

**TRUST BOARD**  
**25th November 2010**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Chairman's Report</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	Highlights of activities since October 2010
<b>BOARD ASSURANCE (Risk) / IMPLICATIONS</b>	Refers to progressing the Foundation Trust Application which is an element on the BAF
<b>STAKEHOLDER / PATIENT IMPACT AND VIEWS</b>	Refers to meetings with external stakeholders
<b>EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES</b>	None known
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	None known
<b>The Trust Board is asked to:</b>	Note the report.
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Aileen McLeish
<b>Date:</b>	17 November 2010
<b>Decision:</b>	For Noting

**TRUST BOARD**  
**25<sup>th</sup> November 2010****Chairman's Report****Foundation Trust**

We hope we are now in the final stage of our application to become a Foundation Trust. Monitor, the Foundation Trust regulator, have now substantially completed their assessment. They work culminated in a very positive Board to Board meeting between ourselves with Monitor on 4 November. Since then there have been a few low level enquiries but overall there has been little contact with Monitor since our meeting. In the meantime we have enabled PricewaterhouseCoopers to complete their financial review and they will be reporting back to Monitor. Monitor's Board will meet the day before our own Board meeting, but we have been warned that we are unlikely to receive any feedback until the following week.

Our Governors elections were completed successfully earlier this month. We had a 39% turnout amongst the public and 29% turnout among staff and volunteers. This compares favourably with the experience of other nascent Foundation Trusts. We held our first meeting of the shadow Council of Governors and the Board of Directors on the evening of 17 November. This was an informal meeting to start to get to know each other and for everyone to start to focus on the agenda for the next few months. We will be holding our first formal meeting on 1 December when we will start to transact business in anticipation of becoming a Foundation Trust.

I have also started to have one-to-one meetings with both successful and unsuccessful candidates in the Governor election, both to get to know people individually and in the case of unsuccessful candidates, to explore whether there are other ways we can work together.

**Work pressures within the Trust**

The last few weeks have seen relentless demand on our services due to emergency admissions. These issues will be discussed elsewhere in the Board meeting. However I would like to thank all staff for their efforts in dealing with the pressures with the hospital.

I continue to hear very good feedback on how our hospitals are increasingly being seen as providing an excellent service to patients and families. However, we have had a few negative stories in the local press in the last month. In each case we have made contact with the patient and/or family concerned and instigated a review. Where we have got things wrong, we have apologised and committed to learning from the mistake. Our message to everyone who feels they were not given the best care is to raise their concerns as early as possible with either the department concerned or with our PALS Department and we will listen and do what we can to improve things.

**Developments in the local health economy**

There has been a great deal of coverage in the press over the last week regarding NHS Surrey's plans to reduce its deficit. It is paramount that all members of the local healthcare economy work together to bring spending in line with budget so that when GP led commissioning starts there will be a "clean" handover. We are already working in our area of NW Surrey in collaboration with GPs, community health and social services. The pressure is on us all to be able to meet the increasing demands on our services with less money. I visited the GPs at the Heathcot Medical Practice in Woking to listen to their concerns about current arrangements and help facilitate closer collaboration. It was reassuring to hear about their existing relationships with other GP practices which could form the hub of a future commissioning consortium.

I also attended our own GP Spotlight meeting on Vascular surgery which we held in Ascot. This was an opportunity to reach into GP surgeries on the periphery of our catchment area and explain the innovative work which we are doing in vascular surgery.

**Other**

- I represented the Trust at the CPSO Annual Lecture at Royal Holloway which this year was given by Lord Crisp, former head of the NHS.
- I was delighted to join in the National Pathology Week Celebration held at the Lightbox in Woking. There was a lot of positive feedback about the contribution of our Pathology staff particularly regarding the sessions they ran for local school children
- Andrew Liles and I met Spelthorne MP Mr Kwasi Kwateng. This was our first meeting with Mr Kwateng who was newly elected in the summer. We were able to give him a thorough briefing about the Trust, developments within the NHS locally and nationally as well as taking him on a brief tour of St Peter's Hospital meeting staff and patients.
- Andrew Liles, John Headley and I had a useful meeting with our counterparts at Epsom & St Helier Hospital Trust to review the good progress being made with the increasing clinical links between ourselves. For example by working collaboratively in cardiology we have been able to repatriate work from London, providing patient treatment closer to home while giving a net saving to NHS Surrey.
- I attended the 6 monthly NHS Chairs Meeting at Said Business School. This is a small group of NHS Chairs which was set up and chaired by Rosemary Stewart the renowned healthcare academic. It is a useful forum to discuss issues of common concern and engage with eminent speakers in a confidential forum. This month we had interesting presentations from Professor Chris Ham of the King's Fund and David Colin-Tome of the Dept of Health.

**Submitted by:** Aileen McLeish 17 November 2010