



Issue No 12: June 2007

Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals



NHS Foundation Trust

Your Trust News

Newsletter for the members of Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Get involved – Be a Governor

Have you ever thought about becoming a governor?



Susan Mahmoud
(Longthorpe)

You?
(Your town)

Maria Stafford
(Ketton)

Elections to the Trust Board of Governors are being held during the summer and all members are eligible to stand.

There are nine public governor roles up for election (two of which are currently vacant) as well as four staff governor roles (two of which are currently vacant.)

Voting for the public governors is done by the public membership through a postal ballot which will run during August with the polls closing on Thursday 6 September.

If you would like to find out more about what the role of a governor involves, a series of drop in sessions have been arranged as follows:

Wednesday 27 June at 3:00pm in the Restaurant at Stamford Hospital

Thursday 5 July at 5:00pm in the Committee Room at Edith Cavell Hospital

Saturday 14 July at 10:00am in the PostGraduate Centre Lecture Theatre at Peterborough District Hospital (on Midland Road)

These sessions will offer the chance to hear from current governors and directors about the valuable role that governors perform, as well as practical advice on how to stand for election.

You can confirm your attendance at the sessions by ringing the members' helpline on 01733 343221.

If you are unable to attend but would like to find out more, please ring Jane Pigg, Company Secretary, on 01733 874174 for an informal chat.

Information will also be available on our public website:

www.peterboroughandstamford.nhs.uk

If you know someone who would like to become a member they can register on 01733 343221

Find out more about becoming a governor inside.



Message from **Nik Patten**

Dear Member,

Welcome to the June edition of Your Trust News. It's been an eventful few months since I last wrote to you. We have seen the completion of the consultation into the future of Stamford Hospital, continuing progress towards the Greater Peterborough Health Investment Plan, and the release of the report resulting from our orthopaedic waiting list investigation. We have started implementing the recommendations of the report which should make sure such an incident can not happen again.

Last year was an impressive year with good satisfaction results from patients and staff, compliance with all but one of the Standards for Better Health and a financial surplus of nearly £2.5M. This year our priorities are; to continue to provide excellent patient care, to achieve a financial surplus of £5M, and to achieve all standards and targets set including making good progress towards the 18 week referral to treatment target. I also intend to

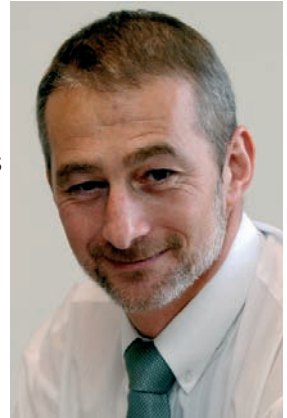
review our strategy beyond the new hospital by including as many people as I can in that process.

In this issue of Your Trust News we are focusing on the upcoming governor elections. We will be holding elections for nine public governors, and of course all members are eligible to stand. If you would like to help make a difference, please attend one of our special drop-in sessions.

Thank you for your continued interest and support as a member of the Trust.



Nik Patten
Chief Executive



Q&A

If you would like the opportunity to ask questions of Nik Patten, the Chief Executive, or any of the Trust's Directors then please contact Bethan

Griffiths on 01733 875201 or e-mail foundation.trust@pbh-tr.nhs.uk. Your questions will be answered in the next members' newsletter.

Targets

The financial year 1 April 2006 – 31 March 2007 was a great success for the Trust as we reported a financial surplus of around £2.5M and met or bettered most of the key national performance indicator targets for hospital trusts.

The financial figure is better than we planned and helps us to reduce the accumulated deficit from previous years and make investments in equipment, staff and the hospital environment – benefiting our patients.

Highlights from the year include:

- the Trust had 11 cases of MRSA bacteraemia for the year - again placing us amongst the best performing trusts for infection control in the country;
- a yearly average of 98.5 per cent of people attending A&E were seen in four hours or less (target is 98 per cent);

- 100 per cent of patients suspected of having cancer were seen within two weeks of their referral (target is 100 per cent);
- 98 per cent of cancer patients had their first treatment within 31 days of the decision to treat (target is 98 per cent);
- 98 per cent of cancer patients had their first treatment within 62 days of their referral (target is 95 per cent);
- 100 per cent of people were allocated a bed on a ward within 12 hours following an emergency admission.

