

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING – PUBLIC SESSION

Tuesday 6th May 2014, 10.00am

The Lakeside Room, Kettering Conference Centre, Thurston Drive, Kettering,
NN15 6PB

Minutes

Present	Designation
Paul Bertin	Chairman
Maureen Shram	Public governor – Kettering & Corby
Michael Darling	Public governor – Daventry & South Northants
Gail Sutherland	Public governor – Northampton
Des Savage	Public governor – Northampton
Mark Wall	Public governor – Northampton
Carol Ash	Public governor – Wellingborough & East Northants
Hector Graham	Public governor – Wellingborough & East Northants
Janet Hathaway	Public governor – Wellingborough & East Northants
Hummad Anwar	Young Service User governor
Wendy Steele	Adult Service User governor
Kevin Boyce	Adult Service User governor
Beverley Sturdgess	Adult Service User governor
Colin Russell	Adult Service User governor
Brian Lawrence	Older Service User governor
Andrew Bailey	Carer governor
Rita Hinde	Carer governor
Priscilla Brown	Carer governor
Sandra Bemrose	Carer governor
Eileen Hales	Staff governor – Unregistered Nurses
Suzanne Johnson	Staff governor – Non Clinical
Cllr Judy Shephard	Partner governor – Northamptonshire County Council
Cllr Rosemary Herring	Partner governor – Borough and District Councils
Brendan Macken	Partner governor – Voluntary – SURG
Liam Condron	Partner governor – Voluntary – Older People

In attendance	Designation
John Archard-Jones	Deputy Chair
Sushel Ohri	Non-Executive Director
Angela Hillery	Chief Executive
Richard McKendrick	Chief Operating Officer
Julie Shepherd	Interim Director of Nursing & Quality
Louise Payne	Director of Corporate Support
Des McMorrow	Deputy Director (Mental Health)
Ben Tolley	
Martin Stanton	
Paul Martin	Company Secretary
Clare Cooper	Foundation Trust Officer

Minute	Agenda Topic and Discussion																						
COG14-33	<p>1. Chairman's Introduction and welcome</p> <p>The Chairman opened the meeting, and welcomed all present.</p>																						
COG14-34	<p>2. Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="293 506 1508 958"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brenda McCraith</td> <td>Public governor – Kettering & Corby</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ian Watts</td> <td>Public governor – Kettering & Corby</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anthony Bagot-Webb</td> <td>Public governor – Daventry & South Northants</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carole Child</td> <td>Public governor – Daventry & South Northants</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dennis Holland</td> <td>Adult Service User governor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Liz Johnstone</td> <td>Adult Service User governor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chris Stirney</td> <td>Staff governor – Registered Nurses</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jacque Gowans</td> <td>Staff governor – Other Clinical</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mike Twigger</td> <td>Partner governor – University of Northampton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Laney Holland</td> <td>Partner governor – Northamptonshire Rights & Equality Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC Paul Phillips</td> <td>Partner governor – Criminal Justice Partnership</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Brenda McCraith	Public governor – Kettering & Corby	Ian Watts	Public governor – Kettering & Corby	Anthony Bagot-Webb	Public governor – Daventry & South Northants	Carole Child	Public governor – Daventry & South Northants	Dennis Holland	Adult Service User governor	Liz Johnstone	Adult Service User governor	Chris Stirney	Staff governor – Registered Nurses	Jacque Gowans	Staff governor – Other Clinical	Mike Twigger	Partner governor – University of Northampton	Laney Holland	Partner governor – Northamptonshire Rights & Equality Council	ACC Paul Phillips	Partner governor – Criminal Justice Partnership
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COG14-35	<p>3. Declaration of Interests</p> <p>There were no Declarations of Interest made.</p>																						
COG14-36	<p>4. Governor Membership Update</p> <p>Paul Martin advised that Colin Russell had accepted the role of Adult Service User Governor, following Jeff Bett's resignation, and also that Councillor Sylvia Hughes had been appointed by Northamptonshire County Council as Deputy for Councillor Judy Shephard.</p>																						
COG14-37	<p>5. Minutes of previous meeting held on 5th March 2014</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th March 2014 were agreed as a true record of the meeting.</p>																						
COG14-38	<p>6. Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.</p>																						
COG14-39	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>For Discussion and Debate</u></p> <p>7. Environmental update from Chair</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed there were no material issues that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda</p>																						

