

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS BIRMINGHAM NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

9 DECEMBER 2010

BY THE CHAIRMAN

1 Introduction

Since the last meeting of the Board of Governors, the Board of Directors has held one formal monthly meeting in October. Two seminars have been held, in October regarding CQC Essential Standards and in September regarding Information Systems. The seminar relating to the Government White Paper on Health will now be rescheduled in the New Year owing to the Health Policy not having yet been issued.

2 Business conducted by the Board of Directors

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

2.1.1 New Hospital Project Report;

2.1.2 Clinical Quality;

2.1.3 Care Quality;

2.1.4 Infection Control;

2.1.5 Finance & Activity; and

2.1.6 Performance & Clinical Quality Indicators.

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

2.3 Monitor

The Chairman has met with the new Chairman, Acting Chief Executive and Director of Strategy of Monitor. At present the future role of Governors within the new NHS has yet to be clarified, although it appears likely that their role will be enhanced. The Chairman will report back immediately the information becomes available.

2.4 New Trauma Research Centre

The Trust is to be appointed as a Trauma Research Centre and will receive £5m in funding which the Trust will need to be match together with the University, possibly with the help of further from US investment.

2.5 Phase 2 - Hospital Move – 16 November 2010

The chairman is delighted to report that the second phase of the Hospital move has been a total success. All aspects of the move ran to plan and an e-mail has been sent from the CEO to all staff thanking them for their hard work in achieving this.

2.6 Dr Foster Hospital Guide

The Trust has received some negative publicity in a recent report published by the Dr Foster Hospital Guide. These figures have been strongly refuted by the Trust and at present the Imperial College Doctor Foster Unit cannot explain how they came upon their findings. The Trust has received excellent feedback from both the Cleveland Clinic in the US and the CQC with regards to clinical standards including mortality rates and the Board are confident that there is no cause for concern. The Board are seeking legal advice as to how the matter of ungrounded claims by bodies such as Doctor Foster can be handled in the future.

2.7 Investment Committee

The Investment Committee met on 22 September. The Committee had considered its standing report on the commercial plan and had in particular noted that the payroll business had now settled down, the Stoke office had been successfully closed and reputational issues had now receded. The marketing of the Trust's HED application was going well and being carried out in a controlled manner.

The Committee had also considered a paper regarding the setting up of a subsidiary company to carry out outpatient pharmacy work. A further paper would be brought back to the Investment Committee and to the Chief Executive's Advisory Group before being presented to the Board of Directors in due course.

It was agreed that additional details regarding the work of the Committee will be included within its annual report.