

WESTON AREA HEALTH NHS TRUST

TRUST BOARD

TUESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2013

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

“Securing the Future” – Weston Area Health NHS Trust

The discussions with the NHS Trust Development Authority (TDA) are proceeding well and we have established a Project Board to oversee the discussions comprising representatives from the Trust, local health commissioners, the TDA, North Somerset Council and other key stakeholders. In effect, the Project Board is tasked with “securing the future” of the Weston Area Health NHS Trust for local communities, its many patients and, of course, its staff. I am also pleased to report that I have been asked to chair the Project Board when I stand down as Chief Executive at the end of March. I hope that my appointment will ensure a degree of continuity and will help secure a stable and assured future for the Trust.

Membership of the Project Board includes:

- Chris Creswick, Chairman of Weston Area Health NHS Trust
- Peter Colclough, Chief Executive of Weston Area Health NHS Trust
- Graham Turner, Chief Executive Officer of North Somerset Council
- Dr Mary Backhouse, Accountable Officer of the North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group
- Mike Vaughton, Director of Finance of the North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group
- Anthony Farnsworth, Local Area Team Director
- The South of England Strategic Health Authority, NHS Trust Development Authority and Members of the Project Team and required Professional Advisors

We have held a number of meetings with staff groups and key stakeholders to explain the process and seek their views in order that they can shape our thinking as we consider all the future options with the TDA. Input into these meetings is very valuable and they are continuing.

We have also established a Stakeholder and Quality Assurance Group, which will advise the Project Board on the views of all local stakeholders including staff, patients, carers and the public. The Stakeholder and Quality Assurance Group will be chaired by Kathy Headdon, the Chair Designate of the local Clinical Commissioning Group, and somebody who has a strong track record of public service, not least in the NHS.

Its members will comprise staff and patient representatives, medical and nursing staff, and local authority representatives. We are in the process of obtaining nominations for the membership of the group and will let you know the names of those appointed as soon as possible.

Whichever route we end up taking, it is clear to me that we must and will continue to provide NHS services for NHS patients and that whatever option is finally selected all staff and assets will remain within the NHS.

NHS Constitution Consultation

At their recent Seminar the Board welcomed the Department of Health's consultation on the proposed amendments to the NHS Constitution with effect from April 2013, and were pleased that there was a news item in the January 2013 'WAHT Brief' encouraging all staff to have their say too.

Proposed Future of Services Currently Provided by Great Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Following on from my update at the January Trust Board Meeting, we have now received a further notification from the Chairman of Great Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust (GWAS) informing that the Secretary of State for Health has now approved the dissolution of GWAS and the acquisition by South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWAST), which marks the final point of the project to create a single ambulance service for the South West.

The two Trusts are now completing the final work to transfer GWAS services and staff to SWASFT on 1 February 2013, so that the new organisation is able to begin to deliver on its pledges of improving services to patients without delay.

NHS Trust Development Authority – Introduction to Key Members of the Team

The NHS Trust Development Authority have now confirmed key members of the Team who will be providing support to Trusts with effect from 1 April 2013 and throughout the 2013/14 planning process:

- Lisa Manson, Portfolio Director with responsibility for those Trusts in the south West and South Central Regions; and
- Jim Lusby, Portfolio Director with responsibility for those Trusts in the South East Coast.
- Nick Yeo will also be supporting Lisa and Jim for an interim period with those Trusts that are either currently with Monitor or shortly to go to Monitor.
- Julie Blumgart, the Clinical Quality Director for the South, Bob Alexander, the NHS TDA Finance Director and Elizabeth O'Mahoney will continue to provide financial support to the South Team until a permanent Finance Business Director has been appointed.

NHS Commissioning Board for Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) Area Team Structure

Notification has been received confirming the key appointments for the NHS Commissioning Board for Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) Area Team:

- Anthony Farnsworth, Local Area Director
- Laura Nicholas, Operations and Delivery Director
- Caroline Gamlin, Medical Director
- Lindsey Scott, Director of Nursing
- Linda Prosser, Commissioning Director
- Neil Kemsley, Finance Director

Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust – Appointment of a New Medical Director

Continuing the theme of appointments, Dr Hayley Richards has been appointed as the new Medical Director for the Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust, taking over from Dr Arden Tomison who has recently announced his retirement from the Board. Dr Richards is a member of the Royal College of Psychiatry and is currently employed as the Mental Health Trust's Director of Medical Education and a Consultant Psychiatrist for Older People. Her expertise includes general psychiatry and old age psychiatry.

Peter Colclough
Chief Executive

January 2013