Healthcare Commission requirement are detailed below:

HCC requirement - Tabletop exercises to be run every 12 months - fully met ✓

CBRN Training is undertaken on a quarterly basis for all Emergency Department staff. External agencies such as London Fire Brigade, the Metropolitan Police, LAS and Islington council's Safer Neighbourhood programme participate.

HCC requirement - Live exercises to be run every three years - fully met ✓

Internal communications exercises are run quarterly, and the Trust participates in the London SHA communications cascade exercise.

HCC requirement – Live communication exercises to run every three years - fully met ✓

Finally, the Trust has a responsibility to ensure that it is suitably equipped to respond to incidents and emergency situations. The DH will be releasing new guidance regarding masking and it is anticipated that we will need to purchase a stockpile of recommended respirators.

National recommendation to be actioned – Capital investment in pandemic Personal Protective Equipment – £10 - £15,000.

For more information contact Kate Slemeck, Director of Operations on 020 7288 5440.