

Summary report of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on Friday 6 January 2012

This report presents a brief summary of the issues discussed at the January 2012 meeting of Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust Board of Directors.

1. One Hundred Reasons to be Proud of Liverpool Women's

One hundred reasons to be proud of Liverpool Women's were presented, based on the Trust's achievements during 2011. These would be displayed across the Trust and shared with patients, members, the public and partner organisations.

2. Liz Cross appointed as interim Vice Chair

Non-Executive Director Liz Cross will be the Trust's interim Vice Chair from 1 February 2012 until a formal process is run during March 2012, to appoint to this position. The incumbent Vice Chair, Roy Morris, will leave the Trust on 31 January 2012 when his term of office comes to an end.

3. Supporting relationship arrangement with University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust

The Board was updated in respect of the supporting arrangement agreed with University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust which is experiencing difficulties in respect of the maternity services at its Furness site. An initial meeting had been held between executives of both Trusts and a mentorship model agreed for Liverpool Women's to support the Trust to make improvements to their services.

4. Health and Social Care Bill

An amendment to a clause of the Health and Social Care Bill had been made shortly before Christmas, to allow Foundation Trusts to raise 49% of funds through non-NHS work if the Bill gets through Parliament. It was noted that the Bill was unlikely to make it through the House of Lords until the early part of 2012 and therefore would not receive Royal Assent until March 2012.

5. NHS Litigation Authority / Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts update

A report providing a status update in respect of the Trust's compliance with the NHS Litigation Authority (NHSLA) and Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts (CNST) standards was considered, outlining the actions taken since the Trust successfully underwent level three assessments against both sets of standards in mid-2011.

In respect of CNST a revised approach to clinical audit within maternity services had been introduced and represented a major step change in the way care was reviewed. It aimed to develop a system which embedded audit and provided information and assurance in respect of care standards on a regular basis. The Trust's compliance status in respect of CNST remained satisfactory and had marginally strengthened. An informal CNST assessment would take place early in February 2012.

As regards NHSLA standards, the Authority's assessors expected to see progress against those the Trust failed during its 2011 assessment and the Trust would undergo an NHSLA interim quality assurance visit on 17 January 2012. The integrated governance department had introduced a system to monitor compliance against each standard and was providing clinical divisions with monthly assurance and exception reports.

6. Patient story

An audio recording made by a patient, telling her story of care received at Liverpool Women's Hospital, was played at the meeting.

7. Operating Framework and financial outlook 2012/13

Details of the Operating Framework for 2012/13 (published by the Department of Health in December 2011) were received. Based on the Framework the financial outlook for the Trust for 2012/13 is a likely reduction in income of £2.3m. The Trust's cost improvement programme for 2012/13 would be £6.5m.

The Trust's budget for 2012/13 would come before the Board in April 2012 following work with the clinical divisions and discussion at Trust Management Group.

8. Liverpool Health Partners Academic Health Science System

The Board was updated in respect of progress with establishing an Academic Health Science System (AHSS) in Liverpool. The AHSS would be a strategic partnership for creating health gain by pursuing excellence in healthcare delivery, research and clinical education by bringing together a number of Trusts from the city to oversee and participate in coordinated programmes of health-related research.

Executive members of the Board together with clinicians from the Trust had taken part in a planning meeting to consider the system's clinical academic programme. The Board agreed to proceed with full membership of the system with which came full voting rights.

9. Performance and assurance as at November 2011

Directors reviewed the Trust's performance and assurance report.

10. Chair's activities

Trust Chair Ken Morris reported to the Board in respect of his activities since its meeting in December 2011.

A note about Liverpool Women's Board of Directors

Liverpool Women's Board of Directors comprises seven Non-Executive Directors (including the Chair) and six Executive Directors. The Board is responsible for determining the Trust's strategy and business plans, budgets, policy determination, audit and monitoring arrangements, regulations and control arrangements, senior appointment and dismissal arrangements and approval of the Trust's annual report and accounts. It acts in accordance with the requirements of its Foundation Trust terms of authorisation. These are available on Monitor's website at <http://www.monitor-nhsft.gov.uk/>.

Members of the Board are:

<i>Non-Executive Directors</i>	<i>Executive Directors</i>
Mr Ken Morris (Chair)	Mrs Kathy Thomson (Chief Executive)
Mr Dave Carbery (Senior Independent Director)	Mrs Vanessa Harris (Director of Finance)
Ms Liz Cross	Mr Jonathan Herod (Medical Director)
Mr Ian Haythornthwaite	Mrs Gail Naylor (Director of Nursing, Midwifery & Patient Experience)
Dr Pauleen Lane	Ms Caroline Salden (Chief Operating Officer)
Mr Roy Morris (Vice Chair)	Mrs Michelle Turner (Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development)
Mr Hoi Yeung	

On the 31 January 2012 the terms of office of Mr Dave Carbery and Mr Roy Morris will come to an end. Mr Hoi Yeung's term of office will end on 28 February 2012. Mr Allan Bickerstaffe will join the Board on 1 February 2012 and Mr Steve Burnett will join from 1 March 2012.

The Trust's Council of Governors is responsible for appointing the Chair and Non-Executive Directors (NEDs) of the Board.

If you have any queries on this summary report, please contact in the first instance Julie McMorran, Trust Secretary, at julie.mcmorran@lwh.nhs.uk / 0151 702 4033.