

Summary report of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on Friday 4 March 2011

This report presents a brief summary of the issues discussed at the March 2011 meeting of Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust Board of Directors.

1. Centre for Women's Health

Discussions had progressed with the University of Liverpool in respect of the proposed establishment of a Centre for Women's Health at Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust. The Centre would be a partnership between the Trust and the University of Liverpool and would aim to enhance opportunities for pioneering research into women's health. The capital issues relating to the proposal had been agreed and Procure 21 would be used.

2. Death of Yvonne Rankin

The Chair reported the sad death of former Non-Executive Director Yvonne Rankin.

3. Rising to the Challenge

The Board learned that the opportunity for staff and stakeholders to comment on proposals included in the Trust's 'Rising to the Challenge' document had now closed. (Rising to the Challenge is the Trust's programme of work that aims to develop its business plan for the next five years.) A great deal of feedback and some good proposals had been received. Staff affected would be notified during March 2011.

A clinical summit had been held in February 2011 when the first draft service strategies of the Trust's clinical business units had been presented. These included a range of ideas about new business opportunities and growth.

4. Liverpool Women's @ Aintree

The Trust had attended the two engagement events that had so far taken place in connection with the Trust's proposals relating to its Aintree hospital-based services. The issue of transport links and access to Liverpool Women's Hospital were the main issues that had been raised by those attending the events, and the Trust would work with the Primary Care Trust and local transport providers in order to address.

The Chair, Mr Ken Morris, highlighted that there was an opportunity for the Trust's governors to link with members in the area to gain a better understanding of their needs.

5. Patient story

Members of the Board heard a patient story in the form of an audit recording from a carer whose wife had been a patient of the Trust's gynaecological services. It highlighted the importance of being able to care effectively for patients who presented for obstetric or gynaecological care who also had needs such as learning disabilities or dementia, etc. Although relatively small in number the needs of such patients must be appropriately met and the importance of effective planning and good communication were paramount. The Board stated its wish to see evidence of issues identified via complaints incorporated into the Trust's clinical audit programme.

6. Local Involvement Network (LINKs) 'Enter and View' visit

The Local Involvement Network (LINK) 'enter and view' visit report was received. The visit had been conducted at the Trust in November 2010 when LINKs' representatives had viewed the site and given a positive report, the full version of which was published on their website.

LINKs were being invited to a stakeholder event the Trust was hosting in order to engage with them in respect of the Trust's draft quality account. Discussion of the wider health and wellbeing agenda was

also underway with LINKs who had been actively involved in development of the Trust's patient experience strategy and as members of the patient involvement group.

7. Integrated business plan

Progress with preparation of the Trust's annual plan for 2011/2012 was discussed. The plan is scheduled for submission to Monitor at the end of April 2011.

8. Financial outlook 2011/12

Directors considered the Trust's financial outlook for the Trust for 2011/12 on the basis it needed to achieve a surplus of £1m and maintain a Financial Risk Rating (FRR) of 3. A range of measures were agreed to close the Trust's cost improvement programme gap in 2011/12.

9. Performance and assurance

Directors reviewed the Trust's performance and assurance report which detailed the position as at January 2011.

10. Integrated governance model

Terms of reference we approved for the Trust's Audit Committee, Human Resources Committee and Finance, Performance and Business Development Committee.

11. Farewell to Non-Executive Director Ann McCracken

The Chair led thanks to Ann McCracken whose term as a Non-Executive Director of the Board would end on 31 March 2011. She was thanked her for her contribution to the Trust's work and for having been a valuable colleague.

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)
Dr Pauleen Lane	Mrs Gail Naylor (Director of Nursing, Midwifery & Patient Experience)
Mrs Ann McCracken (Deputy Chair)	Ms Caroline Salden (Director of Service Development)
Mr Roy Morris	Mrs Michelle Turner (Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development)
Mr Hoi Yeung	

The Trust's Council of Governors is responsible for appointing the Chair and Non-Executive Directors (NEDs) of the Board and is currently considering succession arrangements in respect of those NEDs whose term of office is due to end early in 2012.

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.