

BOD 23/2013

(Agenda Item: 10)

# Report to the Meeting of the

# Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

# Board of Directors

**27 February 2013**

**Report of the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry**

**For: Approval**

**1. Background**

The final ‘Report of the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry (the ‘Francis Report’), chaired by Robert Francis QC, was published on 6 February 2013.

The Inquiry, governed by the Inquiries Act 2005, was established in 2010 by the then Secretary of State for Health, Rt Hon Andrew Lansley MP, to examine the commissioning, supervisory and regulatory regimes in relation to Mid Staffordshire NHS FT between January 2005 – March 2009. The Inquiry followed an earlier independent inquiry, also chaired by Robert Francis QC, which examined the care provided by Mid Staffordshire NHS FT between January 2005 – March 2009. This inquiry reported in February 2010 and set out failings in care at the trust.

**2. The Francis Report**

A copy of the Francis Report Executive Summary is attached and a full copy of report (which runs to three volumes) may be accessed here:-

<http://www.midstaffspublicinquiry.com/report>

The Francis Report states that problems at the Mid Staffordshire trust were primarily caused by serious failures on the part of the trust’s board but adds that the NHS ‘system’, which includes many checks and balances, did not prevent the systemic failing. Accordingly, the Francis Report sets out 290 recommendations that are designed to address these concerns and change the ‘culture’ of the NHS.

**3. Department of Health Response**

The Department of Health has stated that it is considering the report in detail and will be responding in full during March 2013. In the interim, the Secretary of State for Health, Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, and NHS Chief Executive, Sir David Nicholson, have written to all NHS organisations asking that each consider the report and the recommendations and look to hold internal events to listen to staff.

**4. Trust Response**

It is proposed that the following take place within the Trust in order to take account of the report and its findings:-

* 27 February 2013 – presentation to Board to agree way forward.
* 5 March 2013 – initial consideration by the Executive, with an Executive Director lead identified to draft an initial internal action plan.
* 25 March 2013 – joint Board / Council seminar to consider the report and the Trust’s initial internal action plan, and agreeing further actions to take.

In addition, it is proposed that a meeting of the Trust’s senior leaders be convened during late March / April 2013 providing the Executive an opportunity to talk about the Francis Report and seek ways to engage staff in the dialogue.

The Chief Executive will be undertaking a series of road-show events across the Trust during May which will provide the opportunity for the Executive to talk about the report and its implications and for frontline staff to engage with the Executive on this, feeding back their views and concerns

**Recommendation**

The Board is asked to note the Francis Report and agree the Trust’s proposed approach to reviewing it.

**Lead Executive Director:** Stuart Bell, Chief Executive