

Report to:	Board of Directors				
Date of Meeting:	30 April 2014				
Report Title:	Chairman's Board Report				
Status:	For information	Discussion	Assurance	Approval	Regulatory requirement
Mark relevant box with X	X				
Prepared by:	C S Millar				
Executive Sponsor (presenting):	n/a				
Appendices (list if applicable):	None				

Purpose of the Report To inform the Board of the Chairman's activities since the last Board meeting.

Action required by the Board of Directors
To receive the report.

Key points for discussion
None.

Recommendation
To receive the report.

Chairman's Board Report April 2014

New Chairman

On 9 April I held a meeting with Michael Luger to brief him on the issues facing the Trust. The new Chairman will, quite rightly, set his own priorities in discussion with the Chief Executive but I have suggested a number of key priorities for attention and a number of other issues of which he should be aware. I would be happy to brief the Board on those priorities and issues.

Board Succession Planning

On 4 April I had an informal meeting with one of the unsuccessful candidates in the selection process for the chairmanship to collect feedback on how the process had been seen by candidates. I received very positive feedback and the candidate reported that he had been treated with care and respect throughout. He did however describe the Trust's process as 'very comprehensive'. The Trust may want to reflect, for future Board appointments, on whether a leaner process would elicit sufficient information on which to take a recruitment decision. There may be a danger that the Trust is seen as 'over-egging' the process because of inexperience.

Non-Executive Director Appraisals

On 15 April I attended a meeting of ARC to present the Non-Executive appraisals for 2013/14. These annual presentations involve detailed discussions covering agreed appraisal statements, records of meeting attendance and other activity, and a discussion of overall performance ratings. At the end of the meeting the ARC resolved to recommend to the Council of Governors on 1 May that a thorough and effective appraisal process for 2013/14 and a thorough and effective objective setting process for 2014/15 has been applied to the Non-Executive Directors.

Appointments & Remuneration Committee

I believe a consensus now exists for a review of the ARC to cover terms of reference, membership and (above all) method of selection of committee members. This committee takes decisions that are important to the Trust and it would be appropriate, four years after its first meeting, to conduct such a review.

Governors' Network

On 10 April I attended the usual monthly meeting of the Governors' Network. Of the topics discussed, the Foresight report on the Board Governance Review attracted most debate. Governors have a legitimate interest in the assurance this report provides of the Board's effectiveness and the Company Secretary is considering the best way to share the content of the review with Governors.

Chaplain

For some considerable time, since the retirement of Revd. Jane Peers, the Trust has been without a substantive Hospital Chaplain. In March this year Father Ron Mulligan was appointed as a full time substantive Chaplain. On 3 April I met Father Mulligan for an informal meeting to welcome him formally to the Trust. He had been working as interim Chaplain in the Hospital for some months before appointment.

New Consultants

It is the Trust's practice for the Chairman to welcome every newly appointed Consultant a few months after they have taken up their post. This normally takes the form of an informal conversation over coffee lasting thirty to fourth minutes. I understand that this practice is not adopted by all Trusts and I think it is genuinely welcomed by the Consultants. Since the last Board meeting I have welcomed five new Consultants in this way and I have been impressed by the calibre of the young doctors we have succeeded in attracting to make their careers in the Hospital.

CSM: 24/04/14.