

<b>Report to:</b>	Board of Directors				
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	29 October 2014				
<b>Report Title:</b>	Chairman's Briefing				
<b>Status:</b>	<b>For information</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Assurance</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Regulatory requirement</b>
Mark relevant box with X	X				
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Michael Luger				
<b>Executive Sponsor (presenting):</b>	N/A				
<b>Appendices (list if applicable):</b>	None				
<b>Purpose of the Report</b>					
To inform the Board of the Chairman's activities.					
<b>Action required of the Board of Directors</b>					
To receive and note the report					

<b>Key points for information</b>
<p>This report is being prepared in the middle of the month, since I will be on annual leave for the next fortnight. Ron has graciously agreed to stand in for me for the period and may have some verbal updates.</p> <p>On the same date as the September Board meeting, I met with Ann Wagner, Sally Houghton and Jane Downes about the Charitable Funds sub-committee's work and direction we need to take to "up our game" in the fundraising and volunteer space. There are some exciting possibilities which will be captured in a paper for sub-committee and Board discussion later in the Autumn. On a related matter, BART discussed succession of sub-committee chair, since Sally is now serving as interim SID and is due to cycle off the Board in July. Recognising that our newest NED needs time to get his feet under the table, other NEDs all have important other assignments, and that the next NED (recruitment to start in the late winter/early spring) might be specified to have a background appropriate for the Charitable Funds committee, we agreed not to appoint a new chairman now, and that I will attend meetings to bridge the time gap. I have a particular interest in the work of that sub-committee.</p> <p>Also on the date of the last Board meeting we attended a special meeting of the Council of Governors, who ratified the appointment of Jeremy Cross as NED. Welcome on board, Jeremy! A group of Board members hosted a farewell dinner for David Adam at The Angel at Hetton that evening. (Another nice Yorkshire pub!)</p> <p>On the 26<sup>th</sup>, we were pleased to welcome Lord Stuart Rose (formerly Executive Chairman of M&amp;S) to the Trust to talk about telemedicine and leadership issues. Lord Rose is a special advisor to the SoS, so having him on side can only help, and I think it is fair to say he was duly impressed by what we are doing and how we are performing.</p> <p>I then motored over to Bradford to meet Councillor Dave Green to talk about health and social care in the region generally, and the Health and Wellbeing Board. I enjoyed the broad-ranging discussion; we found</p>

a lot of common ground and agreed to keep a dialogue going. He pushed back on our appeal (together with BDCT and BTHT) to have all three providers seated on the HWBB – not refusing, but delaying action. Since then the SoS has sent a letter to all HWBB chairs stressing the importance of inclusiveness. We will use that to exert additional pressure. Dave and his team from Bradford are due to visit us here on 13 October (the day I am writing this).

Telemedicine is a recurring theme in these notes, reflecting its importance to the Trust. Ann and I had a productive discussion with the head of Apple's Health Care unit for Europe, enquiring about their plans for rolling out applications and their interest in partnerships. They are not likely to do much formally with us (they do not partner in that way with anyone), but they are so well-connected in the digital health care world, it can only help us to be on their radar screen.

Another meeting around telemedicine was with a contingent from Leeds – the teaching hospital and Council, including representatives from their HWBB. They recognise the importance of digital care and our success, and are considering ways to partner with us.

On the telemedicine issue, I was so pleased to read the story about that technology on p.1 and 4 of the Financial Times, and to see the video on the FT web site, all featuring us prominently.

I was able to show this clip to the Governors at their Network meeting last week. We also discussed the NED recruitment process and other developments – some covered here.

BART met on 30 September and considered an issue that is being brought to the Board this month: a rejiggering of premia payments to NEDs assuming additional and critical roles.

I was delighted to have been invited to Odgers Berndtson's annual health care dinner for the North, held in Manchester. It featured an after-dinner talk by Alan Milburn, which was outstanding. The gathering was small enough for good networking with Alan and other chairs. Alan's main point was that outcomes for the NHS over the next five years are bleak no matter what happens next May. But the good news is that without this crisis there would be no possibility of making the fundamental changes we require to reset the NHS. The short-term promises of both major parties to throw more money at the problem can never succeed. We need a "burning platform" which we are rapidly getting.

I've been busy this month with appointments committees - in Obstetrics & Gynaecology, paediatrics, and acute medicine. The importance of getting the right people into consultant posts is similar to the challenge of making professorial appointments in a university: these are "tenured" positions that are hard to reverse. I am generally pleased with the quality of applicants we have attracted. When asked "why Airedale?" all candidates respond that it has a reputation as a high-performing hospital that is innovate, and a nice environment in which to work. That is always gratifying to hear.

I was pleased with the discussion we had at the half-day Board retreat last week, about stakeholders and how better to network and leverage influence. There will be some important follow-up from that. I will be catching up with Sarah Shepherd about the first half of the programme – on more effective Board meetings. Thanks again to Sarah and Anne Gregory.

I have continued to meet new Governors and consultants, and to meet with our local MPs. This month it was Julian Smith from Skipton. He stressed that we should not hesitate to mobilise our parliamentarians NOW whilst their party are still in Government. He had interest in the clinic we have in Skipton, which is a facility we do not own, but rent from the NHS property company. Perhaps he can help us improve that facility.

Finally, Jeremy and I (and others) did a walk-around the endoscopy unit last week and were duly impressed with the new facilities and equipment, and with the excellent staff running the unit. As I have observed before, we can transform the hospital ward-by-ward with relatively modest investments, and

that is a case-in-point.

Michael Luger, Chairman

13/10/14

**Recommendations**

None