

BOD 97/2012

(Agenda Item: 3)

# Report to the Meeting of the

# Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

# Board of Directors

**25 July 2012**

**Chief Executive’s Report**

**For: Information**

**1. Oxford Academic Health Consortium (OAHC) & Academic Health Science Network (AHSN)**

On the OAHC, further progress in developing the governance regime has been made following the agreement reached between all parties on the Statement of Intent. The partners are: Oxford Health NHS FT; Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust; Ridgeway Partnership; Oxfordshire CCG; Oxfordshire County Council; Oxford Brookes University and the University of Oxford. The OAHC partners have agreed that dementia should be the exemplar project as it is a condition which impacts on all partner organisations and would be best tackled through collaborative working. The OAHC will look to develop a five year strategy for dementia in Oxfordshire. It is proposed that the OAHC will be launched in September and the dementia exemplar project would be launched at the same time.

On the AHSN, national guidance has now been issued for the development of such networks and Expressions of Interest must be submitted by 20 July 2012. Meetings between potential partners across Thames Valley have been taking place and a small group has drafted an Expression of Interest on behalf of the organisations which have chosen to be part of this AHSN. We will learn by the beginning of September if the application has been successful at this first stage, before being asked to develop a fuller proposal.

**2. Local Education and Training Board (LETB)**

The Thames Valley LETB has now been given shadow status by Health Education England and the Department of Health. Work is progressing on a development plan to take the LETB through a process of authorisation so that it can be fully functioning by 1April 2013. An advertisement for independent chairs of all 16 LETBs in England appeared in the Sunday Times at the beginning of July. Once the Chair of the Thames Valley LETB is appointed – expected to be during September – recruitment to the three senior posts will take place.

The LETB will take over commissioning and monitoring responsibility for all education and training which is currently led by and funded through the Strategic Health Authority. This will include the postgraduate medical Deanery of Oxford. The new structure will give providers of NHS services, who are the main employers of NHS staff, control over this function.

**3. Annual Plan Review with Monitor**

The Trust’s relationship team at Monitor held a teleconference on 3 July 2012 as part of the Annual Plan Review (APR) process. The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Nursing and Clinical Standards, Trust Secretary, and Interim Deputy Director of Finance attended the teleconference. All FTs go through the APR process and the initial meeting provides Monitor with the opportunity to seek clarification on any of the FT’s plans and submissions, and seek additional assurance on the processes undertaken by the Board to arrive at the plan. Following the initial discussions, some FTs will be required to undergo a more detailed APR Stage 2 review.

At the teleconference, Monitor sought clarification of the main risks faced by the Trust in 2012/13 and was informed that these were: the Cost Improvement Programme; meeting the *C.diff* target and Board transition through personnel changes. Plans to mitigate these risks were presented. Monitor also was interested in the Trust’s developing estates strategy and the plans being put in place to take on management of the PCT estate.

**Recommendation**

The Board is asked to note the report.

**Lead Executive Director:** Julie Waldron, Chief Executive