

TRUST BOARD COMMITTEE
Minutes of a meeting held at Devon House, Heartlands Hospital
on 30th January 2009 at 12 noon

PRESENT: Mr C Wilkinson (Chairman of meeting)
Mr A Stokes
Ms M Sunderland
Ms S Woolley
Ms Anna East

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms L Jennings (Minute taker)

		Action
1	<p>APOLOGIES Apologies were received from Mr M Goldman.</p>	
2	<p>APPOINTMENT OF BOARD COMMITTEE The Board at its meeting on 6 January 2009 appointed the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, the Chief Executive (or his deputy) and the Chief Finance Officer to a Board Committee to approve the Monitor Quarterly returns.</p>	
3	<p>APPROVAL OF MONITOR QUARTER 2 RETURN Mr Stokes informed the Committee that Finance still had a prediction of 5 but it had been a difficult Quarter. There were essentially 2 underlining interrelated issues, the increased pace of recruitment without the expected correlating decrease in the use of bank and agency staff.</p> <p>There were no Mandatory issues to report.</p> <p>The A&E 98% 4 hour wait target for Quarter 3 had been missed marginally. This would need to be declared and a plan to rectify the situation submitted. The Trust would remain green, however, if missed Quarter 4 as well, the Trust would move to an to amber rating.</p> <p>An email submitted by Mr Richard Harris to be considered in his absence was circulated to the Committee. It was agreed that the questions in the main, related to clarification of the language used rather than the essence of the return itself. However the questions prompted discussion around the areas concerned and the following points were made:</p> <p>The Trust's over performance would affect the contracts set with PCTs each year. However, the over performance could not continue at the current rate. Clinical income was not assumed to come in twelve equal units. The 4 Electives were underperforming in terms of spells but were over performing financially. Thus they were performing well on high cost activity.</p> <p>Mr Goldman had written under separate cover to address the problems being experienced in A&E. A&E performance was more due to the increase in emergency admissions, particularly at Heartlands & Good Hope, which in turn caused capacity problems and prevented patient flows through A&E due to blockages later in the pathway, made worse by the very high level of delayed</p>	

discharges the Trust had been experiencing. Because of advances in medicine people were now living longer and surviving illnesses that would have killed them previously. Systems in the community needed to be improved to accommodate the issues that had arisen due to the increase in the older population.

The issue of Mixed Sex Wards was discussed. The Secretary of State had indicated his commitment regarding the separation of sexes and his intention to take firm action. Ms Sunderland confirmed that the current standard was that patients should have separate bays, except ITU, with separate toilets and washing facilities. Ms Sunderland agreed to produce a brief for the chairman on this matter.

The return was agreed, Declaration 2 and the letter.

4 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT TRUST MEETING

3rd February 2009, 12.30 p.m. Board Room

..... **Chairman**