

**TRUST BOARD**

<b>Date of Meeting:</b> 26/3/2013	<b>Agenda Item No:</b> 1	<b>Enclosure:</b> 1
<b>Intended Outcome:</b>		
<b>For noting</b>	<b>For information</b>	<b>For decision</b> ✓
<b>Title of Report:</b> Chairman's Overview		
<b>Aims:</b>		
<p>To consider the key business of the Trust Board as it moves forward into the final stages of the Acquisition by Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust</p>		
<b>Executive Summary:</b>		
<p>Since the last Board meeting, I have attended a first meeting of the Transaction Oversight Committee (TOC) (27 February, with NTDA in the chair, with NHFT, NCUHT and Cumbria CCG), a second meeting of the Joint Clinical Policy Group (Hexham, 15 March) and a first meeting of the Non-Executive Directors of the 2 Trusts (Carlisle, 12 March). I have also met Yasmin Chaudhry, the Interim Director, North for the NTDA, with the aim of finalising the Interim Management Agreement.</p> <p>At the TOC, we agreed an ambitious timetable for completing the acquisition by October; we discussed the convergence criteria, which should help to demonstrate that this merger is a sustainable arrangement for the future provision of acute services in North Cumbria; and we agreed to conclude the Interim Management Agreement, and that the NTDA would appoint an Acquisition Director, to oversee the transaction and to support me in the remaining stages. The TOC will meet about twice a quarter to oversee progress.</p> <p>At the Clinical Policy Group, we received various presentations, for example on the current performance of the enlarged Trust taken as a whole, on proposals for clinical service developments across the north of England, on plans for improving the trauma and orthopaedic services at North Cumbria. We also discussed the challenge of making the enlarged Trust an attractive base for excellent medical education and training.</p> <p>At the meeting of the NEDs, we agreed how to work towards alignment of the Board structures and processes in each Trust. We expect to meet about bi-monthly, while always encouraging mutual transparency between our respective Board committees during the transition.</p> <p>Finally, I should report that NHFT announced on 6 March the outcome of elections of (shadow) Governors from North Cumbria, ahead of the actual merger. Two induction meetings for those Governors are being arranged (for 21 and 22 March) in Carlisle.</p>		

<b>Specific implications and links to the Trust's Strategic Aims:</b>	
Ensure we provide high quality, safe and effective care for all our patients including meeting essential standards of safety and quality as set out by the CQC	✓
Develop a viable integrated clinical strategy for secondary care services which is sustainable and affordable	
Develop a new healthcare facility in West Cumbria that is fit for the 21st century	
Achieve sustainable financial balance through the delivery of the Trust's internal Cost Improvement Programme, securing a viable contract income from our GP commissioners and contributing to the system wide cost reductions	
To develop and implement a successful merger or acquisition plan that enables the Trust to become part of an existing NHS Foundation Trust	✓
<p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p>Board members are requested to approve the report.</p>	
<p><b>Prepared by:</b>  Ian Gordon  Interim Chairman</p>	<p><b>Presented by:</b>  Ian Gordon  Interim Chairman</p>