

Trust Board Meeting

02 June 2016

Title of the paper:	Chief Executive Report	
Agenda item:	08/38	
Lead Executive:	Professor Tracey Carer, Acting Chief Executive	
Author:	Jean Hickman, Trust Secretary	
Trust aims :	Double click on the box to mark as appropriate: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To deliver the best quality care for our patients <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be a great place to work and learn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To improve our finances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To develop a strategy for the future	
Purpose:	The aim of this paper is to update the Board on national and local announcements and activities.	
Link to Board Assurance Framework (BAF)	All	
Previously discussed:		
Committee	Date	
N/A	N/A	
Benefits to patients and patient safety implications		
Recommendations		
The Board is asked to note the report.		

Trust Board Meeting – 02 June 2016

Chief Executive's report

Presented by: Professor Tracey Carter, Acting Chief Executive

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This report is to provide an update on key national and local announcements and activities.

2. National

Visit from Trauma Audit and Research Network

- 2.1. The National Trauma Audit and Research Network (TARN) visited Watford Hospital last week to assess the Trust's major trauma service.
- 2.2. The Trauma Audit and Research Network is the independent national clinical audit for major trauma and is based at The University of Manchester and Salford Royal Foundation Trust. The data collated enables comparisons between hospitals thus allowing doctors and managers to review their trauma care and improve quality where required.
- 2.3. I'm delighted to say that informal feedback on the visit was very positive, which provides further evidence of the Trust's commitment to improving the quality of care it delivers to patients.
- 2.4. The Trauma Audit and Research Network Formal will provide formal feedback in due course.

Supporting Global Hand Hygiene Day

- 2.5. The World Health Organisation's annual Global Hand Hygiene Day took place on 05 May 2016 and the Trust's Infection Prevention and Control team were out and about raising awareness of the importance of good hand hygiene.
- 2.6. Hand hygiene is the single most important factor for preventing the spread of infection and the activities on the Global Hand Hygiene Day focused on highlighting the importance of infection prevention and control for all patients, but especially for surgical patients and patients having invasive procedures.

Action on Stroke Month

- 2.7. May was Stroke Awareness month and the Trust showed its support for those who have been affected by strokes by raising awareness and understanding.
- 2.8. The Trust hosted a stroke prevention stand in its restaurant at Watford and provided information, leaflets, blood pressure monitoring, dietary and heart advice to staff, patients, visitors and volunteers.

Local

3. Emergency training exercise

- 3.1. The Trust will be hosting a large scale exercise at St Albans Hospital on 24 June 2016 as part of its major incident training programme. The exercise is designed to test the Trust's emergency response procedures in the event of an incident which could involve chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear, as well as the plans of local emergency services and other NHS organisations.
- 3.2. Multiple partners are involved in this exercise, including police, fire and rescue services, ambulance, Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group and Grove House Hospice.
- 3.3. The exercise will include a mock explosion, smoke and casualties and is an excellent opportunity for the Trust to learn as much as it can from the exercise, as well as assuring itself that the Trust's plans are effective.

St Albans Hospital theatre back in full operation

- 3.4. In early 2015, a serious problem with the ventilation system in one of the operating theatres at St Albans Hospital was discovered. This resulted in the theatre being taken out of operation to ensure patient safety.
- 3.5. I'm pleased to be able to report that this theatre is now back in operation after eleven months and I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the surgical team and the estates team for their hard work and determination to solve this issue.

Make time for the next 'Stories about Safety' forum

- 3.6. A new 'Stories about Safety' forum has been established to share learning and ensure avoidance of a repeat incident after a Never Event or Serious Incident,
- 3.7. The 45 minute forums are aimed at clinical and non-clinical staff and are designed to encourage open conversation about safety issues and concerns. Staff are able to listen to a presentation, share views and learn together in a confidential environment.

Screening programme wins Purple Star award

- 3.8. Well done to the Trust's Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm service which has been recognised by Hertfordshire County Council for providing an outstanding service to people with learning difficulties.
- 3.9. The Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm service provides screening to help detect Aortic Aneurysm's in men. An abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) is a swelling of the aorta, the main blood vessel that leads away from the heart, down through the abdomen to the rest of the body. Large aneurysms are rare, but can be very serious. If a large aneurysm bursts, it causes huge internal bleeding and is usually fatal.
- 3.10. The Trust's screening team were presented with the Purple Star award in recognition of this excellent achievement by the Purple Star Dance Team, who gave an excellent and heartfelt dance performance in the Spice of Life restaurant at Watford.

Staff recruitment

- 3.11. I am please to announce that a recent focus on recruitment has resulted in over 300 staff joining the Trust since September 2015.
- 3.12. This is very encouraging news and helps the Trust to reduce its reliance on agency staff, which is safer for patients and more cost effective.

Strengthening risk processes

- 3.13. The Trust has introduced a new video to aid staff to get a better understanding of the process for managing risks and incidents. The five minute video will be played at induction meetings for new staff and in team meetings for existing staff.

Thank you to staff

- 3.14. Staff were invited to afternoon tea in May 2016 to give Board members an opportunity to say thank you to them for their hard work and dedication over the previous year.
- 3.15. A tea party was held on each hospital site and staff from all areas of the Trust had a well deserve rest and were served tea, sandwiches and cakes with background music supplied by a stringed duo.

Celebrating Excellence Staff Awards

- 3.16. I am pleased to announce that the winner of our May Celebrating Excellence Staff Award is Karen Bowler, Senior Nurse for Education. Her nomination, from a colleague, said she had gone the extra mile to support nurses and midwives who were due to revalidate in April 2016. Karen ensured she supported individuals and would come in early or stay late to do whatever was necessary.
- 3.17. I would encourage everyone to nominate a member of staff who they think has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The easiest way to do it is online via our website (www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk/award). Nomination forms are also available on wards and in clinics across our hospital sites.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1. The Board is asked to note the report.

Professor Tracey Carter
Acting Chief Executive Officer
May 2016