

Annual Public & Members' Meeting

20th September 2013

Lakeside Room, Kettering Conference Centre, Kettering

Prior to the start of the meeting, attendees were invited to look around the Market Stalls which featured many of the Trust's services.

Introduction and Welcome

Attendees received the minutes from the 2012 Annual Public and Members' meeting.

Paul Bertin, Trust Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Paul Bertin confirmed Angela Hillery had been appointed as the Trust's Chief Executive following ratification by the Council of Governors earlier in the day.

The Chairman noted demand for health services has increased and population in Northants has increased, with this projected to continue. He noted there were economic challenges facing all NHS Trusts.

Review of 2012/2013 and vision for the future

Angela Hillery, Chief Executive, highlighted it would be important for NHFT to work closely with local health and social care partners and will need to look at more integrated working.

Angela noted there had been positive progress by NHFT to increase communication with both Governors and Members.

The Quality Account was highlighted and it was stressed this was a process of continuous improvement. The Trust would keep a focus on pressure ulcer prevention and strengthen coordination between physical and mental health.

Angela noted the 2012/13 staff survey did not highlight any significant concerns and the Trust's Human Resources Plan included a focus on addressing areas for future improvement. The interim staff survey results indicated improvement had been made in a number of areas.

Some of the Trust's successes were highlighted including the development of a new Older People's Unit due to open in January 2014. Also highlighted was the development of frail and elderly services and achieving national accreditation for The Sett (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Inpatient Unit).

Angela explained the future meant looking towards partnership working, including connecting Children's services together and strengthening primary care early intervention on mental health and wellbeing.

Finally, Angela thanked everyone for supporting her during her Interim period as Chief Executive.

Annual Accounts 2012/2013

Bill McFarland, Finance Director, then gave a presentation of the Trust's Annual Accounts for 2012/2013. Bill took the attendees through the previous years' financial targets, the performance in 2012/2013 and also looked ahead to the future. Bill highlighted there were no performance concerns raised by Monitor, the Trust's regulator.

Bill noted the first audit undertaken by KPMG was successful. A risk rating of 3 was delivered as planned. Bill talked through some of ways NHFT was aiming to reduce costs, one of which was reducing the estate (buildings). The Trust was reviewing high cost areas and would reduce back office costs where possible. Technology would also be utilised more where possible (mobile working) to aim to produce more patient/clinician time. The Trust was also looking to further modernise the estate where possible for better patient care.

Questions and Answers

Questions were then asked from the floor, including:

Q: What support is provided for veterans and civilians for PTSD?

A: The Trust does not have specific services for people with PTSD however the Trust is looking to have a cohesive plan in place, including use of psychologists and referring to organisations such as Combat Stress. Data is also being collected to identify if patients are veterans.

Q: *Will voluntary organisations have a part to play in integrated working?*

A: Angela Hillery explained she believes this is a pivotal role and the aim will be to drive this agenda. Richard McKendrick, Director of Specialty Services noted the Trust is looking at how its resources could be utilised in conjunction with the voluntary sector.

Q: *Can we be assured that the Trust has met its statutory duty in regards to Safeguarding Children?*

A: Louise Payne, Director of Governance and Compliance explained all safeguarding issues are taken seriously. NHFT take part in Ofsted inspections and CQC inspections and appropriate action plans are in place. The Trust also participates in safeguarding structures across the county.

Q *Is the Trust planning to pursue any new acquisitions or service growth?*

A: Angela Hillery advised that the Trust would consider acquisitions or service growth going forward, but this would need to fit with the Trust's overall strategy.

A video was then shown which showcased Trust services and service user experiences including CAMHS (Child and Adolescent's Mental Health services), Continence Service, Substance Misuse, CMHT (Community Mental Health Services), Cynthia Spencer Hospice, Dental team, Chaplaincy and the Trust's Service user governors.

Table based discussions

Members and others in attendance were then asked to take part in tabletop discussions. The topic for these discussions was:

Improving our services: delivering services whilst managing cost effectiveness and patient and service user engagement

Feedback Included:

- Aim to make more use of the Voluntary sector
- In regards to Patient Engagement: Everyone is trying to engage, maybe try and co-ordinate more
- Aim to increase collaboration and partnership working with other Trusts and improve communication with CCG and locality patient engagement groups.
- Reduce duplication and think about patients who live near county borders
- The Trust needs to promote what it does more to the public/patients

Members Vote

For the first time amendments to the Constitution were presented to Members. This was because this is a new requirement under the NHS Act 2006 (NHSA) as amended by the Health & Social Care Act 2012. This requirement relates to amendments made on or after 1st April 2013 when it came into effect. The process for presenting the Constitution amendments to Members had been agreed by our legal advisors.

The amended NHS Act 2006 required that, where an amendment is made to the Constitution in relation to the powers, duties or role of the Council of Governors, then Members must vote to approve the amendments.

All amendments were voted through by majority of the Members present at the meeting.

The meeting closed and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Final version signed by Paul Bertin, Chair



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