Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS
NHS Trust

TRUST BOARD
25th February 2010

TITLE	**Chief Executive's Report**
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	General overview of issue/developments
BOARD ASSURANCE (Risk) / IMPLICATIONS	n/a
STAKEHOLDER / PATIENT IMPACT AND VIEWS	Positive engagement of local people for Chertsey Masterplan Information evening.
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES	n/a
LEGAL ISSUES	Passing of the Health Act through Parliament in January means that all NHS organisations are now under a new legal obligation to have regard to the NHS Constitution in all their decisions and actions.
The Trust Board is asked to:	Note the report
Submitted by:	Andrew Liles
Date:	16th February 2010
Decision:	For Noting

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Chief Executive's Report

Trust overview

Capacity and winter pressures

The Trust continues to experience pressure on emergency admissions and this is continuing not only here, but across the local health economy. However, we continue to meet our A&E 4 hour target which reflects the hard work being put in by staff across the Trust.

In terms of flu, from Thursday 11th February, the National Pandemic Flu Service (NPFS) was closed down. People with flu-like symptoms are now being asked to stay at home and ring their GP for advice and antiviral medication if needed. In recent weeks there has continued to be a steady drop in the number of swine flu cases across the country, including Surrey, which has led to this decision. The Trust is no longer required to report any suspected swine flu cases.

Recent news and developments

Members' Health Evening

We held our first Members' Health event on 11th February, which focused on Specialist Surgery. Around 40 local members attended the event, held at Ashford Hospital, and heard presentations on ophthalmology services from Consultant Ophthalmologist Mr Namir Kalif-Hussain, on treating facial deformity from consultant oral surgeon Miss Helen Witherow, and on Ear Nose and Throat surgery from Mr John Hadley, Consultant Surgeon and Clinical Director for Specialist Surgery. Comments received from those attending were extremely positive and these types of events will form an important part of our member engagement programme.

Quote from one attendee:
"I had no idea what to expect, however, I found the evening so informative. Also I would like to thank such wonderful surgeons for giving up their precious time to tell us about their amazing work and success. Thank you."

Further events are planned on a quarterly basis.

Chertsey Masterplan Information Evening

On 26th January, together with Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Trust, we hosted an information evening to explain our long-term vision for the St. Peter's Hospital campus to local stakeholders, staff and members of the public. This evening presentation was also well attended with around 50 attendees, including the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, the Mayors of Runnymede and Woking, local councillors and representatives from other organisations using and working from this site as well as patient representatives.

An informative presentation of the long-term planning application, which has been submitted to Runnymede Borough Council, was given by Paul Bentley and followed by a detailed question and answer session. Overall the audience was supportive of our plans and the event was followed up with public display stands in both hospitals during the rest of the week. The outcome from the Planning Committee is expected later in the Spring and if it is approved a number of detailed planning applications can be made for additional parking decks and other improvements.

New 24 / 7 stroke service at St Peter's Hospital
The Trust has recently extended its stroke thrombolysis service which we are now able to offer patients at any time of day or night. Thrombolysis treatment uses drugs to dissolve clots which restrict blood flow to the brain and cause an ischaemic stroke or 'brain attack'. The whole process is quite complex and several tests, including a CT scan, need to be completed very quickly before the drug can be prescribed. This has meant that we have previously only been able to offer the treatment during the day and the whole stroke team has worked hard to put the necessary processes in place to offer a 24-hour service. This is an important development for the team and means we are able to offer patients the very best care.

Refurbishment of main reception and outpatients at St Peter's
Refurbishment work is currently being undertaken in both outpatients and the main reception at St. Peter's Hospital. In the outpatient department on Level 3 a centralised reception area has been created making it easier for patients to book in for their appointments. The whole area is being redecorated with some structural work also being undertaken to improve some of the treatment areas. In the main reception, a new and more welcoming front entrance is being created, with a brightening up of the whole area including new flooring and redecoration.

NHS Constitution
From 19 January 2010, following the successful passage of the Health Act through Parliament, all providers and commissioners of NHS care are under a new legal obligation to have regard to the NHS Constitution in all their decisions and actions. This means that the Constitution, its pledges, principles, values and responsibilities need to be fully embedded and ingrained into everything the NHS does. This duty also covers Monitor and the new Care Quality Commission.

The Government will have a legal duty to renew the Constitution every 10 years. No Government will be able to change the Constitution, without the full involvement of staff, patients and the public. The State of Readiness Group (SoRG), convened at the request of the NHS Management Board, has produced a full report designed to help NHS organisations to understand their role in realising the potential of the NHS Constitution. SHAs, PCTs and trusts will need to ensure they are acting on the SoRG's recommendations.

Meetings and visits

This month, together with Aileen McLeish and Valerie Howell, I attended a public meeting facilitated by LINks which looked specifically at community services in Surrey. Aileen McLeish and I also had a further meeting with Cliff Bush, Chair of Surrey LINks, to discuss latest developments at the Trust. We also met with Surrey Community Health Chair, Dr Tony Mercer and Chief Executive Alison Edgington, to start understanding what the future of community services might look like in Surrey. I gave a presentation to the NHS South East chairs and chief executives on 3rd February, describing the work we are doing to respond to the NHS operating framework.

On 11th February, Mike Baxter, Valerie Howell and I attended a half day workshop to establish a new N.W Surrey Transformation Board. The workshop was attended by Paul Bennett, Deputy PCT CEO, with Liz Lawn, lead GP for NW Surrey and Alison Edgington, CE designate of Surrey Community Health Services. The well attended event also had representatives of the Ambulance service, Thamesdoc and each Directorate in the PCT.

Aileen McLeish and I also attended the retirement lunch for outgoing NHS Chair Douglas Robertson.

I have also had 1:1 meetings with Royal Surrey County Hospital Chief Executive Nick Moberley and Aileen McLeish and I also met Philip Hammond MP to explain latest Trust developments.

Aileen McLeish and I went to the Foundation Trust Network Chairs and Chief Executives meeting yesterday.

Submitted by: Andrew Liles

Date: 16th February 2010