COG14-40	8. Environmental update from Governors
COG14-40a	Michael Darling summarised the topics that had been discussed in the Governors' pre-meet in advance of this meeting, which included:
COG14-40b	<u>Community Mental Health services</u> Michael advised that Governors had raised issues in relation to potential changes in services as part of the current redesign process of community mental health services. The Council received assurance from Angela Hillery and Richard McKendrick that the aim of any service transformation was to work more efficiently and effectively whilst striving to improve the quality of services.
COG14-40c	<u>Recent press coverage</u> Michael also advised that a number of Governors had been made aware of the Trust's recent press coverage in a Daventry publication, and concerns had been raised over potential reputational damage for the Trust. Angela and Richard provided assurance that the issues raised in the media coverage were being addressed.
COG14-41	9. Chief Executive's Report
COG14-41a	Angela Hillery introduced the circulated paper and highlighted key points, including the Trust's performance, the Trust's 2014/15 Quality Improvement Priorities, the latest position on Healthier Northamptonshire, and an update on service developments across the Trust.
COG14-41b	Regarding the Trust's 2014/15 Quality Improvement Priorities, Angela highlighted the patient experience emphasis and the utilisation of a new feedback software package called "IWantGreatCare" which will provide real-time and clinician level feedback.
COG14-41c	In terms of Healthier Northamptonshire, Angela advised that the workstreams continue to be progressed and the Trust remains a major contributor to the programme. She continued that Louise Payne and Richard McKendrick had been assigned as Senior Responsible Officers on delivery elements within the system, and added that Northamptonshire has been identified as one of eleven "Challenged Communities" across the country, meaning there would be additional external scrutiny placed on the county's future strategy for delivering quality and sustainability.
COG14-41d	Regarding the tendering process for Community Health Services for Children and Young People, Angela advised that the Trust had received correspondence from Nene & Corby Clinical Commissioning Groups indicating that they had made a decision to postpone the tender to allow the model and specification to be further developed and tested, and to allow time for service improvements, led by a Joint Improvement Board. Angela added that the CCGs have given NHFT lead provider status, meaning services at Northampton General Hospital (NGH) and from other providers would work with the Trust via the lead provider model.
COG14-41e	In terms of new services, Angela confirmed that the Trust had been appointed as the preferred provider for the provision of nine intermediate care beds in Brackley as part of a facility which is expected to be ready by 2016, and had also been awarded a two-year contract to provide a psychological support service for patients with personality disorders within HMP Swinfen Hall, Lichfield, Staffordshire.
COG14-41f	Angela also confirmed that the Trust had submitted its 2014-16 Operational Plan to Monitor and thanked Governors and the wider Foundation Trust Membership who

	had contributed to its development. Angela explained that the Trust was now working on the development of the second element of the Annual Plan process which comprised the submission of a five-year Strategic Plan to Monitor by 30th June 2014.
COG14-41g	Eileen Hales asked for an update on Children's services in light of recent negative Ofsted reports on two locations. Angela advised that she attended the Joint Improvement Board meetings on a monthly basis and that there was evidence of progress, however it remained a 2 to 3 year project on the county's agenda.
COG14-41h	In response to a query from Andrew Bailey, Angela confirmed that meeting the demand for children's services remained challenging, and the role schools could play in supporting this was still being developed.
COG14-41i	Regarding the Frail and Elderly Hub, Andrew Bailey sought clarification as to if the service was now working countywide. Angela confirmed that the Hub was taking referrals from across the county, however this remained a test period and the county would need to agree to scale up this programme.
COG14-41j	In terms of the recent press coverage on CMHT services, Andrew Bailey queried if the letter was reflective of real risks that could be managed, i.e. a reduction in staff. Angela acknowledged that change was difficult, however the Trust needed to improve quality and reduce costs. Risks would be mitigated to protect quality, and capacity would be built at primary care level.
COG14-41k	In response to a query from Judy Shephard, Richard McKendrick advised that the contract for HMP Swinfen Hall was the first of its type in the country, which the Trust had won through competition.
COG14-41l	The Council thanked Angela for her comprehensive report.
COG14-42	10. The Work of the Board of Directors' Governance Committee
COG14-42a	Sushel Ohri, Chair of the Governance Committee, gave a presentation on the work of the Governance Committee. He outlined its remit, membership and reporting arrangements, developments in how the Committee functioned, including the use of workshops, and the Committee's key achievements.
COG14-42b	Janet Hathway commented that she felt encouraged by the Committee's focus on service quality including service user experience. She queried how the challenge of maintaining quality in the light of the difficult financial climate within which the Trust was operating could be met. Sushel replied that the Trust was seeking to transform services via new ways of working, however the Trust would advise Commissioners if it felt quality could not be maintained due to funding pressures.
COG14-42c	Rosemary Herring and Andrew Bailey sought clarification on the extent to which external bodies e.g. HealthWatch and Commissioners were engaged in the Committee's work. Sushel confirmed that he personally had a role in engaging with HealthWatch, and Angela advised that HealthWatch had also joined the Trust's Complaints Review Committee.
COG14-42d	Andrew Bailey commented that he, along with Anthony Bagot-Webb, had attended a Governance Committee meeting and felt it be an effective meeting with good processes.

