

Summary report of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on Friday 3 February 2012

This report presents a brief summary of the issues discussed at the February 2012 meeting of Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust Board of Directors.

1. Theatre arrangement with Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust

The Trust has entered into an arrangement with Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust to make some of its theatre time available to them one day per week for low risk, day case procedures on the site of Liverpool Women's Hospital. Alder Hey will provide all of their own staff and equipment and the arrangement will be formalised via a service level agreement.

As part of the preparations a full risk assessment had been undertaken to ensure that Alder Hey's patients will receive safe care whilst on the Liverpool Women's site and to ensure that our own patients and staff will not be compromised or disadvantaged in any way.

2. Mock Care Quality Commission inspection

A mock Care Quality Commission inspection had been undertaken on 19 January 2012 in anticipation of the unannounced visit expected before the end of March 2012.

3. Pseudomonas

The Trust was reviewing data in respect of pseudomonas cases which occurred on its neonatal unit, in the light of the recent report concerning the infection at the Royal Jubilee Maternity Hospital in Belfast where sink taps were found to be the source of the infection. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is found widely in soil and stagnant water. It does not usually cause illness in healthy people but can pose a threat to people with weak immune systems.

The events in Belfast were being considered by our infection control team to establish if there are any points of practice that the Trust might want to consider adopting.

4. 24/7 consultant cover in maternity service

Directors received a report setting out progress and actions in respect of moving towards achieving 24/7 consultant cover in the Trust's maternity services. The Board noted the considerable amount of work being undertaken to move towards the nationally recommended levels of consultant and midwifery cover. This included the work of the Maternity Alliance (a grouping of Trusts from around the country whose maternity services deliver over 5,000 women each year) and discussions with the Department of Health in respect of the maternity tariff, plans to lead a national work-stream on harm reduction in maternity services as a part of the Advancing Quality programme, submitting evidence to a specialist working party of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, and agreement with the local Primary Care Trust cluster to the establishment of a women's QIPP (Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention) programme for the city.

5. Patient story

The Board listened to a patient story, told by the Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Patient Experience on the patient's behalf and with her consent.

6. Annual report of Supervisors of Midwives

The Board received a presentation from three of its Supervisors of Midwives (SoM). SoMs' role is to protect women and babies by actively promoting a safe standard of midwifery practice. Every practising midwife has a supervisor who has a statutory responsibility to provide a mechanism for support and guidance.

7. Equality Delivery System

Details of the Trust's submission for the NHS Equality Delivery System (EDS) were given. EDS aims to demonstrate progress and outcomes as well as compliance with the Equality Act 2010. In respect of the four EDS goals the Trust has been assessed as achieving or developing in all but one sub-area.

8. Nutrition and Hydration Week

The week commencing 23 January 2012 was nutrition and hydration week. To help mark the occasion a number of Board members and senior managers had worked alongside our hostesses and served patient meals and drinks in our inpatient areas. We also had a display highlighting the importance of good nutrition and hydration in our main reception area, which was visited by patients, visitors and staff alike.

9. Helen Scholefield

Consultant Obstetrician at the Trust, Helen Scholefield has been appointed to the Department of Health's clinical reference group for specialist maternity services.

10. Performance and assurance as at December 2011

Directors reviewed the Trust's performance and assurance report.

11. Appointment of Vice Chair and Senior Independent Director

The process and timetable for appointing to the positions of Vice Chair and Senior Independent Director (SID) of the Board were agreed. The Trust's Council of Governors would be involved in appointing to the SID role. Both the Vice Chair and SID must be Non-Executive Directors of the Board.

A note about Liverpool Women's Board of Directors

Liverpool Women's Board of Directors comprises seven Non-Executive Directors (including the Chair) and six Executive Directors. The Board is responsible for determining the Trust's strategy and business plans, budgets, policy determination, audit and monitoring arrangements, regulations and control arrangements, senior appointment and dismissal arrangements and approval of the Trust's annual report and accounts. It acts in accordance with the requirements of its Foundation Trust terms of authorisation. These are available on Monitor's website at <http://www.monitor-nhsft.gov.uk/>.

Members of the Board are:

<i>Non-Executive Directors</i>	<i>Executive Directors</i>
Mr Ken Morris (Chair)	Mrs Kathy Thomson (Chief Executive)
Mr Allan Bickerstaffe	Mrs Vanessa Harris (Director of Finance)
Ms Liz Cross (interim Vice Chair)	Mr Jonathan Herod (Medical Director)
Mr Ian Haythornthwaite	Mrs Gail Naylor (Director of Nursing, Midwifery & Patient Experience)
Dr Pauleen Lane	Ms Caroline Salden (Chief Operating Officer)
Mr Hoi Yeung	Mrs Michelle Turner (Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development)

On the 28 February 2012 the term of office of Mr Hoi Yeung will come to an end. Mr Steve Burnett will join the Board from 1 March 2012. There is currently a vacancy for a Non-Executive Director (NED), to be considered by the Trust's Council of Governors which is responsible for appointing the Chair and NEDs of the Board.

If you have any queries on this summary report, please contact in the first instance Julie McMorran, Trust Secretary, at julie.mcmorran@lwh.nhs.uk / 0151 702 4033.