

Summary report of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on Friday 7 September 2012

This report presents a brief summary of the issues discussed at the September 2012 meeting of Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust Board of Directors. Its meeting was held in two parts, the first part in private and the second part in public. The formal minutes of the meeting held in public will be issued with the agenda for the Board's next meeting in November 2012.

1. Patient story

The Board met with a patient in order to hear her story relating to care she had received at the Trust. The patient gave examples of excellent care she received throughout and beyond her pregnancy, and also examples of poor and insensitive care. The experience highlighted in particular the need for appropriate bereavement support.

2. Governor changes

Changes to membership of the Council of Governors were noted following the most recent round of elections. From 8 September 2012, Lorna Mograby takes up the Central Liverpool public seat, John Foley the clinical and non-clinical support staff seat and Amanda Webster the staff midwives seat. Serving public governors Dorothy Zack-Williams (Central Liverpool), Mary McDonald (South Liverpool) and Barbara Kerr (North Liverpool) had all been all re-elected. Partnership governors Professor Godfrey Mazhindu (Liverpool John Moores University) and Councillor Kay Moorhead (Knowsley Borough Council) had left the Council.

3. Meeting with Royal Colleges

Together with the Chair of Birmingham Women's NHS Foundation Trust, the Chair had met with representatives of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the Royal College of Midwives. The meeting was to discuss the potential for collaboration in respect of the tariff for maternity services and the development of women's healthcare services. It had been a positive meeting where there was agreement that joint working could be of real benefit.

4. Care Quality Commission

The Care Quality Commission had made a further visit to the Trust to review progress made in respect of medicines management, about which the Commission had previously issued a moderate concern. As a result of the revisit and the assurances the Trust was able to provide, the Commission had lifted their moderate concern.

5. Medical revalidation

Directors received details of the Trust's preparations for the introduction of the new system of medical revalidation which was being introduced nationally from December 2012. The system would be introduced in a phase manner with those undergoing revalidation first including the Medical Director (as Responsible Officer for revalidation) and the Trust's Clinical Directors. All doctors would undergo revalidation every five years.

6. Nursing and Midwifery indicators

The Board received details of the Trust's nursing and midwifery indicators, data collected routinely in respect of care being provided, including pain management, tissue viability, medication, health promotion, nutrition, patient observations, documentation, infection control and patient experience. The indicators would help the Board to answer the question "How do we know we are delivering acceptable standards of care to all our patients?"

7. People Champions

Details of the Trust's approach to staff communication and engagement were presented, and the Board acknowledged its wish to create a culture, climate and behaviour that encourage engagement.

People Champions were in the process of being recruited; Champions were members of staff who were passionate about the organisation and wanted to work to make it even greater. They would be visible, proactive points of contact for staff, willing to listen and act in order to give the Trust's staff a positive voice. Two Champions attended the meeting to talk to the Board about what they hoped to achieve in the role.

8. HealthCheck

Details of the Trust's service and financial performance as at July 2012 were reviewed. There was one red indicator in respect of the 31 day cancer target (diagnosis to treatment), and three breaches of the 62 day cancer target (referral to treatment). The Trust was overspent by £237,000 but remained on target to achieve a planned Financial Risk Rating of 3.

A note about Liverpool Women's Board of Directors

Liverpool Women's Board of Directors currently comprises six 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 Allan Bickerstaffe	Mrs Vanessa Harris (Director of Finance)
Mr Steve Burnett (Senior Independent Director)	Mr Jonathan Herod (Medical Director)
Ms Liz Cross (Vice Chair)	Mrs Gail Naylor (Director of Nursing, Midwifery & Patient Experience)
Mr Ian Haythornthwaite	Ms Caroline Salden (Chief Operating Officer)
Dr Pauleen Lane	Mrs Michelle Turner (Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development)

There is currently a vacancy for a Non-Executive Director (NED), to be considered by the Trust's Council of Governors which is responsible for appointing the Chair and 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.