Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS
NHS Trust

TRUST BOARD
24th June 2010

TITLE	**Chief Executive's Report**
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	General overview of issues/developments
BOARD ASSURANCE (Risk) / IMPLICATIONS	n/a
STAKEHOLDER / PATIENT IMPACT AND VIEWS	Visiting hours consultation will be undertaken with patients and stakeholders; improvements to main entrance to St Peter's and car parking will have positive impact on patient experience.
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES	n/a
LEGAL ISSUES	n/a
The Trust Board is asked to:	Note the report
Submitted by:	Andrew Liles
Date:	15th June 2010
Decision:	For Noting

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24th June 2010

Chief Executive's Report

News and Developments

New Appointments

We have recently made several new and important appointments to the Trust's senior management team; we have appointed Mr. David Elliott as the new Clinical Director for Trauma and Orthopaedics and succeeds Mr. Chris Schofield. Chris Bell has been appointed as Associate Director of Estates and Facilities. Chris is currently Associate Director of Corporate Infrastructure at Epsom and St Helier NHS Trust, and has a strong track record in the successful management of estates and facilities services. Chris Matthews, currently service improvement lead for NHS Wales, will join us as our Service Improvement Manager, replacing Hayley Neave who is returning to her clinical role in day surgery. Chris will be joined by Dr Mike Wood, consultant physician, who has been appointed Clinical Lead for Service Improvement.

Paul Bentley has taken a one year secondment from the Trust to Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospitals NHS Trust where his skills will help them prepare for the transfer of services to a new hospital being built in Pembury, Kent. I would to thank Paul for the considerable contribution he has made to Ashford and St Peter's over the last four years including his role as Interim Chief Executive. Paul's portfolio at Ashford and St Peter's will be divided between Valerie Howell, John Headley, Raj Bhamber and myself.

Impact of the new Coalition Government

Having been the Shadow Health Secretary for the past six years, the new Secretary of State for Health, the Rt Hon Andrew Lansley OBE, has a very clear vision for the NHS. In essence, the principle vision of high quality, safe care for patients remains, but it will be the mechanism of delivery that will be different under the new Government. We are now expecting an addition to the Operating Framework to be published within the next few weeks, with a new White Paper expected later in the summer which will set out in more detail the key mechanisms of delivery for healthcare. This will include devolving much of the commissioning power from PCTs to GPs and putting patient choice firmly at the centre of healthcare policy.

Observational audit of patient experience by TEC

Earlier this month members of our Trust Executive Committee (Executive and Clinical Directors) visited ward areas at St Peter's as part of an observational audit, to assess how patients were feeling about their care in preparation for the forthcoming inpatient survey. Overall patients were reporting a positive experience and any areas of concern were immediately reported back to the ward staff.

Leading Ashford and St Peter's from Good to Great Leadership Programme

This month we launched the Good to Great Leadership Programme for 100 people from across the Trust. I attended the launch event which took place at the Hythe Centre, where those on the programme came together for the first time. This was followed last week by the first in a series of Masterclasses on developing leadership skills, introduced by Candy Morris CBE, Chief Executive of the South East Coast SHA, with Andrew Pettigrew OBE as our keynote speaker, giving the academic perspective. Developing leaders throughout the organisation will help to set us on course to achieve our vision of becoming one of the best acute Trusts in the country. Feedback from those on the programme has been positive following these first two events, with the next Masterclass taking place in the autumn.

Car parking
Following approval of the Chertsey Masterplan in March by Runnymede Borough Council, we have now submitted formal planning applications for two new car parking decks at St Peter's, one to be situated above the current Abbey Wing car park, and the second behind the Duchess of Kent Wing. The formal decision by Runnymede Borough Council is expected in August. If approved the new decks will be used for visitor and patient parking.

Landscaping outside main entrance at St Peter's
The approval of the Chertsey Masterplan has also allowed us to develop plans to re-landscape the area outside the main entrance at St Peter's, where we will also relocate the bus stop from its current position at the bottom of the Ramp. This will create a focal point on entry to the hospital and will give patients arriving by public transport easier access into the hospital. The scheme was commissioned and developed by the Art in Hospital Group who have also commissioned the sculptor Duncan Bell to develop a focal piece made from Purbeck stone which will be surrounded by a peaceful seating area. This will take the form of a series of circles of beech hedging and terraced seating on the grass bank between the main theatre block and the car park (see Appendix). The project is due for completion by December 2010, with the cost of the stone sculpture (£6,500) being funded by the Art in Hospital funding allocation.

