

EAST KENT HOSPITALS UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

REPORT TO: COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING – 7 JULY 2014

SUBJECT: REPORT FROM CoG STRATEGIC COMMITTEE

REPORT FROM: COMMITTEE CHAIR

PURPOSE: Information/Discussion

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY:

The Strategic Committee met on 10th June to consider the Governors' View of the Trust's 2014-19 Strategic Plan, following circulation of a draft (Version 1) to all Governors and an invitation to any interested Governor to attend this meeting.

Governors were informed that Monitor had reviewed the Trust's 1-2 year Operational Plan, submitted in April (together with a Governors' View) and had found this to be realistic (with reference to the Monitor letter of 16 May to all FT Chief Executives requesting their review of their 2015/16 Operational Plans, as some FTs appeared insufficiently aware of the financial challenges presenting in that year). In view of this Governors were able to focus on the final 3 years of the Strategic Plan and it was agreed that a draft View of this be circulated to all Governors for information and comment following circulation of Version 9 of the Trust Plan, recognising that this was still "under constructions" and that there were some substantial gaps. I am very grateful to the Governors who responded to these and to Brian Glew for collecting and responding to comments and queries and then drafting, in consultation with these and myself, a coherent View - which is required to be presented by June 18 to the Trust and then to Monitor.

A second and important item at this meeting was the discussion of the recently published CQC Team Inspection Report on the Histopathology Department at Maidstone Hospital, in the context of the proposed impending joint venture between EKHUFT and MTW Trust. There was unanimous agreement that the Chair of this Committee write to the Chair of the BoD requesting assurance that patient specimens and staff should not be transferred to Maidstone Hospital until the "weaknesses" cited by the CQC Team had been rectified, and it was agreed that this letter be circulated to Governors for information.

Progress with the Clinical Strategy was reported with particular reference to agreed reviewed surgical activity numbers for high and lower risk patients in the context of the present configuration and of the impacts on patient travel, transfers and facilities required in a single Hub model. Further work on North Kent issues arising from Outpatient Model Public Consultation is being addressed.

SUMMARY OF THE COMMITTEE'S FUTURE WORK PLANS:

Future work of the Committee at its next meeting on 8 August may include consideration of strategic implications of the March CQC Inspection as the initial Report of this is currently being examined by Trust Managers.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS ACTION REQUIRED:

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