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| TRUST BOARD IN PUBLIC | | Date: 7 August 2014 | |
| | | Agenda Item: 3.4 | |
| REPORT TITLE: | | Charitable Funds Committee Chair Update | |
| EXECUTIVE SPONSOR: | | Paul Simpson (Chief Finance Officer) | |
| REPORT AUTHOR: | | Yvette Robbins (Non-Executive Director and Committee Chair) | |
| REPORT DISCUSSED PREVIOUSLY: (name of sub-committee/group & date) | | No – Board Update | |
| Action Required: | | | |
| Approval () | Discussion () | Assurance (√) | |
| Summary of Key Issues | | | |
| <p>This report briefs the Board on the key issues discussed at the meeting of the committee on 3 July 2014..</p> <p>Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sign off of the 2013/14 draft accounts; • Noting the recruitment of a fundraiser; • The strong outputs from the dementia nurse post “pump primed by Charitable Funds, and the problem over continuing to fund similar posts because of general fund shortfall; • The committee believed it was effective, and noted the increased activity around charitable funds, both in terms of spending, but also activity (such as the recruitment of the fundraiser). In particular the Committee discussed the “pump-priming” of posts (a departure from past funding patterns) and how that was changing perceptions because of the more visible output, which was helping improve the reputation of the fund. | | | |
| Relationship to Trust Strategic Objectives & Assurance Framework: | | | |
| SO3: Caring – Ensure patients are cared for and feel cared about | | | |

| Corporate Impact Assessment: | |
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| Legal and regulatory implications | <p>The Charity is registered with the Charity Commission in accordance with the Charities Act 1993, registered number 1054072.</p> <p>Charitable funds received by the Charity are accepted, held and administered as funds and property held on trust for purposes relating to the health service in accordance with the National Health Service Act 1977, the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990, the National Health Service Act 2009. These funds are held on trust by the corporate body.</p> <p>The fund is audited by the Trust's External Auditor (Grant Thornton UK LLP)</p> |
| Financial implications | The report provides assurance about the financial management of the charitable fund. |
| Patient Experience/Engagement | A deliberate positive impact from the use of the fund to support patient experience. |
| Risk & Performance Management | The committee, and this report, provides assurance about risk management relevant to the fund. |
| NHS Constitution/Equality & Diversity/Communication | |
| Attachments: | |
| Report paper | |

Charitable Funds Committee Chair Update

The Charitable Funds Committee met on 3 July and it was quorate. The key points from the meeting were as follows:

Draft accounts 2013/14

These were signed off. The funds carried forward from 2012/13 were £0.9m, the net balance of spend and new funds was a reduction in the funds by £0.2m leaving £0.7m available at the end of the financial year, and carried forward to 2014/15.

The Committee noted an increased level of spend from the funds, which is good in comparison with past years (the fund is there to be spent), but new funds raised were small. Spend is coming primarily from the “general fund” rather than from the many specific funds managed by wards and departments.

Fund raiser and schemes to raise funds for

Leading on from the above the Committee noted that the new fund raiser role had been advertised. It is anticipated that the successful applicant will provide focus that there has not been before and will publicise a small number of specific schemes that are relevant and important to the local community.

Funding older people’s services and Your Care Matters

The Committee noted the outputs from the dementia nurse (whose post was “pump-primed” by Charitable Funds) and discussed the shortfall in the “general fund” to cover the costs of pump-priming the falls nurse post. The costs of the “Your Care Matters” patient feedback initiative were submitted later in the month to the League of Friends, however the bid was not successful. The Committee would be considering how to cover the “general fund” shortfall, noting that the other funds remained underspent, to try and fund these important projects.

Overall

The Committee also discussed its effectiveness and agreed that there was now greater momentum around charitable funds, demonstrated both by increased spend and also increased activity around the funds which for the first time in many years would see the recruitment of a fundraiser. The Committee noted the impact of the “pump-primed” posts and “Your Care Matters” and agreed that the shift to this type of funding was being perceived very favourably, raised the fund’s profile and gave it a greater link with visibly good causes .

[END]