

**TRUST BOARD**  
**28<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Chairman's Report</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	Highlights of activities since June 2011
<b>BOARD ASSURANCE (Risk) / IMPLICATIONS</b>	N/A
<b>STAKEHOLDER / PATIENT IMPACT AND VIEWS</b>	Refers to meetings with external stakeholders
<b>EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES</b>	Refers to the evaluation of Surrey's Learning Disability service one year on from its launch
<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>	20 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
<b>Decision:</b>	For Noting

**TRUST BOARD**  
**28<sup>th</sup> July 2011**  
**Chairman's Report**

**NHS Confederation Conference**

Andrew Liles, Valerie Bartlett, Jim Gollan, General Manager Cathy Parsons and I attended this annual conference. This was an opportunity to gain a sense of the mood within the NHS in the light of the reforms anticipated in the amended Health and Social Care Bill as well as learn about the many exciting innovations taking place within the health sector.

NHS colleagues have started to assess the changes being made to the Bill. And while there are many concerns about the additional complexity being added into the new commissioning system, there was a general sense of wanting to get on and make the new system work.

There was also a great deal of discussion about the extent to which the public are misinformed about perceived excessive NHS management. A recent King's Fund study has concluded that compared with other sectors the NHS is under supplied with managers. The Secretary of State has also acknowledged the importance of management in delivering the challenges ahead as well as saying that he believes that the acute sector does not have excess management. I would endorse this for this Trust where our focus becoming more patient focussed while streamlining our processes.

**Learning Disability service:**

I was pleased to help Ashford and St Peter's host an Evaluation of Surrey's Learning Disability service one year on from its launch. The meeting was attended by representatives from NHS Surrey, Community Services, Social Services, Surrey and Borders and each of the acute hospital Trusts. I was particularly pleased to welcome Richard Greenhalgh, newly appointed Chairman of Surrey and Borders, and Councillor Michael Gosling who has Cabinet responsibility for Adult Services on Surrey County Council.

On the positive side, there was active sharing of interventions which had worked. It was clear a great deal of progress has been made over the last year but a constant theme from all those participating was that much more needed to be done. For example, sustaining the liaison services in the acute hospitals. This service currently facilitates communications and support for patients with learning disabilities and their families while in hospital, leading to better treatment and health outcomes. Worries were expressed about maintaining this service in future. This is one of a number of challenges being taken forward. A further review is planned for a year's time.

**Council of Governors**

With 4 of our Governors, I attended the Foundation Trust Network Governor Induction Day. This was a useful update on current issues for Governors particularly in the light of the revisions to the Health and Social Care Bill.

In response to significant feedback during the Bill "pause" the Government has decided to delay giving extra powers to Governors to regulate their Foundation Trusts in place of Monitor as well as having voting powers over major decisions. The Government's has recognised that more time is needed to prepare Governors to take on these additional responsibilities.

**Professor Jeremy Wright**

I met with Professor Jeremy Wright who is retiring from the Trust after over 40 years service with the NHS. As Head of Research and Development for the last 11 years and as a senior Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology including being one of our Clinical Directors, Jeremy has certainly made his mark on Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeremy on behalf of the Board for everything he has done for this Trust and for the NHS as a whole. We all wish him well with his next adventure, working at a hospital in Ethiopia with a particular focus on reducing maternal mortality rates.

**Other**

With Andrew Liles I have had meetings with David Clayton Smith and Anne Walker respectively Chairman and Chief Executive of NHS Surrey. I have also met with Councillor Michael Gosling from Surrey County Council to discuss the nascent Health and Wellbeing Board for Surrey, which he chairs.

I represented the Trust at the Woking Mayor's Civic Celebration and also the Civic Service for the Mayor of Runnymede.

Along with Peter Taylor I attended the Trust Summer Ball. This marks the end of the year for our Foundation stage doctors who will continue their training in other Trusts in London and Surrey. Both Consultant Phil Bearn and I took the opportunity to thank these doctors for their contributions and wish them well in their future careers.

Aileen McLeish  
Chairman