

## AGENDA ITEM 023/17

### **Report from Senior Governor Council of Governors 27th March 2017**

A great deal has happened since our last Council Meeting.

#### **Care Quality Commission (CQC)**

I would like to congratulate and thank the leadership and everyone who works in the Trust for the 'Outstanding' CQC Report. See agenda item 026/2017 for the CQC Inspection Result Report and Action Plan.

I had the great privilege of visiting departments with Andrew Cannell and Helen Porter and was able to pass on the thanks of the Council of Governors to as many people as possible, who have all contributed to this position. I was greatly heartened talking to staff members who were so committed to the work of the Trust and also how positive and innovative they are in their care of patients and their families.

#### **Trust Board and Finance & Business Development Committee**

Since our last meeting I have attended Board Meetings and Finance and Business Development meetings. I have also represented the Council at the Board Development session to discuss 'Developing the Trust's Strategy' over the next ten years.

In addition I have had monthly meetings scheduled with Julie Dawes and Wendy Williams. These meetings help me to make a contribution, representing the public interest but they are useful in that I'm constantly kept up to date with developments. There are some fundamental decisions to be made in the near future and I know that Wendy hopes to brief the Council, possibly at our next meeting once ongoing issues have been clarified.

*One of the main responsibilities of the Council of Governors is to 'hold the non-executive directors individually and collectively to account for the performance of the board of directors. While the board is a unitary body which takes collective responsibility for the performance of the trust, the governors' role in assurance should take place primarily through the non-executive directors.'*\*

To support the Council in undertaking this responsibility I would encourage Governors to attend and observe Board meetings. Although Board meetings are held in public, (known as Part1) to enable the Trust to manage attendance if you wish to attend could you please notify either Julie Dawes, Trust Secretary either by email at [juliedawes5@nhs.net](mailto:juliedawes5@nhs.net) or by telephone 0151 556 5912 or Andrea Leather, Corporate Governance Manager either by email at [andrea.leather@nhs.net](mailto:andrea.leather@nhs.net) or by telephone 0151 556 5331. As I'm unable to attend

\*Extract from **Your statutory duties** - A reference guide for NHS foundation trust governors

two forthcoming Board meeting, Jane Wilkinson and Carla Thomas have very kindly offered to represent Governors at these meetings.

### **Membership & Communications Committee**

Jane, as Chair of the Membership & Communications Committee, raised a concern about Trust Membership to me before our last meeting. She is right that we all have this responsibility to recruit new members. I'm exploring the possibility of combining support for the Charity Appeal and recruiting new members, so I'm inviting Governors to do the walk on Crosby Promenade and Beach on the 11th of June. You have to register for this and it's possible we could recruit members before the walk. It's a very pleasant event with a choice of either 5 or 8km walks. I hope as many of you can join me as possible. Please let me know, and register with the Charity for the walk. All details on the website.

### **Haemato-oncology Service**

I have recently received an invitation from the Haemato-oncology team to visit the department at the Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospital Trust. As you will be aware the Haemato-oncology service is due to transfer to Clatterbridge later in the year and the team seem very enthusiastic about their joining Clatterbridge. I plan to organise this visit in the not too distant future and would ask any wishing to join me to please let me know.

### **Governor Discussion Meetings**

Recently there appears to be little enthusiasm for Governor Discussion Meetings. At a recent Committee meeting the topic of Modern Apprenticeships was put forward as a suggestion and if this is agreeable the necessary arrangements can be made with Heather Bebbington, Director of Workforce and Organisational Development.

Another topic raised at last week's Membership & Communications Committee would be a brain storming session on membership recruitment, to consider the options to encourage membership and how best to tackle membership engagement.

At my recent meeting with Wendy Williams we discussed if Governors would appreciate the opportunity to do a walk round and visit departments and talk informally with staff? This would have to be coordinated at a time convenient with Wendy and the departments. Please let me know what you think. I can be contacted on my new E Mail at [valiantpv@gmail.com](mailto:valiantpv@gmail.com) or on my mobile 07747022693.

I am particularly interested in any ideas about wider Governor participation in the activities of the Trust. Please let me know if you have any good ideas.

**Stephen Sanderson CBE**  
**Senior Governor**