Quarterly Report

Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust

Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel Quarterly Report Issue 11: September

Changes to the Trust Board

Simon Holmes started his new role as Medical Director of the Trust on 2 August 2010. Simon was previously the Chief of Service for the Cancer Service Centre; has been a Consultant Urologist with the Trust since 1995; and was Clinical Director for Urology from 2001 to 2005.

Julie Dawes, formerly Chief Nurse of the Trust, is now Director of Nursing, which is a full voting Board position. Julie is the professional lead in the Trust for nursing, midwifery and, importantly, all other health professionals.

Deputy Chairman David Bailey retires from the Board in October. Non-Executive Director Alan Cole's tenure, which was due to end in October, has been extended for another four years. In October Alan will become Deputy Chairman of the Trust.

Elizabeth Conway, who is currently a Non-Executive Designate, will have full voting rights in October, when she will take up the vacancy when David Bailey retires.

Clinical Service Centres (CSC) update

There have been three recent Chief of Service appointments within the CSC. Bruce Taylor has been appointed to Women and Children's; Martin Grover to Trauma, Orthopaedics and Rheumatology (musculo-skeletal) CSC; and Dr Jane Williams to the Department of Medicine for Older People, Stroke and Rehabilitation.

Finances

The Trust, along with many NHS organisations, faces a significant financial challenge this year. The Trust has a financial target to break-even on income and expenditure for 2010/11 and needs to deliver £37m savings in order to achieve this. While good progress has been made in terms of redundancy costs and delivering savings, more needs to be done in the remainder of the financial year. At the end of the first quarter of 2010/11 the Trust reported a £2.4m deficit position. This means that the Trust is spending £800k per month more than it receives in income – the Trust is working hard to close this financial gap.

Mutually Agreed Resignation Scheme (MARS)

The Trust has introduced the recently approved national 'Mutually Agreed Resignation Scheme' (MARS). The decision was taken to offer *all* permanent staff, with over one year's service and who are under 65-years-old, the opportunity to apply for MARS.

The scheme could allow a member of staff to leave their employment on voluntary terms with an agreed leaver's financial package. The benefits to the Trust are that it could help to avoid compulsory redundancies and it contributes to our turnaround process to ensure financial sustainability. MARS is open to staff between 16 September and 22 October 2010.

End of life care

A new model of end-of-life care came into effect at the beginning of September. Previously, less than 25% of patients over the age of 65 who died in hospital were on G5 ward. In the new model, all former G5 staff continue to work clinically to retain their skills and specialist nurses use their

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experience of working on G5 to provide supervision and support to staff on acute wards in the care of all patients, to meet the needs of the whole hospital population that need end-of-life care.

Hospital moves

In line with the new hospital plans, the Gastroenterology and Colorectal outpatient clinics, currently based at St Mary's Hospital, will move on Monday 11 October to D level of Queen Alexandra Hospital, which is the main surgical outpatients' area.

Wheelchair services

PHT will no longer be providers of wheelchair services after March 2011 - we are now half way through a 12-month notice period served by commissioning PCTs.

NHS Portsmouth will be transferring its wheelchair provision to their existing community provider (Solent), while the NHS Hampshire arrangements are subject to a mini-tender. The Trust is committed to working with the new providers to ensure a safe, smooth and effective handover and to advise on more complex patients.

Pharmacy

The Pharmacy at Queen Alexandra Hospital is nearing its objective to become inpatient drug chart free. These efficiency improvements will enable the Pharmacy to further improve the patient experience and enable patients to be discharged on time and without unnecessary delay.

Angioplasty 24-7

Primary angioplasty, an emergency procedure for 'ST Elevation' heart attack patients, is now available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at Queen Alexandra Hospital – seven months ahead of a national deadline of introducing the procedure around the clock by April 2011.

The procedure, which has the best results if it is done within 150 minutes of the first symptoms of a heart attack, removes a blood clot from an artery which has caused a heart attack. The artery is then widened by a special type of balloon before a stent is inserted. This keeps the artery open and restores blood flow to the heart. Angioplasty improves longer term outcomes for patients, reduce complications resulting from treatment of heart attacks and reduces the risk of reoccurrence.

Oasis - the wellness centre - update

Oasis, the Trusts wellness centre, was officially opened in July by Steve Boorman, an occupational health physician commissioned at a national level by the NHS. Oasis, which incorporates a swimming pool, gym and treatment / therapy rooms for staff, was described as the 'best of the best' for staff facilities in the NHS and as one of the best demonstration sites for use in the NHS.

Out-of-hours GPs

Portsmouth's out-of-hours GP service, which is currently based at the Drayton Surgery, Havant Road, is moving to the Queen Alexandra Hospital. By having the GP service on the hospital site the Choose Well campaign will work to best effect (directing people away from unnecessary ED visits to the GP out of hours service) helping to improve ED waiting times and ensuring patients receive the right treatment in the right facility.