

To: Board of Directors

Date of Meeting: 27th April 2017

Agenda Item: 5

Title
Chief Executive's report
Responsible Executive Director
Chief Executive
Prepared by
Chief Executive
Status
Public
Summary of Proposal
The report highlights my early reflections on the first weeks of the Executive Team leadership of BSUH; the excellent planning and positive performance over the Easter weekend; preparations for the CQC inspection; awards and prizes won by BSUH staff; and the implications for the Trust of the announcement of the general election
Implications for Quality of Care
None applicable to this report
Link to Strategic Objectives/Board Assurance Framework
None applicable to this report
Financial Implications
None applicable to this report
Human Resource Implications
None applicable to this report
Recommendation
The Board is asked to NOTE the report
Communication and Consultation
Not applicable
Appendices
None

Report to the Board of Directors, 27th April 2017
Chief Executive's report

1. Early reflections

On behalf of the Executive Team I want to thank staff in BSUH for the warm and friendly welcome extended since the team started working with the Trust at the beginning of April.

We have visited and spoken to staff in many wards and departments, who are optimistic about the future and the potential for improvement and their appetite for positive change is evident and most encouraging.

However the scale of the challenge in moving the Trust out of quality and financial special measures should not be under-estimated and we will need to quickly progress to making sustainable changes to create the architecture necessary to drive these improvements at pace.

The CQC inspection in April will be a first, critical milestone in assessing the progress the Trust has made in improving patient safety and experience, since the 2016 inspection as will the development of the 2017/18 financial plan in starting the journey of stabilizing the financial position of the Trust.

2. Brighton Marathon

On Saturday 8th April I attended the briefing for the volunteers providing medical support for the Brighton Marathon and witnessed the excellent job that our Accident and Emergency Consultant, Dr Rob Galloway and his team do in keeping runners and spectators safe.

The team also provides a visible illustration of the valued place of the hospital in the community and the power of collaboration between the hospital and its staff and the broader community.

3. Easter Plan

Performance against the four hour Accident and Emergency standard was exceptionally good over the Easter Bank holiday period, thanks to our fantastic staff and the excellent planning in the hospital and with partners in the run up to the long weekend.

It is always as important to learn from what has gone well as when things go wrong and the positive learning and lessons from the Easter Plan will be extremely valuable in sustaining improvements in patient flow in the hospital in the longer-term. My sincere thanks also goes to the leadership team who facilitated such a good weekend.

4. CQC Preparation

The CQC inspection starts on 25th April, with staff focus groups having been held in the week after Easter. I would like to thank the many staff led by the Managing Director, Evelyn Barker, who have coordinated the preparation for the inspection, and led the changes which have been made since the last inspection.

The inspection offers staff the opportunity to showcase the best of BSUH, while talking honestly about the challenges that remain. The Trust will receive initial feedback from CQC in the afternoon following the Board meeting, prior to receipt of the inspection report.

5. Oversight arrangements

As part of the agreement between the Trust, Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Improvement, it was agreed that the regulation of BSUH would be streamlined and rationalized to enable the leadership of the Trust to focus on the priorities of quality and financial improvement and cultural change.

Regulatory oversight meetings will be held on the same day every month, with the first meetings planned for 23rd May.

6. Prizes and Awards

The Children's Critical Care Team has been shortlisted for the Patient Safety Awards. Their submission 'Paediatric acute non-invasive ventilation – the future?' has been recognised in the 'Patient safety in critical care and trauma patients' category. The awards ceremony takes place on 4th July when the winners will be announced.

The KSS Leadership Awards 2017 took place at the Amex Stadium on 1 March. BSUH was announced as the winner for the following categories:

- Excellence in Quality and Safety: Acute Paediatric Non-Invasive Ventilation, Dr Kamal Patel, Consultant Paediatrician and the Children's Critical Care Team.
- Leading for Service Improvement and Innovation: Geriatric Consultant Tom Hutchinson and Care of the Elderly Department Leadership Team.

BSUH was also a finalist for: Team Outstanding Achievement – Clinical Professionals, Virtual Fracture Clinic

The work of the BSUH Apprenticeship Team has been recognised at the Health Education England (Kent, Surrey and Sussex) Apprenticeship and Support Workforce Awards 2017, held on 24 March.

Healthcare assistant Shannon Carr (Level 8A West), who joined BSUH through the annual Prince's Trust programme - Get into Health, was joint Runner-Up for the Level 2/Intermediate Clinical Apprentice of the Year Award.

BSUH was also Runner-Up Apprentice Employer of the Year.

7. General Election

With the announcement of a general election on June 8th, it is important for NHS Trusts to avoid any impression of influencing the election or its outcomes.

In practice this means that Trusts should avoid any activity which could be considered politically controversial or influential, or which could compete for public attention or be identified with a party or candidate.

Care will be given to any public announcements made by the Trust during this period to avoid any potential allegations of bias. Normal business will continue and the Trust will take the same approach to all candidates and political parties

Marianne Griffiths
Chief Executive
April 2017