

Whittington Health Trust Board

19 December 2012

Title:	Chief Executive's Report to the Board						
Agenda item:	5		Paper			B	
Action requested:	<i>For discussion</i>						
Executive Summary:	<p>The report updates the Board with local, regional and national policy changes that will affect the organisation and key issues facing the Trust.</p> <p>Headlines for December:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chancellor's Autumn Statement • Secretary of State's priorities • Digital First strategy • CNO's strategy • Dr Foster's Hospital Guide 2012 • Islington CCG authorisation • Key staff leaving 						
Summary of recommendations:	The Board is asked to discuss the report.						
Fit with WH strategy:	This report provides an update on key issues that could affect the achievement of the WH strategy.						
Reference to related / other documents:	Month 8 Finance Report						
Date paper completed:	11 December 2012						
Author name and title:	Dr Yi Mien Koh Chief Executive			Director name and title:	Dr Yi Mien Koh Chief Executive		
Date paper seen by ET	N/A	Equality Impact Assessment complete?	Yes	Risk assessment undertaken?	Yes	Legal advice received?	N/A



Chief Executive's Report to the Board

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to update the board on local, regional and national policy changes that will affect the organisation and sets out the key issues facing the Trust.

2. The Chancellor's Autumn Statement

The statement delivered to Parliament on 5 December contained no major changes for the NHS. Public finances will continue to be affected by prolonged austerity. Key points for the NHS include:

- spending on health will continue to be protected until 2015/16
- national pay arrangements will continue in the NHS
- new Government proposals for making private finance initiative (PFI) more transparent, flexible and efficient, the so called PF2 policy.

3. Secretary of State's top four priorities

The Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt, has updated his top four priorities. In a blog (<http://tinyurl.com/cvh9np8>), he has refined "improving the care for people with long-term conditions like diabetes, asthma and arthritis" with "bringing the technology revolution to the NHS" and to use technology to improve shared decision making for people with long term conditions. The other three priorities are:

- Improving mortality rates for the big four killer diseases: cancer, stroke, heart, liver and respiratory disease
- Improve the standard of care throughout the system
- Transforming our care and treatment for people with dementia

4. Digital First strategy

On 26 November the Government published "Digital First – the delivery choice for England's population" strategy (<http://tinyurl.com/btcsview>) which sets

out 10 easy win initiatives which the NHS can achieve today to save £2.9 bn. The recommendations that are in our 2017 Vision include:

- Reducing unnecessary Secondary Care appointments by using *online pre-consultation screening* and *video-based remote consultations*. This will not only improve patient convenience, it will reduce unnecessary face-to-face consultations for Secondary Care & post-surgical follow ups
- More efficient appointment booking by using *online booking systems* to increase convenience for patients and reduce administration costs
- Reducing DNAs - by improving our use of *digital notifications and reminders* can avoid unnecessary waste of resources caused by DNAs
- Reducing costs of notifying test results – using channels such as *SMS* for notification of negative test results will save the costs of unnecessary face-to-face appointments
- Reducing cost of letters – using *email* as a default option can save significant costs from sending patient letters

5. CNO's strategy for nursing, midwifery and care staff

A new three year vision and strategy for nursing, midwifery and care staff was launched on 4 December by the Chief Nursing Officer. Called "Compassion in Practice" (<http://tinyurl.com/conq7cl>) the vision is based around six values – care, compassion, courage, communication, competence and commitment. The vision aims to embed these values, known as the Six C's, in all nursing, midwifery and care-giving settings throughout the NHS and social care to improve care for patients.

6. Authorisation of first wave Clinical Commissioning Groups

The NHS Commissioning Board authorised the first wave of clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) on 11 December. Islington is one of the 35 CCGs which passed the national test to take on budgets for secondary care. Each CCG was tested against 119 criteria and if any was not met, it was listed as a "condition". Overall, eight CCGs were authorised without conditions; 26 were authorised with between one and 14 conditions, and one was deferred. Islington CCG was authorised with one minor condition.

7. Dr Foster's 2012 Hospital Guide

In addition to publishing traditional mortality indicators, this year's Hospital Guide (<http://tinyurl.com/cmghwqww>) highlights information on the vital link between quality and efficiency. The Whittington Hospital had a Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratio (HSMR) of 79, making us one of the safest hospital in the country. We scored average for efficiency. The guide, which benchmarks the performance of every hospital trust in England, also found:

- most hospitals are more than 90 per cent full at midweek; in winter, many hospitals are more than 95 per cent full.
- nearly 29 per cent of hospital beds are occupied by patients whose hospital stay might have been avoided; a lack of integration with social and community care is often the problem.
- mortality rates continue to improve, although 12 trusts were highlighted as causes for concern.
- the rapid rise in admissions among frail elderly patients over the last five years has created a demand for hospital beds.

8. Key staff leaving

I would like to thank the following senior staff who have made significant contributions to Whittington Health and who will be leaving in January 2013 for new roles:

- Matthew Boazman, Director of Operations, Division of Surgery, Cancer and Diagnostics has been appointed as Director of Strategy at Birmingham Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- Sue Tokley, Deputy Director of Nursing will be Clinical and Quality Director at the North Central and North East London Commissioning Support Unit
- Jennie Williams, Assistant Director of Nursing and Patient Experience will be Director of Quality at Haringey CCG.

We wish them every success in their new roles.

Yi Mien Koh

12 December 2012