

**ITEM: 2**

**MEETING:**  
Trust Board  
20 September 2006

**TITLE: Chief Executive's Report**

**SUMMARY:**

The CEO report updates the Board on key issues that do not warrant at this stage a full board paper.

**ACTION: Information**

**REPORT FROM: David Sloman, Chief Executive**

**Financial details supplied/checked by:** (Name of finance officer) not applicable

**Recommendations contained within this paper have been checked for compliance with relevant statute and regulations/directions/policy as follows:**

(Relevant law/direction etc.)

(Name)

None applicable



### **1. Charter Mark for cardiovascular medicine department**

The clinical and academic department of cardiovascular medicine was awarded a charter mark for customer service in July. The award is testament to the commitment to patient centred care and high quality teaching at all levels within this department.

*For further information contact Dr David Patterson, Consultant Cardiologist on 020 7288 5292.*

### **2. COPD team shortlisted for Hospital Doctor Award**

The Whittington's chronic obstructive pulmonary disease service has been short listed in the Hospital Doctor awards for COPD management team of the year. Judging for the award took place on 11 September and the Whittington will hear the result in November 2006.

*For further information contact Dr Louise Restrick, Chest Physician on 020 7288 5353.*

### **3. Healthcare Commission healthcare reviews published in August 2006**

Two healthcare reviews were published in August one into diagnostics and the other into services for children in hospitals. These reviews were two of a series of four, taking an in-depth look at specific areas of healthcare, and are based on data collected in September 2005. These reviews provide an assessment of performance that feeds into the annual NHS performance ratings due out in October 2006.

The diagnostics healthcheck looked at three types of diagnostic services – imaging, endoscopy and pathology. The Whittington got an overall rating of fair along with 61 other trusts. Sixteen hospitals scored the highest rating of excellent and 15 scored the lowest of weak.

In the improvement review into services for children in hospital. Each hospital was awarded an overall score for the review of between 1 for poor and 4 for excellent. The Whittington scored 2 overall, which is fair, and in line with 70 per cent of Trusts surveyed.

Since the collection of this data a year ago significant improvements have been made in the areas addressed and actions plans are in place.

*For further information contact Paula Walker, Assistant Director of Nursing - Clinical Governance on 020 7288 3733.*

### **4. New building and wave two of redevelopment**

The new building is very close to completion but the contractors' technical commissioning is taking longer than expected because of the complexity of services.

The project to develop the strategic outline case for the redevelopment of the remainder of the site is now underway and clinical user groups will be set up to develop the future requirements for services.

We are also working with our academic partners, UCL and Middlesex University to see how the Whittington and Archway sites can be best used to support joint objectives for healthcare, education and research.

*For more information contact Susan Sorensen, Director of Strategy and Performance on 020 7288 5002.*

## **5. Independent sector provision of services**

The Whittington was recently asked to look at the potential capacity that might be available for use by independent healthcare companies as a result of the PFI development. The Trust undertook a rigorous evaluation of the risks and potential benefits and, following discussion at Board level, took the decision not to pursue any of the options for the leasing of facilities to the independent sector.

*For more information contact Susan Sorensen, Director of Strategy and Performance on 020 7288 5002.*

## **6. Future of London hospitals**

Recent items in the Evening Standard and Ham and High suggesting reductions in services at the Royal Free and the Whittington have been strongly rebutted. The speculation arose out of the establishment of various projects established to look at the configuration of services in London, which involved work taking place in Enfield, Barnet and Haringey. Along with the Royal Free, we are involved in the project as we have potential capacity for additional elective work.

*For more information contact Susan Sorensen, Director of Strategy and Performance on 020 7288 5002.*

## **7. MRSA bacteraemia recovery plan**

The Whittington has been required to submit a recovery plan to the Strategic Health Authority, outlining the action being taken to reduce the number of MRSA bacteraemia that have occurred since April 2006.

In early 2005, the Department of Health issued a national target for every acute trust to reduce the number of MRSA bacteraemia by 60 per cent by 2008. As part of that, every trust was issued with a target trajectory, to demonstrate an annual 20 per cent reduction over each of the subsequent three years to 2008.

The Whittington's target trajectory has been:

2005/6 – maximum of 24 bacteraemia

2006/7 – maximum of 18 bacteraemia

2007/8 – maximum of 12 bacteraemia

In 2005/6, the Whittington reported a total of 30 MRSA bacteraemia, which was 25 per cent above trajectory, and an increase on the 24 reported the

previous year. Between April and July 2006, 13 cases were reported, 38 per cent above the planned trajectory of eight. As a result, the SHA have required the recovery plan to be submitted.

All of the actions in the plan are already in place, including:

- root cause analysis of all MRSA bacteraemia
- revised practice and monitoring of peripheral intravenous cannulae
- continued promotion of the importance of hand hygiene
- close monitoring of the prescription and management of intravenous antibiotics, with patients being moved to oral antibiotics as soon as possible
- and increased education sessions for doctors, nurses and facilities/support staff.

*For further information contact Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing and Clinical Development on 020 7288 3589.*

## **8. Building for Babies fundraising appeal**

The Building for Babies appeal is gaining momentum as we enter the crucial phase of applying to foundations, trusts and companies. Since the launch of the appeal in May we have raised almost £40,000.

A number of fundraising initiatives have been lined up and take place over the next few months. These include the Hydroactive women's challenge and a campaign to distribute the Building for Babies leaflet to households and businesses in Haringey and Islington.

*For more information contact Deborah Goodhart, Press and Communications Manager on 020 7288 5983.*

## **9. Interim NHS London chief executive appointment**

Following David Nicholson's appointment as national NHS Chief Executive, Ruth Carnall CBE has been appointed as interim Chief Executive of NHS London from 1 September 2006.

*For more information contact Deborah Goodhart, Press and Communications Manager on 020 7288 5983.*

## **10. Annual public meeting**

The annual public meeting for the hospital will be held on Wednesday 4 October 2006 at 6.00pm in the undergraduate centre lecture theatre. All welcome.

*For more information contact Deborah Goodhart, Press and Communications Manager on 020 7288 5983.*