COG14-42e	The Council thanked Sushel for an informative and reassuring presentation.
COG14-43	11. Francis Report – End of Year Summary
COG14-43a	Louise Payne presented the report which outlined the Trust's progress as at December 2013 on the review of and self assessment against the recommendations of the Francis Report following the inquiry into the failings at the Mid Staffordshire NHS Trust. The Trust's progress report had been circulated to all Governors prior to the meeting, inviting them to comment upon it. Louise advised the Council that feedback from the Governors confirmed that they felt the Trust's report provided positive assurance on NHFT's response to the Francis recommendations, and indicated they would welcome the opportunity to be kept informed of further progress.
COG14-43b	The Council then discussed the suggestion by the Chairs' Sub Group that a note of positive assurance should be sent to Commissioners on behalf of the Council of Governors in respect of the Trust's response to the Francis Report recommendations. Andrew Bailey and Des Savage both commented that they felt there was value in sending such a note as the Trust was in a strong position in a competitive world and this would differentiate it from other providers. The Council endorsed the suggestion. Action: A note of assurance from the Council in respect of the Trust's response to the Francis Report to be sent to the Trust's Commissioners
COG14-44	12. Non Executive Director Recruitment: update including role description and person specification
COG14-44a	The Chairman, on behalf of the Council of Governors' Nominations & Remuneration Committee, provided an update on the process to recruit two Non Executive Directors to replace those whose terms of office expire at the end of October 2014 and March 2015.
COG14-44b	The Council endorsed the existing NED role description, remuneration and person specification, as well as the description of the specialist expertise being sought for each of the two NED vacancies.
COG14-45	13. Mental Health Redesign and Wellbeing Services: update
COG14-45a	Des McMorrow, gave a presentation to Governors which outlined the key elements of the proposed future model for community mental health services.
COG14-45b	In response to a question from Carol Ash, Richard McKendrick and Des outlined the steps being taken to mitigate against the risks associated with future growth in service demand.
COG14-45c	Eileen Hales commented on the adverse effect of the departure of experienced and skilled staff has on teams. Wendy Steele continued that the loss of service continuity for individual service users would also be difficult for some to cope with.
COG14-45d	Judy Shephard queried if feedback to the consultation would be published along with assurances that it had been taken into consideration. Des confirmed that a "You Said, We Did" document would be published.
COG14-45e	In response to a question from Brian Lawrence, Des advised that key stakeholders,

	<p>including GP practices, were all aware of the proposed service model. Hummad Anwar queried what teething problems were anticipated. Des acknowledged that there was potential for initial difficulties to be experienced during implementation, and that work would be done to ensure teams remained stable and there was good continuity of care for service users.</p>
COG14-45f	<p>The Council of Governors expressed its wish to remain engaged in this issue and proposed that a Task & Finish Group be established to provide this oversight. It was agreed that further work would be undertaken to determine the precise remit of the Task & Finish Group.</p> <p>Action: FT Office to administer the establishment of a Task & Finish Group to oversee the Mental Health Redesign</p>
COG14-45g	<p>It was also agreed that this item should feature on the agenda of the November 2014 meeting.</p> <p>Action: FT Office to schedule a Mental Health Redesign and Wellbeing Services update for the November 2014 Council of Governors' meeting</p>
	<p><u>For Information</u></p>
COG14-46	<p>14. Reports from Sub Groups</p> <p>Presented for information.</p>
COG14-47	<p>15. Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business to be discussed.</p>
COG14-48	<p>16. Snapshot Review Of Effectiveness</p> <p>It was agreed that the agenda was appropriate.</p>
COG14-49	<p>17. Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 3rd July 2014, 10am, Northampton</p>