

Report to:	Board of Directors				
Date of Meeting:	26 November 2014				
Report Title:	Chairman's Briefing				
Status:	For information	Discussion	Assurance	Approval	Regulatory requirement
Mark relevant box with X	X				
Prepared by:	Michael Luger, Chairman				
Executive Sponsor (presenting):	N/A				
Appendices (list if applicable):	None				
Purpose of the Report					
To inform the Board of the Chairman's activities.					
Action required of the Board of Directors					
To receive and note the report					

Key points for information
<p>This report covers the date of our last meeting, held in Keighley. I really like the idea of holding meetings, open to the public, around the service area. It sends the right message to the local population that we are here for them, whether or not they attend. But we can do more to encourage attendance. I was very proud of ANHSFT at that meeting, especially the staff who presented at the Quality Account showcase.</p> <p>Speaking of staff, I was pleased to attend a lunch feting long-serving employees of AGH, some with 35 years of service! Having so many loyal staff says something about Airedale as a good place to work, and the sense of community we have.</p> <p>I am writing this whilst at the semi-annual FT Network conference in Liverpool. Again, I am finding it to be a very useful two days -- informative and interesting sessions and opportunities to network. I am particularly pleased to see Airedale being very visible in this very large conclave: Bridget Fletcher, Chief Executive and Anne Gregory, Non-Executive Director were both on the programme, and we had an exhibition stand in a prominent location within the main exhibition area.</p> <p>Yesterday's plenary sessions included addresses by Chris Hopson, CEO of the FT Network; Andy Burnham, shadow health minister; and a roundtable featuring the CEOs of Monitor (David Bennett), CQC (David Behan), and TDA (David Flory).</p> <p>Chris provided his usual fine update on NHS developments and then announced that his organisation's name will change to NHS Providers, reflecting the reality that they represent many health trusts in addition to FTs. Andy Burnham laid out what the NHS would look like in a Labour government. Although he vowed that Labour would not restructure the NHS yet again, it sounded like another shuffle to me. But what is clear is that there is a strong consensus across the political divide about integrated care. The challenge and differences are in how to get there, how much it will cost, and who will pay. The Panel was interesting because they were asked to respond to survey data from Ipsos Mori on the public's and FT Network members' perceptions of the NHS. Those data show that sentiment has not really changed much, and has been largely positive, though there are gathering clouds about the future.</p> <p>The following plenary sessions included presentations from a New Zealander about how integrated care has worked there (Alliances)--interesting, though questionable whether the experience from such a small</p>

country translates here. The next session featured Simon Stevens and Jeremy Hunt (so much for the David theory). Mr Hunt stressed the increasing transparency that is driving improvements in outcomes--specifically, publishing outcome data not just for hospitals and surgeons, by specialty, but for GP practices. He and Simon Stevens also reminded us that there is not expected to be one model of an integrated local health economy, but at least four models for different types of health economies. As in the past I found Simon Stevens' remarks clear and strong.

Between the plenary sessions on both days have been smaller breakout groups. I attended several, including Bridget's, which were better designed for Q&A and discussion. We drilled down on many issues facing ANHSFT -- how to transform a health economy, how to work within a changing regulatory environment, how to match funding models with changing health economy configurations, and how to work effectively with stakeholders.

My last note is about a debriefing I had with Sarah Shepherd, a consultant who is supporting the Trust in mentoring senior staff and provide independent advice. Sarah ran our Board effectiveness retreat last month. As we were reviewing the discussion at the retreat and coming up with ideas to be more effective, I thought it might be useful to have a similar retreat for Governors with Sarah. That is something to consider.

Recommendations

To receive and note the Chairman's Briefing.