

**UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS BIRMINGHAM NHS FOUNDATION TRUST****BOARD OF GOVERNORS****REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS****21 SEPTEMBER 2009****BY THE CHAIRMAN****1 Introduction**

Since the last meeting of the Board of Governors, the Board of Directors has held two formal monthly meetings, in June and July.

Two seminars have been held, one in July regarding the Development of the IT Agenda and another in September when the Board of Directors considered in detail the plans for the move into the new hospital.

**2 Changes to the Board of Directors/Executive Team**

Tony Hug has retired as a non-executive director and Angela Maxwell has been appointed to fill the resultant vacancy. Kevin Bolger was appointed by the Executive Appointments and Remuneration Committee as Chief Operating Officer on 15 June 2009. The Directors agreed that the Investment Committee's membership should be refreshed by Michael Sheppard stepping down from the Committee and Angela Maxwell joining the Committee. It was proposed that the Transport Strategy Task & Finish Group should be wound up after bringing a final report to September's Board of Directors' meeting.

**3 Business conducted by the Board of Directors**

3.1 The Board of Directors considers the following standing items at each meeting:

3.1.1 New Hospital Project Report;

3.1.2 Finance & Activity;

3.1.3 Performance & Clinical Quality Indicators; and

3.1.4 Infection Control.

As the Board of Governors receive similar standing reports regarding these items, this report will focus on the other issues discussed.

## **3.2 Clinical Quality**

At each meeting, the Board of Directors receives a report from the Medical Director, which sets out details of the Trust's clinical quality monitoring processes and the outcomes of directors' governance visits.

The Directors discussed progress on investigations into serious clinical incidents. It was agreed that future reports would include an indication of whether there were issues of individual accountability and/or process failures behind any such incidents. It was noted that all falls were reviewed by the falls group and it was agreed that such incidents need only be reported to the Board of Directors if harm had arisen as a result of a fall where the Trust's processes had not been properly followed.

## **3.3 Organ Donation**

Further to the previous Chairman's Report regarding the Trust's bid to provide an enhanced organ retrieval service, the Board of Directors authorised approval and execution of a contract for enhanced organ retrieval services with NHSBT.

## **3.4 Annual Workforce Report**

The Board of Directors considered the above report, presented by the Executive Director of Delivery. There was discussion regarding sickness levels, recruitment, the European Working Time Directive and referral to occupational health.

## **3.5 Other**

The Board considered a report from the Investment Committee reviewing the Trust's previous partnership with Xchanging. It was agreed that the report provided a useful checklist to benchmark future ventures against. There was discussion about what types of investment activity the Trust should engage in and it was noted that this would be set out in the Trust's Investment Policy.

In addition to the above items, the Board of Directors have considered reports on Health and Safety, Litigation and Insurance and from the Organ Donation Committee.

The Chairman has received a letter from Monitor regarding the Care Quality Commission review for safeguarding children provision. Foundation trusts had been asked to review their services to ensure appropriate arrangements were in place. It was agreed that the Chief Nurse would bring a paper to the Board of Directors regarding this in September.