

TRUST BOARD

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| Date of Meeting: 10/5/2011 | | Enclosure: 4 |
| | | Agenda Item No: 5.2 |
| Title of Report: Chief Executive's Report | | |
| Aims: This report provides the Board with an update on key national and local announcements and policy developments that have emerged in the past month. | | |
| Summary: The issues considered in this paper are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lung cancer services ▪ Improvements to antenatal screening ▪ National award for prosthetic technician ▪ Extension to cancer facilities ▪ GUM/sexual health services ▪ Cluster appointments ▪ Changes to NHS Northwest Board | | |
| Specific implications for consideration (Financial/Workforce/Risk/Legal/Race Equality etc): | | |
| Financial | No specific implications | |
| Workforce | No specific implications | |
| Other | No specific implications | |
| Recommendations: That the Board notes the updates in this report. | | |
| Document previously approved by: Not applicable. Report directly to the Trust Board. | | |
| Prepared by: Ramona Duguid Company Secretary | Presented by: Carole Heatly Chief Executive | |

**TRUST BOARD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
MAY 2011**

1. INTRODUCTION

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

2. LUNG CANCER SERVICES

Lung cancer services at our two hospitals are the best in the northern region and joint best in England. The service scored 94% in a national peer review, an annual review that tests the quality and safety of cancer services. This has placed our lung cancer multidisciplinary team at the top in the North of England Cancer Network and joint first in England with the University Hospitals of Birmingham.

The National Cancer Peer Review (NCPR) programme is a national quality assurance programme for NHS cancer services. The reviews are carried out by a team of professional peers such as doctors, nurses and oncologists (cancer specialists) and they assess services against nationally agreed quality measures.

The peer review programme ensures services:

- Are as safe as possible and deliver quality and effectiveness of care
- Are delivering good patient and carer experiences
- Provide development and learning for all involved
- Encourage the sharing of good practice

3. IMPROVEMENTS TO ANTENATAL SCREENING

Pregnant women in north Cumbria are now being offered improved antenatal screening for Down's Syndrome. The new test, known as the Combined Test, offers a better detection rate and therefore reduces the number of women subsequently offered unnecessary invasive diagnostic procedures which carry the risk of miscarriage.

As well as being more reliable, the test is completed in one stage, whereas the previous test, known as the Quadruple Test, had to be done over two appointments. It is also done earlier in the pregnancy, giving parents more time to decide how to proceed once they have the results.

4. NATIONAL AWARD FOR PROSTHETIC TECHNICIAN

A prosthetic technician at the Cumberland Infirmary has been named the best in the country after being nominated by two of his patients. Phil Myers was named Prosthetic

Technician of the Year by Limbcare, a national charity which supports amputees. Phil, who has worked at the Cumberland Infirmary for 21 years, was nominated by two patients, both grateful that Phil's ingenuity had improved their quality of life.

5. EXTENSION TO CANCER FACILITIES

Cancer patients will benefit from new facilities at the Cumberland Infirmary after patients and supporters raised more than £300,000 for an extension and refurbishment to the Oncology Department. The number of cancer patients referred to the department has increased from 646 in 1986 to 1,118 in 2009. As a result, the facilities had become cramped and no longer fit for purpose.

It was decided that an extension was the best option and fundraising began in earnest two years ago. So far more than £270,000 has been raised, and a further £70,000 has been pledged from our Trust's general Charitable Funds.

Work began this week on the extension, which will also see the current facilities refurbished, with the layout of the reception area and waiting room remodelled to improve patient privacy.

I would like to thank the Cumbrian community on behalf of the Board for all their fundraising which supports extra facilities at our hospitals to improve the experience of all our patients.

6. GUM/SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES

After many months of uncertainty, I am pleased to report that the GUM/Sexual Health service transferred to the new provider, Cumbria Partnership Foundation Trust, on 1 May 2011.

The Trust initially received formal notice from NHS Cumbria in September 2009 that it wanted to commission a community based service linked to primary care. During the intervening period the Trust has had significant concerns about the lack of progress in commissioning this service from a new provider and the sustainability of the temporary arrangements we have had to make in relation to the medical input into this service. We finally received a request for due diligence information from the new provider on 14 April 2011. The service and supporting staff in the finance, HR and commercial departments worked extremely hard to turn round this request for extensive information in time for the transfer date.

7. CLUSTER APPOINTMENTS

Mr Mike Taylor and Mrs Sue Page have been appointed as Chairman and Chief Executive of the new Cumbria Cluster following the recent North West Cluster appointment process.

8. CHANGES TO NHS NORTHWEST BOARD

Mike Farrar has left NHS Northwest to take up the role of Chief Executive of the NHS Confederation, as from 3 May 2011. Mark Ogden (previously Director of Finance) has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of NHS Northwest with immediate effect.

In addition, Jane Cummings, Chief Nurse and Director of Performance and Quality has taken up the role of Deputy Chief Executive.

Dr Ruth Hussey, Regional Director of Public Health will also be moving to a new role with Public Health England, the remit for public health in the North West will now be overseen by Ann Hoskins, who is currently the Director of Children, Young People and Maternity.

The Trust wishes our colleagues well in their new roles.

9. RECOMMENDATION

The Trust Board is requested to note the report.

Carole Heatly
CHIEF EXECUTIVE