

TRUST BOARD IN PUBLIC		Date: 29th June 2017	
		Agenda Item: 6.1	
REPORT TITLE:		Council of Governor's Update	
EXECUTIVE SPONSOR:		Gillian Francis-Musanu Director of Corporate Affairs	
REPORT AUTHOR (s):		Gillian Francis-Musanu Director of Corporate Affairs	
REPORT DISCUSSED PREVIOUSLY: (name of sub-committee/group & date)		Shadow Council of Governors meeting	
Action Required:			
Approval ()	Discussion (√)	Assurance (√)	
Purpose of Report:			
To provide an update on the work of the shadow council of governors.			
Summary of key issues			
<p>The Council of Governors meeting took place on 18th April 2017. The meeting was quorate and attended by both elected, nominated governors and Executive and Non-Executive Directors. The key areas of focus for this meeting included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trust update • Overview of services provided at other sites • Proposal for nomination of lead governor • Feedback from individual governors <p>There was good debate and discussion on a range of areas.</p>			
Recommendation:			
The Board is asked to note the report.			
Relationship to Trust Strategic Objectives & Assurance Framework:			
SO5: Well led - To be a high quality employer of choice and deliver financial and clinical sustainability around a patient centred, clinically led leadership model.			
Corporate Impact Assessment:			
Legal and regulatory impact	A Council of Governors is a statutory requirement for an NHS Foundation Trust and forms part of the governance structure		
Financial impact	N/A		
Patient Experience/Engagement	A significant and important part of the role of the Council of Governors		
Risk & Performance Management	Relevant aspects included in the report		
NHS Constitution/Equality & Diversity/Communication	Important to the role and function of the Council of Governors		
Attachment: N/A			

TRUST BOARD REPORT –29th June 2017 UPDATE FROM THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

1. Introduction

The Shadow Council of Governors (SCoG) held its 7th meeting on 18th April 2017. The meeting was attended by elected, staff and nominated governor's as well two non-executive directors, two executive directors and one deputy director.

1.2 Main Agenda Items

The following items were discussed:

Trust update: The chief nurse gave an overview of the results of the national staff survey and the Trusts overall performance. Governors were keen to understand more about the detail of the staff survey results and commended the Trust on such a good outcome. They noted that Trust was in the bottom 20% for bullying and harassment towards staff from patients/relatives and were keen to understand what actions the Trust was taking to address this.

Governors were also keen to understand where the Trust stood nationally in terms of staff sickness absence and rates of turnover. There was some discussion about retention and agency usage and actions that the Trust was taking to address these areas.

An update was given on the new facilities across the Trust, including the Jacob Bell Training Centre and Brickfield House. Governors noted the appointment of the non-executive and associate non-executive director and they looked forward to meeting both in due course.

Overview of services provided at other sites: The Deputy Chief Operating Officer gave a presentation giving an overview of the services that the Trust provides at the following sites: Caterham Dene Hospital, Crawley Hospital, The Earlswood Centre, East Surrey Hospital, Horsham Hospital and Oxted Health Centre

The presentation included the number of patients attending these sites over the last two years and the challenges which were summarised as geography, estate, workforce, recruitment and sustainability, demographics, health and social care and multiple partners occupancy at some sites.

Governors raised the matter of utilisation of other hospitals; in particular Horsham Hospital and discussion took place around the challenges including geography, recruitment, affordability and ability to meet the needs of the population. Governors raised the matter of patients living further afield having to travel to East Surrey hospital. Discussion took place about ensuring the Trust was delivering the right outcomes and the benefits of attending East Surrey Hospital.

Proposal for nomination of a lead governor: The Director of Corporate Affairs presented the proposal for the nomination of a lead governor which was summarised as follows:

- To work with the Chair to facilitate effective relationships between the Board of Directors and the Council of Governors.
- To act as a conduit between the Council of Governors, the Chair and Director of Corporate Affairs.

- To meet routinely with the Chair and the Director of Corporate Affairs to contribute to the planning and preparation of the agenda for Council of Governors meetings.

The lead governor should be:

- appointed from amongst the public and patient governors
- appointed for an initial period of one year
- able to demonstrate experience of chairing meetings effectively
- able to demonstrate negotiation skills and experience
- able to seek and represent the views of other Governors

Person Specification:

To be able to fulfil this role effectively the Lead Governor will:

- Have the confidence of Governor colleagues and of members of the Board of Directors
- Have a willingness to challenge constructively
- Be able to present a well-reasoned argument
- Be committed to the success of Surrey & Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
- Be able to commit the time necessary

Term of Role

Appointment as Lead Governor will initially be for 12 month term; with a maximum of three one-year appointments may be held by any single Governor. The proposal was approved by the Council of Governors.

Prior to the nomination process the Council of Governors would hold a seminar/workshop team building event to assist with nominating a lead, to gain clarity on the role of governors and a better understanding of what was expected of them and how they could be better involved. This would take place before the start of the nomination process for the lead governor.

Feedback from individual governors: DB fed back that he had been involved in the SASH+ rapid process improvement workshop (RPIW) around the management of diarrhoea and was looking forward to seeing the results. He highlighted the challenges in rolling out such initiatives across the rest of the organisation. Governors would welcome a dedicated session around the work of Virginia Mason Institute and how this is being integrated in the Trust as part of SASH+.

Governors were that Susan Carr had tendered her resignation as a staff governor, due to her leaving SASH. Governors recognised the really important contribution Sue has made to their work.

One staff governor informed the meeting of a recent experience of a relative in the discharge lounge. The treatment was fantastic and care good, however there were concerns raised about lack of communication in the discharge lounge. The Deputy Chief Operating Officer confirmed that the discharge area was being looked at as an area for improvement and would provide an update on progress in the future.

2. Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the report from the Council of Governors.

Gillian Francis-Musanu
Director of Corporate Affairs
June 2017