

**TRUST BOARD**  
**25<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Chairman's Report</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	Highlights of activities in October 2012 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency Care</li><li>• Trust performance</li><li>• Epsom Hospital</li><li>• Visit of Archbishop Desmond Tutu</li><li>• Lilly volunteers</li><li>• Governors and Members</li><li>• Other</li></ul>
<b>BOARD ASSURANCE (Risk) / IMPLICATIONS</b>	N/A
<b>STAKEHOLDER / PATIENT IMPACT AND VIEWS</b>	Refers to meetings with external stakeholders.
<b>EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES</b>	N/A
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	None known.
<b>The Trust Board is asked to:</b>	Note the report.
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Aileen McLeish
<b>Date:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
<b>Decision:</b>	For Noting

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**25<sup>th</sup> October 2012****Chairman's Report****Emergency Care**

With effect from 8 October we have implemented the agreed ward and staffing changes to enable us to consistently provide the best care for patients. Details of these changes are described elsewhere in the Board papers. While it is still early days, we are already seeing improvements in our ability to respond to patients' needs and achieve our waiting time targets. Feedback from our health partners, such as the Ambulance Trust has also been positive. In my own tours round the Emergency Department the new Medical Assessment Centre and Short Stay Ward I have been struck by the positive atmosphere among staff.

The Executive team have done a fantastic job helping colleagues through these changes and I would like to particularly mention Valerie Bartlett who has led on this project.

**Trust Performance**

We were delighted to receive confirmation from the Care Quality Commission that St Peter's Hospital meets all their standards. Last month Monitor, the Foundation Trust regulator, lifted our quality rating to Green and our financial risk rating stands at 4. This has put us among the best performing Foundation Trusts.

**Epsom Hospital**

Our bid to take over Epsom Hospital is now entering an interesting phase. We are awaiting the outcome of the financial due diligence, but the early signs are that the level of deficit is higher than originally forecast. In addition a number of new risks have emerged including the implications of a proposed reconfiguring of St Helier Hospital as part of the 'Better Services Better Value' review for South West London. We are also awaiting the new local Clinical Commissioning Group to confirm its commissioning plans for Epsom Hospital. All parties involved are working together to understand what is needed to deliver sustainable services at Epsom hospital.

I attended a meeting of Mid Surrey LINK on 16 October to update them on our plans for Epsom hospital and where we are in our bidding process.

I also attended a conference on health mergers at the Kings Fund which covered activities in the UK and overseas and gave some insight into the benefits and pitfalls of mergers.

I represented ASPH at the Epsom Transaction Board meeting on 22 October.

**Visit of Archbishop Desmond Tutu**

At the time of writing we are all very excited to be hosting a visit on October 22 from Nobel Peace Prize winner, Chairman of The Elders, social rights activist and retired Archbishop The Most Reverend Desmond Tutu.

His visit will mark the culmination of a joint workshop between our staff and The Tutu Foundation which will explore avenues to overcome inequalities. ASPH had been chosen for this event in recognition of the work we are already doing to ensure equality of opportunity among our staff and patients. We have invited colleagues from the Trust as well as from partner organizations to share in the outcome of the workshop and to meet the Archbishop.

**Lilly volunteers**

On the 12 October the courtyards of St Peter's Hospitals were invaded by an "army" of volunteers in bright red T shirts. Part of the 5th Global Day of Service by the US multinational Eli Lilly Co, the Lilly UK team have given the Abbey Wing Courtyard and other gardens at St. Peter's Hospital a

fantastic makeover. The local Lilly health team chose to give their time to this Trust and wanted to make a tangible difference. They chose the courtyard makeovers in recognition of the benefits that hospital gardens bring to patients, families and carers. Gardens can help to reduce stress for patients and their relatives by providing opportunities to spend time in a pleasant and relaxing environment, with calming natural views and fresh air.

The volunteers spent time clearing and tidying the gardens, digging, jet washing and painting and varnishing. Next time you are in St Peter's Hospital have a look at the courtyards to see the results of their labours.

### **Governors and Members**

We had a very successful Members event on 17 October on the subject of Cancer Services. Presentations were made by Dr Paul Murray, Dr Barry Quinn and by Pat Morrison, Chairman of the newly created ASPH Cancer User Group. The presentation and subsequent discussions demonstrated how much our knowledge of cancer is expanding alongside increasingly sophisticated methods of treatment. The audience got a flavour of the extent to which our own services are evolving and the power of the patient voice in influencing future developments. I hosted a visit to our Pathology Department by some of our Governors. Our Governors have shown a lot of interest in the changes we have made by merging our service with those of Frimley Park and the Royal Surrey. They received a lot of assurance around the rationale for the changes as well as an understanding that despite a number of logistical issues during the reorganisation, no patients were directly affected and services levels are largely back at pre reorganisation levels. During the month we held a strategy planning meeting and an informal catch up meeting with our Governors.

### **Other**

We held a special ceremony to open the new Infusion Unit at Ashford Hospital. This was the brainchild of Consultant Mike Irani who pitched for the funding at a "Dragons Den" style event earlier in the year. The new unit offers patients a more comfortable dedicated environment to receive their infusions while releasing ward beds for our emergency and elective patients. We were very pleased to be joined by Zoe Smith, Team GB Olympic Weightlifter, who took centre stage in the formal opening ceremony.

I met with Ms Seema Malhotra, newly elected MP for Feltham and Heston, and introduced her to the Trust and the local health economy.

Andrew and myself met with representatives of the Hounslow Health Scrutiny and Overview Committee. In addition we were joined by Dr David Fluck at a committee meeting of Spelthorne Council. Both meetings were a chance to discuss with these important stakeholders both developments at the Trust and our plans for Epsom.

I represented the Trust at the Mayor of Spelthorne's Business reception.

I was pleased to be invited to present the monthly Housekeeping Department Awards to Clothilde Dubber and Ted Bongcaras both members of staff within the department who had been nominated by colleagues for demonstrating the Trust values in their work.

I was pleased to help welcome Fred Chandler and the Spelthorne U3A Choir who participated in the service to celebrate St Luke at Ashford Hospital Multi-faith Centre.

I attended the NHS South of England Chair and Chief Executive Conference. I also attended the first Foundation Trust Network Annual Conference where I gave a short presentation on the role of the Board in managing quality.

I chaired appointment panels for three separate radiology Consultant posts and one A&E Consultant.

Aileen McLeish  
October 2012  
Chairman