

## Minutes of the Council of Governors meeting

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2010

**Present:** Michael Cassidy (Chair)  
Geoffrey Rivett (public governor)  
Sue Goodship (public governor)  
Jamie Bishop (public governor)  
Chris O'Leary (public governor)  
Suri Friedman (public governor)  
Sarah Weiss (public governor)  
Doug Hiza (public governor)  
John Bootes (public governor)  
Andrew Shamboko (public governor)  
Eli Kernkraut (public governor)  
Dr Paul Cannon (staff governor)  
Dr Swee Fang (staff governor)  
Dr Helen Cugnoni (staff governor)  
Jennifer Edie (partner governor)  
Dr John Coakley, Medical Director  
Melanie Mavers, Head of Clinical Quality  
Pauline Brown, Chief Nurse & Director of Governance  
David Bridger, Head of Governance (minutes)

One member of public.

### 1. Chairman's welcome

Michael Cassidy Chair of the Council of Governors (CoG) and Chairman of the hospital welcomed the Governors to the meeting. He welcomed the new Governors attending their first meeting.

Michael Cassidy also thanked Pauline Brown for all her hard work and support for the Council of Governors as this was her last meeting. Geoffrey Rivett presented Pauline Brown with a card and gift from all of the Governors.

2. **Apologies:** Robert Duke (staff governor)

Gareth Moore (partner governor)

Nargis Khan (partner governor)

### **3. Minutes of the Joint Board of Directors and Council of Governors meeting 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

### **4. Election Results**

David Bridger provided the Governors with the results of the Council of Governor elections which closed on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

The following Governors were elected unopposed:

John Bootes (Public-City)

Dr Paul Cannon (Staff – Clinical)

Robert Duke (Staff – Non-Clinical)

One staff (clinical) remains vacant.

The Trust also welcomes two new appointed Governors, they are:

Jennifer Edie – City University

Deborah James – Queen Mary, University of London

He also informed the Governors that there would be a further election later in the year to replace those Governors whose terms are coming to an end in September (four public-hackney and one public-city).

A members meeting has been planned for the 22<sup>nd</sup> April to discuss and vote on the change to the constitution to increase the terms of office for elected public Governors to allow them to stand for election for three consecutive terms of three years each.

### **5. Patient and Public Involvement (PPI)**

Sarah Weiss, public governor presented a paper providing feedback to the Governors on the work of the Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) and Membership Development Group.

She provided feedback of the ongoing work for the following:

- Outpatients – there has been restructuring of the outpatients department to improve the service to patients.
- Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) report – this highlighted the following themes complaints around attitude and communication, lost property and the potential increase in complaints as a result of the closure of Whipps Cross.
- Message to Matron – this is a new scheme to gain feedback and suggestions from the public.
- Duplication of meetings – the role of committee in relation to the Patient Experience Committee was discussed.

- Directorate PPI activity reports
- Presentation from Electoral Reform – results of the FT membership survey were presented and it was suggested that this be presented at a future Governors meeting.

Sarah Weiss also asked if a further Governor would volunteer to join the PPI and membership development group. Doug Hiza agreed to volunteer.

The Board and Governors thanked her and noted her report.

#### **6. Independent inquiry into care provided by Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust.**

Dr John Coakley, Medical Director presented a summary of the report into Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust. He provided the Governors with an overview of the 18 national and local recommendations and a summary of the Trusts position against each. The Governors discussed the findings of the report and the application of the recommendations to Homerton.

#### **7. Quality Account (presentation)**

Melanie Mavers, Head of Clinical Quality provided the Governors with a presentation on the development of the Trusts Quality account for 2009/10. She provided an outline of why the Trust is producing the account and its intended content. She requested feedback from Governors regarding the account and it was agreed that Governors would be allowed to comment on the draft when this was ready. The Governors thanked her for the presentation.

#### **8. Front Line Care – Report on future of nursing and midwifery**

Pauline Brown provided the Governors with a verbal summary of the report from the Prime Minister's Commission on the Future of Nursing and Midwifery in England. She stated that the report provides recommendations around seven key themes. These are:

- high quality, compassionate care;
- health and wellbeing;
- caring for people with long-term conditions;
- promoting innovation in nursing and midwifery;
- nurses and midwives leading services;
- careers in nursing and midwifery;
- the socioeconomic value of nursing and midwifery.

She went on to state that the Trust will be able to demonstrate the application of the report through the quality report.

#### **9. Annual Plan/Corporate Objectives 2010/11**

Pauline Brown provided the Governors with an update regarding the development of the Trusts annual plan. The Governors were informed that this year the plan is required to fit into the template prescribed by Monitor. Governors will be given an opportunity to comment on the draft report and it was suggested that this would initially be a small focussed group of Governors in the first instance. She provided the Governors with a summary of the Trusts three overarching objectives:

- To not lose site of our core mission and purpose – that is to serve the people of Hackney and surrounding areas – whilst we give intensive and focussed attention to determining which strategic path the Homerton should take to secure the long term future of the hospital.

- To respond effectively to the changing economic climate, ensuring the hospital continues to have the financial stability it needs to run a strong hospital for the people it serves, producing evidence that our services are safe and effective.
- To look after our workforce through a time of potentially very significant change, ensuring that their enthusiasm for serving the people in our care does not waiver

**10. Any other business**

None

**11. Questions from the public**

None

**12. Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting will be a public meeting of the Council of Governors on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010