The targets are set by the Department of Health and the Healthcare Commission. They are audited and used as a snapshot to compare the performance of trusts around the country.

We also set tough internal targets in key areas to measure our performance on a month by month basis. Combined with the government-set targets, we evaluate our performance in more than 50 different areas each month.

New non-executive director

Caroline Stark has been appointed as a new non-executive director of the Trust, replacing Martin Hindle who resigned in December 2006 to become Chairman of the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust.

Caroline's career has included management and directorship roles for organisations as diverse

as Customs and Excise and English Nature, where she was Director of Resources until her retirement in September 2006. Caroline, who lives in Rutland, took her place on the Board of Directors on 11 May.



Waiting list update

The investigation into our elective (non-emergency) orthopaedic treatment waiting list has been completed and the report and associated action plan have been sent to Monitor (the Foundation Trust regulator) and our partner primary care trusts.

As we announced in January, an investigation was launched after it became apparent that a number of

patients had waited, or were going to wait, longer than the government-set maximum target of six months.

To date, 645 patients have been affected by this situation. At the end of April, 370 patients had breached the six month target – the rest have been treated already. We are confident that by the end of August, normal service will have been resumed and no patient will be waiting longer than six months.

Glaucoma team awarded

The Trust's glaucoma community screening programme was named in the final five entries for the recent Allergan Glaucoma Achievement Awards.

The screening scheme launched in 2005 as a joint project between the Trust and what is now Peterborough Primary Care Trust. It allows community optometrist practices to screen patients on their premises – saving many a visit to hospital. This frees up hospital appointments for patients with higher risk problems and has led to shorter waiting times for initial assessment and no unnecessary delays for treatment.

The achievement awards allow groups and individuals working in glaucoma management to compete for



recognition of excellence in their field. The screening team was named in the final five, with the judges particularly praising the organisation of the project and the supervision and training involved.

The scheme currently includes six optometrist practices with 11 accredited specialist optometrists in glaucoma who have screened over 2,300 patients to date.

Positive patient survey results

A really positive report on our hospitals was given by patients questioned in a survey by the Healthcare Commission.

The 2007 Patient Survey looked at the experiences of people admitted as inpatients to 167 NHS hospitals in England in autumn 2006.

Of the 58 questions asked, we scored average or above average in 57 questions – coming in the top 20 per cent of trusts in 27 categories.

For each question asked in the survey, individual responses were scored on

a scale of 0 to 100. Results for the Trust include:

- a score of 92 given to the patients confidence and trust in the doctors treating them;
- a score of 90 given to the patients confidence and trust in the nurses treating them;
- a score of 89 given to the patients perception of whether nurses washed their hands between touching patients;
- a score of 95 given to the privacy experienced by the patient during treatment or examination;

- a score of 91 given to the level of dignity and respect patients felt they were given while in hospital.

The Trust came in the bottom 20 per cent in one category because a score of 55 was given by patients who had to share bathrooms or shower areas with members of the opposite sex. This happened mainly due to the restrictions of the old building design at the District Hospital.

If you want to view the report in full visit:
www.healthcarecommission.org.uk

Our new £900,000 state of the art Intensive Care Unit (ICU) was unveiled in April.

The eight-bed unit, which includes a specialist isolation bay and two high dependency bed bays, can be found on the first floor of the District Hospital.

New ICU

It has been designed to have more space for patients and medical equipment and an improved environment for patients, visitors and members of staff.

Photo courtesy of Peterborough Evening Telegraph



Your Board of Governors

Who are we?

There are 26 governors of the Trust. Of these, 14 are members of the public who are voted for by public members, six are members of staff voted for by staff members, and six are representatives nominated directly by partner organisations that work closely with the Trust.

What do we do?