New visiting times
On 1st June we introduced new visiting times for most wards at St Peter's as part of a three month pilot, running until 31st August. The new times allow for evening only visiting during the week (6.00 – 8.00 pm) with more relaxed visiting at the weekends (2.30 – 8.00 pm). The aim of the pilot is to provide patients with a more restful environment, also giving staff more uninterrupted time for direct patient care. The new times will also help to ease traffic and parking congestion on the site for our afternoon outpatient clinics. Patients, visitors and staff will be consulted during the pilot to help the Trust decide on the way forward at the end of the pilot. There are a number of exceptions for those visitors who find it difficult to visit in the evenings by arrangement with the Matron or nurse in charge.

Meetings and visits

Raj Bhamber, John Headley, Mike Baxter and I visited St George's Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust in Tooting to meet members of their executive team for a strategic exchange. I also attended the quarterly South East Coast Chief Executives and Chairs forum, and the regular North West Surrey Transformation Board meetings. I have had individual meetings and calls with Ann Sutton, Interim Chief Executive of NHS Surrey, Tricia McGregor, Managing Director of Central Surrey Health, Nick Moberley, Chief Executive of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, local GP and Chair of the North West Surrey LEC Dr Liz Lawn and Debbie Stubberfield at the South East Coast SHA. I have also taken part in a national emerging leaders stakeholder group in London.

Submitted by: Andrew Liles

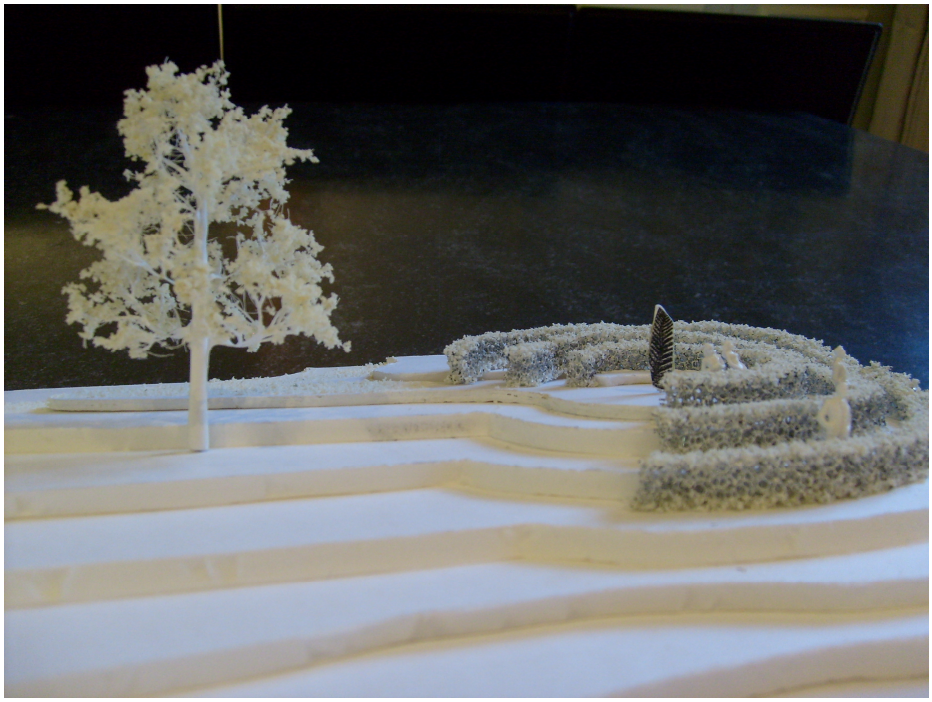
Date: 15th June 2010

Appendix

Landscaping outside main entrance at St Peter's

Left: the sculpture commissioned from sculptor Duncan Bell.

Below: model of terraced seating area.



Overleaf: map view of new landscaped area in relation to main hospital building.