

**TRUST BOARD**

<b>Date of Meeting:</b> 05/10/2010		<b>Enclosure:</b> 4
		<b>Agenda Item No:</b> 7
<b>Title of Report:</b> Chief Executive's Report		
<b>Aims:</b>  This report provides the Board with an update on key national and local announcements and policy developments that have emerged in the past month.		
<b>Summary:</b>  The issues considered in this paper are:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Breast Services</li> <li>▪ Liberating the NHS: White Paper</li> <li>▪ Turnaround Director of North Cumbria</li> <li>▪ Fit for the Future Road Shows</li> <li>▪ Dr Mike Cheshire, Medical Director, NHS Northwest</li> <li>▪ Visit from National Clinical Advisory Team</li> <li>▪ Transforming Community Services</li> </ul>		
<b>Specific implications for consideration (Financial/Workforce/Risk/Legal/Race Equality etc):</b>		
<b>Financial</b>	Outcome of the arbitration process.	
<b>Workforce</b>		
<b>Other</b>	Outlines to the Board the current position with the Trust Breast Screening Programme as well as updates the Board on the consultation papers which have been issued following the publication of the White Paper.	
<b>Recommendations:</b>  That the Board notes the updates in this report.		
<b>Document previously approved by:</b>  Not applicable. Report directly to the Trust Board.		
<b>Prepared by:</b>  Ramona Duguid Company Secretary		<b>Presented by:</b>  Carole Heatly Chief Executive

**TRUST BOARD  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT  
OCTOBER 2010**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

This report provides the Board with an update on key national announcements, policy developments, and issues significant to this Board.

**2. BREAST SERVICES**

As previously briefed, the breast screening service has been temporarily suspended since 29 June 2010 while work is carried out to make improvements and strengthen the service to ensure the highest standards of patient care are provided. This decision was taken following an interim visit by a radiologist from the regional Quality Assurance Team because there were a small number of issues that required further investigation. This included some early indications that some women may not have received some additional tests.

The Trust and the PCT had, therefore, commissioned an independent review of 1,537 patient care records with the help and support of other screening centres. This review relates **only** to those women who were **called back** for further assessment following their routine screening from 1 April 2007. Women are being contacted if they would benefit from further assessment.

The initial review of the 1537 women is nearing completion and it is anticipated this will be completed towards the end of October 2010.

The telephone helpline remains in place for all patients and all calls have received a response.

The symptomatic service continues to be provided locally.

Advice was awaited from NHS Cumbria as to when the screening service can be resumed.

### **3. LIBERATING THE NHS: WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION PROCESS**

The NHS White Paper was published in July 2010 and it sets out the Government's long term vision for the future of the NHS based on the following principles:

- Putting patients at the heart of everything the NHS does.
- Focused on continuously improving those things that really matter to patients – the outcome of their healthcare.
- Empower and liberate clinicians to innovate, with the freedom to focus on improving healthcare services.

To support the implementation of the White Paper, the Department of Health published four consultation documents with a closure date of 11 October. A briefing paper on each consultation has been prepared and circulated to key staff groups requesting comments.

Staff response to the consultation papers will be centrally co-ordinated and lead Directors will draft the Trust's response on behalf of the Board, as follows:

<b>Title</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Theme</b>
Transparency in Outcomes: A Framework for the NHS	Medical Director	Future outcome measures and framework for aligning these to service standards
Increasing Democratic Legitimacy in Health	Company Secretary	Future role of local authorities and development of Healthwatch
Commissioning for Patients	Director of Strategic Planning	Future role of NHS Commissioning Board, GP Consortia and Monitor
Regulating Healthcare Providers	Chief Operating Officer/Director of Finance	Future role of Monitor and changes to Foundation Trusts

The Trust Board are requested to consider, in particular, the impact of 'Commissioning for Patients' and 'Regulating Healthcare Providers' in the context of the local health economy in Cumbria and the challenges it faces in the future. In particular, the future development of GP commissioning will be accelerated locally with an implementation date of April 2011. This will have a direct impact on the Trust's strategic objectives and the potential opportunity for new partnerships with GP Consortia should be considered.

