

EAST KENT HOSPITALS UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

REPORT TO:	COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS – 10 MARCH 2014
SUBJECT:	REPORT FROM THE STRATEGIC COMMITTEE
REPORT FROM:	COMMITTEE CHAIR
PURPOSE:	Information/Discussion

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY:

The Strategic Committee met on 14th February, welcoming Dee Mepstead as a new member. A comprehensive Clinical Strategy Verbal Update was presented by the Director of Strategic Development, Assistant Director of Strategic Development and Divisional Director (Surgical Division) on the 4 work streams, with opportunity for questions and discussion. It was noted that, following questions on the emergency care capital plans at the meeting on 12 December, that these had been revised for WHH A&E but would not affect the paediatric development as planned there. It was agreed that it was too early in the public consultation on the new model of care for outpatients for the Strategic Committee to provide any views on this to the CoG, but that this should be a major item for an update presentation and for discussion at the forthcoming CoG on March 10th, and that a CoG Response was required, following this consultation, by the end of March.

An update was given on the Back Office Review from which it was noted that Serco Consultancy Arm involvement had been discontinued and that staff meetings, with valuable input from these, were continuing. The response to the EU Advertisement for an Estates Advisor had been good and progress was being made on the Trust Estates Review.

Michael Lucas was thanked for his contributions to this committee on his retirement from the CoG. The next meeting was confirmed as on April 29, when a main item will be preparation of a draft commentary for the CoG on the forthcoming Trust Quality Report (to which contributions from all Governors would be welcomed).

SUMMARY OF THE COMMITTEE'S FUTURE WORK PLANS:

Future work of this Committee in early 2014 will include preparation of a draft commentary on the Trust Quality Report, on the Phase 1 (2014/15 - 2015/16) Business Plan, any strategic implications of the forthcoming CQC Visit (when reported) and possible strategic repercussions of the interim centralisation of high risk and emergency surgery. (The Chair and other Governors were informed, at a planned meeting of Governors with NEDs on Feb 12, of the decision to centralise all (adult) high risk general (including emergency) surgery at a single Hub at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, on an interim basis, by May, and understood that this was for the operational reasons as cited, requiring a swift response. The Governors present noted that this had repercussions for other specialties and for capital plans and that all stakeholders, including Governors and Staff would be informed of this decision promptly.)

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS ACTION REQUIRED:

To note the report.

To comment on the Committee's intended future work plans.