

Report to:	Public Board of Directors	Agenda item:	21
Date of Meeting:	25 September 2019		
Title of Report:	Chair's Report – August and September 2019		
Status:	For Information		
Board Sponsor:	Alison Ryan, Chair		
Author:	Alison Ryan, Chair		
Appendices	None		

Governance

During the last two months, I have been working with Governors on the completion of the Working Groups Task and Finish Group, to match progress with the review of governance which I have been conducting since I arrived.

Happily, we were successful in the period in recruiting a Head of Corporate Governance who, when they are in post, will be able to put a professional slant on what I have been trying to achieve in terms of assuring comprehensive coverage of the operations of the hospital, management of the risks and robust assurance processes.

An important part of equipping us for this work was recruiting, with the Governors, two new Non-Executive Directors Sumita Hutchison and Anna Mealings, who were endorsed by the Council of Governors on September 4th. They replace Nigel Sullivan, and also Jane Scaddings who resigned due to work pressures during this period.

With Joss Foster I planned and facilitated the Board's recent Away day where we looked at reviewing our True North, some specific medium term plans, Improving Together and the new People Board Committee.

Operations

I joined the team doing the accreditation of Charlotte Ward for a Silver Level award both in the ward inspection and the presentation hearing. I also joined the team from NHSI who were looking at our Outstanding End of Life Services and visited Respiratory Ward and the Acute Stroke Unit to see their work in action.

The Organ Donation Committee, which I chaired, monitored closely the rates of identification and follow up of possible donations. RUH is an outstanding hospital in this regard and we heard about some of the pressures caused by high demand in departments and the dangers this might mean that some would-be donors do not get identified.

I attended the Charities Committee and chaired the Patient Experience Committee and I also met twice with the Freedom to Speak up Guardian. I interviewed all the consultant candidates and chaired four interviews.

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External

I now work closely with the Chairs of Great Western Hospital Swindon and Salisbury Hospital to advance closer working between us, the development of Wiltshire Health and Care and the BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire STP in its journey to becoming an Integrated Care System. As part of this externally focussed work, I attended an STP Away day and Sponsoring Board meetings, several meetings of the Acute Hospitals Alliance and the WH&C Monitoring Board. I meet regularly with our external stakeholders to discuss progress.

I also met with Clayton Planter of Street2Board, an agency working to identify the managerial skills of people currently using those skills “on the street” and teaching them to apply them to more mainstream occupations. Clayton has a great deal of insight into reaching out to parts of the community we find hard to make sense to, and of, and I am looking for ways of using these skills to increase our skills and improve our diversity.

Alison Ryan

18th August 2019

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