Trust Board members are requested to send individual feedback on the White Paper consultation documents to the Director of Strategic Planning by 7 October 2010.

### **4. TURNAROUND DIRECTOR FOR NORTH CUMBRIA**

Mr Terry Watson, an expert in improving financial performance has been recommended by the SHA to work across the acute and primary care trusts.

An initial meeting was held on Tuesday, 28 September between the Chief Executives of the Trust and NHS Cumbria and Mr Watson, where we agreed a whole health economy approach to tackling our challenges was essential. He will begin work with both organisations as soon as possible, initially for 2 days per week.

## **5. FIT FOR THE FUTURE ROAD SHOWS**

As Trust Board members will remember, a series of staff road shows were held earlier in the year (April 2010) to explain to staff about the public sector's financial challenges and the Trust's subsequent £21m cost improvement programme.

As promised to staff, further road shows have been arranged for 21 October 2010, which will be led by the Executive team, so as to update staff on the current position.

## **6. DR MIKE CHESHIRE, MEDICAL DIRECTOR, NHS NORTHWEST**

The Trust received a visit from Dr Mike Cheshire, Medical Director, NHS Northwest on Tuesday, 21 September, where he toured the West Cumberland Hospital and Cumberland Infirmary and met with the Executive team.

Discussions centred around the interface between the Trust and the GP commissioners and the innovative work to improve patient pathways.

Dr Cheshire commented that he found the visit most informative.

## **7. VISIT FROM NATIONAL CLINICAL ADVISORY TEAM**

On 21 September, the Trust and NHS Cumbria were visited by Dr Chris Clough, Chair of the Department of Health's National Clinical Advisory Team (NCAT). NCAT provides clinical expertise to support and advise local NHS organisations on service reconfiguration proposals

Dr Clough had been requested by NHS North West (Strategic Health Authority) to prepare reports on a number of service reconfigurations across the region, including the *Closer to Home* strategy within North Cumbria, to ensure that they:

- Were based on good clinical evidence
- Had the support of GP commissioners
- Had arrangements in place for strong patient and public engagement
- Supported the principle of patient choice

During his visit, Dr Clough met with the Medical Director and a number of Trust clinicians at West Cumberland Hospital, where he was briefed on the implementation of *Closer to Home* and the plans for the new hospital development. The NCAT report resulting from Dr Clough's visit is expected to

be received within the next two weeks, with the intention that the review process is completed by 31 October 2010.

## **8. TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Following the Department of Health's withdrawal of NHS Cumbria's status as a directly providing organisation, a process was undertaken (by NHS Cumbria) to align with the ongoing Transforming Community Services Programme in order to divest themselves of their provider status by 1 April 2011.

NHS Cumbria outlined their three shortlisted options as:

- Existing NHS/Foundation Trust in Cumbria
- New Community Foundation Trust
- New Social Enterprise

The Trusts within Cumbria were offered the opportunity to contribute to the options appraisal exercise, by setting out their individual cases for the way in which they could meet the assessment tests/criteria and contribute to the efficiency tests.

The deadline for submitting the case was 7 September, following which, the deadline for formal submission to the SHA of the case for change, outline business cases and assurance documentation was 23 September 2010.

The Trust subsequently submitted a case by 7 September. On 9 September, the Trust was advised that following a meeting of a specially constituted committee of NHS Cumbria's Trust Board to select a preferred option against a series of key criteria, the committee had formally recommended that a business case be drawn up for community health services joining forces with Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and, therefore, the Trust had been unsuccessful in its bid.

The Trust has written to NHS Cumbria to express its disappointment at what it feels was a great opportunity that has been lost to integrate patient pathways.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Trust Board is requested to note the report.

Carole Heatly  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**