

EAST KENT HOSPITALS UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

REPORT TO:	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 28 FEBRUARY 2014
SUBJECT:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
PURPOSE:	Information

CONTEXT / REVIEW HISTORY / STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The monthly report from the Chief Executive will provide the Board of Directors with key issues related to:

- Recent DH/Monitor bulletins/DH newsletters/CQC briefings
- KSS Academic Health Science Network Limited (AHSN) Application for admission as a guarantor
- RIS Update
- CQC Visit Update
- Dementia Conference
- Latest Publications
- Consultations

IMPACT ON TRUST'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

Compliance with notifications from regulatory bodies and policy changes all contribute towards achievement of strategic objectives.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS / IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY:
Nil

PROFESSIONAL ADVICE TAKEN ON ANY NOVEL OR CONTENTIOUS ISSUES:
Nil

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:

The Board of Directors is asked to note the report.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT TAKING ACTION:

Failure of the Trust to respond in a timely fashion with appropriate information may affect the Trusts rating with Monitor and the CQC.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

1. KEY ITEMS FROM RECENT MONITOR/DH BULLETINS/NEWSLETTERS

FT Bulletin – 27 January 2014

- Monitor is currently consulting on a proposed new approach to help facilitate a smoother and swifter path for FT mergers which benefit patients.
- Monitor is seeking views on sharing information they have been collecting on emergency care access with the aim of enabling FTs to benchmark against their peers.
- Annual planning guidance was published by Monitor in December 2013. Monitor makes reference to section 1 which provides some planning assumptions that aim to provide the sector with more certainty about the scale of the challenge facing the delivery of high quality, sustainable care for patients.
- Under the Risk Assessment Framework, from month 10 foundation trusts subject to monthly monitoring, will be submitted at template which will require limited additional information to be sent to Monitor.
- From quarter 3, as part of Monitor's quarterly monitoring process, relationship teams will address a number of standard questions to foundation trusts regarding their financial and operational performance via a web based survey. Responses to this survey will help inform Monitor's understanding of both financial and operational risk and are an obligatory element of the quarterly monitor process.
- Quality report requirements for 2013/14 remain unchanged from last year. However, providers are asked to consider reporting on the patient element, as well as the staff element of the Friends and Family Test.
- The latest Accounts and FTC process guidance has been issued.
- Board are asked to consider the recommendations from the Department of Health publication *A review of the NHS Hospitals Complaints System – Putting Patients Back in the Picture* alongside best practice in Monitor's *Quality Governance Framework*.
- Monitor undertook its first voluntary patient level costing collection for the financial year 2012/13. Findings will be published latter this year and foundation trusts will be encouraged to participate in the 2013/14 collection.

FTN Networked Newsletter – Issue 47

- EU Procurement Rules: The cabinet office which is responsible for implementation of the new rules domestically, will organise a series of free training sessions to ensure public bodies understand and are ready to comply with new requirements.

2. KENT SURREY SUSSEX ACADEMIC HEALTH SCIENCE NETWORK LIMITED (AHSN) APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION AS A GUARANTOR

EKHUFT has become a member guarantor of the AHSN. As a guarantor, we may incur liability to contribute the sum of £1 to the assets of the Company in the event of the Company being wound up while we are a guarantor or within one year after we cease to be a guarantor. The benefits to the Guarantors being the ability to 'instruct' the Board if they feel the Board is acting counter to the agreed strategy and are effectively the 'owners' of the AHSN.

Given the sum involved, the Trust Secretary has advised that EKHUFT Standing Financial Instructions do not require formal approval by the Board or Board Committee.

3. RADIOLOGY INFORMATION SYSTEMS UPDATE

A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

4. CQC VISIT (MARCH 2014) - UPDATE

EKHUFT has organized a number of staff road shows to raise awareness of the CQC inspection in March 2014.

The leader of the CQC inspection – Siobhan Jordan – visited our three hospital sites which the CQC will be inspecting. We now understand that the CQC inspection team are not expecting to be on our hospital sites on Monday 3 March (they will spend this day going through our data) but will visit one site each day:

Tuesday 4 March – QEQM

Wednesday 5 March – WHH

Thursday 6 March – K&C

We are expecting the CQC team to comprise of around 50 people.

5. DEMENTIA CONFERENCE

The EKHUFT dementia team has hosted its first dementia conference, bringing together hospital staff – including porters, housekeepers and students – with carers, support organisations, community staff, the dementia visitor service, the Alzheimer's Society and people with dementia. Over 50 people came and gave really positive feedback, particularly about the opportunity it gave them to network. Fifteen speakers – including people with dementia and carers – spoke on everything from living with dementia, the Memory Service, support for carers and end of life care.

6. PUBLICATIONS

MONITOR'S LATEST PUBLICATIONS:

Detailed Guidance on the Production of Quality Reports 2013/14

NHS foundation trusts must include a report on the quality of care they provide within their overall annual report. The quality report specifically aims to improve public accountability for the quality of care.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

The Public Accounts Committee has published its report on maternity services in England, finding that although the vast majority of women have good outcomes and care, there are variations in performance and an excessively high clinical negligence bill. The report recommended that the Department of Health set clear objectives and review whether the current tariffs for maternity care are set at the right level.

NHS England publication – Friends and Family Test

The first results of the Friends and Family Test for NHS funded maternity services across England were published alongside the latest FFT results for A&E and inpatient departments on 30 January 2014.

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/2014/01/30/fft-mat/>

NHS England publication for Commissioners

Guidance for commissioners in 'any town' to show what a typical health system's quality and financial baseline may look like in 2018/19 and how applying high impact interventions through their commissioning decisions might address this challenge.

7. CONSULTATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Taken From Monitor's FT Bulletin:

Draft governance review guidance

Monitor published draft guidance on carrying out governance reviews. The guidance is designed to support foundation trusts in gaining assurance that the foundation trust is well led and, therefore, able to meet patients' needs and expectations in challenging circumstances. Responses are required by **5pm Friday 7 March 2014**.

Your help needed: guidance for governors on representing the interests of foundation trust members and the public

To offer governors of NHS foundation trusts concise guidance on how to represent the interests of foundation trust members and the public most effectively, Monitor is working with the Care Quality Commission, Foundation Trust Network, Foundation Trust Governors' Association and Department of Health to produce a new "mini guide".

The mini guide will be accessibly written, and designed to help governors understand how they might go about representing the interests of members and the public in a meaningful and practical way. It will also aim to help trust boards and staff to understand how they can support governors to do this. We plan to use real-life examples to illustrate some of the challenges faced by councils of governors and trusts in this area, and to showcase ideas of good practice.

To find these real-life examples, Monitor would like to hear from trusts where governors have been particularly successful in representing the interests of members and of the public (with trust help as appropriate).

Taken from FTN Bulletin:

Care Quality Commission - online survey of NHS mental health trusts

The CQC has now opened a survey with the aim of collecting information about health-based places of safety for people who have been detained under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act. The survey will close at the end of February.

NHS England consults on clinical reference group stakeholder registration

NHS England is seeking views on registration to specialised services clinical reference groups. Stakeholder registration is initially open for clinical staff or provider organisations working within specialised services.

NHS England ask people to register interest in working to share the future of healthcare

NHS England invite people to register their interest in working to shape the future of healthcare to design a people powered NHS. NHS England will be developing approaches and networks to ensure that people's input can be sought, heard and acted on. The opportunity to register an interest in this is open until March 2014.

Stuart Bain
Chief Executive