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**Report to the Meeting of the
Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust
Board of Directors**

27 April 2011

Chief Executive's Report

For Information

1. Infection Control Update

Community health services

During April, Ward 1 at Abingdon Community Hospital had an outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting, confirmed as norovirus. This affected 14 patients and 14 staff. The ward was full at the time and therefore remained closed to any admissions for a total of 7 days, after which it underwent a phased terminal clean and phased reopening of beds.

Wallingford Hospital also had a confirmed outbreak of norovirus. This affected 4 patients and no staff. The 2 affected bays were closed during the outbreak but otherwise the ward was able to operate normally and stay open for admissions.

Mental health services

There have been no outbreaks or incidences of infection during April. MRSA screening remains challenging for mental health and a recent survey (March 2011) found that on the day of the survey only 14 per cent of eligible patients were actually screened in accordance with the Trust MRSA screening procedure. An action plan has been developed and put into place to address this.

2. Ridgeway Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Application

On 31 March 2011 the Ridgeway Partnership (Oxfordshire Learning Disability NHS Trust) informed partner agencies that it would not be progressing with its stand-alone NHS foundation trust application. The Ridgeway Partnership said that this decision was reached because it was clear that they were unlikely to be able to meet the current financial tests required by Monitor. In line with Department of Health policy that all NHS trust have either to become stand-alone

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FTs or become part of existing FTs by 2014, the Ridgeway Partnership has announced that it will be looking to identify an alternative organisational form for future provision of services. The Ridgeway Partnership board is considering the options and is working towards concluding the process over the next 12 – 18 months.

3. Fire at Bicester Community Hospital site

On 13 April 2011 at 9.52 p.m., the Fire and Rescue Service attended a fire at the Bicester Community Hospital site in a single storey out building. The fire involved an electrical intake in an electrical cupboard. The Manager on-call was alerted to the incident by the nurse on duty and the community hospital activation plan was put into effect and both the Manager on-call and Executive Director on-call attended the scene. Staff members maintained all eleven patients in the unit safely and it was not necessary to undertake patient evacuation. However, in line with the activation of the evacuation plan, steps were taken adequately to prepare to evacuate fully should the need have arisen. The incident was stood down at 4:30 a.m. on 15 April 2011. A de-brief workshop was held on 15 April 2011 and participants provided feedback on the most successful and least successful aspects of the response. Ideas about how to improve the process further were gathered. A formal de-brief report is being drafted and an action plan has been developed.

4. Operating Plans of main commissioners

Our two main commissioning PCTs (Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire) Operating Plans have been agreed by their respective Boards and are available on their websites. These plans determine much of how we will be expected to work and what we will need to deliver in the coming year. There are no surprises in either plan, both supporting the systems' Quality, Reform and Productivity plans. Hard copies of the documents have been circulated to Board members but can also be accessed on the PCTs' websites under their March Board meetings.

5. Appointment of Oxfordshire GP Consortium Lead

The appointment of Dr Stephen Richards to this role has been announced following a formal process. Dr Richards is a GP in southern Oxfordshire and has undertaken roles as Medical Director of Oxfordshire PCT and GP lead for GP commissioning at South Central SHA.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the report.

Lead Executive Director: Julie Waldron, Chief Executive