We meet four times a year as a full Board of Governors and more frequently within committees. Some of our responsibilities include:

- appointing non-executive directors, considering their performance and setting their terms of service;
- working with the Board of Directors on strategy including the requirement for financial control, considering the new hospital, raising a positive profile and needing to connect with the local community;
- promoting the benefits of membership, serving existing members and recruiting new members;
- understanding the workings of our hospitals and their strengths and weaknesses;
- ensuring the Trust's constitution is updated to meet any changes;
- considering the impact of national policies on the services of our hospitals;
- supporting the retention of a local Peterborough focus on organising and commissioning health care services;
- learning from the experiences of other foundation trusts' governors and sharing good practice.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a governor, please call Jane Pigg, Company Secretary, on 01733 874174 for an informal chat.

Meet a governor

If you would like to meet one of the governors or have a governor present to your local group or organisation, we would be happy to do so – please contact the PA to the Company

Secretary, on 01733 875424, to organise this. Alternatively, if you are interested in attending a governor surgery either at one of the hospitals or at a local venue please contact us.



Meetings in public 2007

Board of Directors' meeting dates

Tuesday 7 August – 2:00pm
Committee Room, Edith Cavell Hospital

Tuesday 6 November – 2:00pm
Committee Room, Edith Cavell Hospital

To confirm your attendance for any of the above meetings please contact 01733 343221

Board of Governors' meeting dates

Tuesday 10 July – 6:00pm
St Johns' Boardroom, near Peterborough Maternity Unit

Wednesday 10 October – 4:00pm
Stamford Hospital Restaurant

Annual Public Meeting

Wednesday 12 September – 5.00pm
Nurses' Home Recreation Hall, near Peterborough Maternity Unit



Questions and Answers

Q: *We have heard that the Trust has made a financial surplus – does this mean that there is no longer a deficit?*

A: The Trust has made a provisional financial surplus of £2.5M this year. However the previous deficit that we had has still not been paid back in full and we therefore need to continue to make further savings this year. Our Annual Plan sets out our financial position and issues for the coming year and will be published soon. If you would like a copy of the Annual Plan then please contact the members' helpline. It will also be available on the Trust website.

Q: *There have been a lot of debates about Stamford Hospital – what happens next?*

A: The consultation on the partnership arrangements for Stamford closed on the 22 June. I hope you took part and submitted your comments. So far, we have processed more than 1,000 returned responses. Time will be taken to review the responses in July and the outcome will then be presented and discussed at the Board of Directors' public meeting in August.

Audio CD's now available



Meeting Feedback

Thank you to all the public members who attended our Board of Governors meeting on Thursday 12 April. We covered a range of topics including:

- a presentation from Dr Martin McShane, Director of Strategic Planning and Health Outcomes at Lincolnshire PCT, focusing on the review of the needs for local services throughout Lincolnshire which has led to the consultation "Shaping Health for Lincolnshire". This is running until the 9 August - please see their website for details: www.lpct.nhs.uk;
- an update on the Stamford Hospital Consultation by Ian Love, the Trust Head of Business Development;
- the consultation that ended on the 22 May regarding the future of services in Huntingdonshire and the role of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital;
- the recommendation from the committee of governors involved in non-executive director recruitment to approve the appointment of two non-executive directors: Caroline Stark who started with the Trust on the 11 May (please see the additional item earlier in the newsletter), and Stuart Anderson who is to start with the Trust later in the year;
- progress being made towards a national forum for governors;
- the Trust's self-assessment against Healthcare Commissions standards (the Annual Health Check);

- progress against the code of governance recommended by Monitor – the Foundation Trust regulator;
- a review of current performance issues facing the Trust.

Our next meeting is being held at 6:00pm on Tuesday 10 July at St Johns' (situated opposite the Fenland Wing on the District Hospital site). We look forward to seeing you then.

The Board of Directors also met in public on Tuesday 1 May at Stamford Hospital. Items of interest included:

- a debate on the Stamford Hospital partnership proposals, with contributions from the 80+ members of the public who attended;
- a report from Nik Patten concerning his priorities and vision for the future for the Trust's hospitals;
- an update on the Peterborough PFI scheme and current performance issues.

The next public Board of Directors' meeting is being held at 2:00pm on Tuesday 7 August in the Committee Room at Edith Cavell Hospital. Members are invited to attend and will have the opportunity to meet some of the governors who also attend the public Board of Directors' meetings.