

Agenda Item 7

South Tees Hospitals 
NHS Foundation Trust

Meeting / Committee:	Board of Directors	Meeting Date:	Tuesday 27 November 2012
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This paper is for: (Only 1 column to be marked with x as appropriate)	Action/Decision	Assurance	Information
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Title:	Chief Executive's Report
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Purpose:	The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Directors with an executive summary of our key strategic objectives, national policy and organisational issues
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Summary:	<p>The paper provides information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient safety – Norovirus campaign • Patient safety – Helping to reduce falls • Trust flu campaign • National changes proposed to NHS staff terms and conditions • Staff election to Council of Governors • Awards and achievements
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Prepared By:	Prof Tricia Hart, Acting chief executive & Amanda Marksby, Head of Communications	Presented By:	Prof Tricia Hart Acting chief executive
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Recommendation:	The Board of Directors is asked to note the contents of the report
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Implications (mark with x in appropriate column(s))	Legal	Financial	Clinical	Strategic	Risk & Assurance
			X	X	X

1. PATIENT SAFETY – NOROVIRUS CAMPAIGN

Following reports both in Scotland and England about closures of hospital wards due to cases of the winter vomiting virus, Norovirus, the trust is launching its own campaign 'Say NO to NOrovirus' which offers advice to patients and visitors about this highly contagious bug.

Colleagues will be aware our own organisation has had to deal with outbreaks on wards in the past, and any proactive measures we can take to try and avoid infection will help our frontline staff.

The key messages for the public and patients are:

- Not visiting friends or relatives, if you have the bug, until you are fully recovered and have been free of symptoms for at least 48 hours
- Checking with us about coming in for your hospital appointment if you have these symptoms
- Washing your hands thoroughly and regularly at all times – particularly after using the toilet and before eating
- Staying clear of accident and emergency if you think you have the illness. Stay at home and drink plenty of fluids. If you are still ill after a few days contact your own GP or NHS Direct on 0845 4647

2. PATIENT SAFETY – HELPING TO REDUCE FALLS

South Tees Hospitals Charity will this week launch its 'silver slipper' campaign to help prevent falls in hospital and is asking people to consider donating the price of a pair of slippers which, in turn, will be used to buy appropriate, safe, footwear for vulnerable patients arriving in hospital slipper-less!

Fall-related injuries in hospitals and community settings can be some of the most common, disabling and expensive health conditions, especially in older adults.

Across England and Wales, approximately 152,000 falls are reported in acute hospitals and 28,000 from community hospitals every year. While the numbers reported by the trust are reducing there were still:

- 2,075 fall incidents reported in The James Cook University Hospital and the Friarage Hospital in the financial year of 2011/2012.
- 412 falls incidents reported in our community hospitals (2011/2012)

The campaign will be tailored towards patients, arriving at both our acute and community hospitals, who are potentially at risk of a fall and do not have safe, appropriate footwear.

3. TRUST FLU CAMPAIGN

The trust's flu campaign has got off to an excellent start and the current uptake in all groups is 57.3%, with more than 4,400 out of 7,715 eligible staff vaccinated, compared to an overall uptake of 50.8% last year. The current breakdown is:

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- 73.5% doctors
 - 52.3% nurses, midwives and health visitors
 - 56.7% all other professionally qualified clinical
 - 58.4% support to clinical staff

As colleagues are aware, we have been set the challenging target of 70% this year and, as usual, have concentrated first on the on the priority areas most likely to be affected by an outbreak including critical care, acute medicine, maternity, paediatrics and accident and emergency.

This is a good start for the organisation which I hope we can build on to protect each other as well as our families and patients.

4. NATIONAL CHANGES PROPOSED TO NHS STAFF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This month, the NHS Staff Council proposed changes to the NHS Terms and Conditions of Service Handbook which would cover all staff on *Agenda for Change* contracts in England.

Trade unions have now agreed to consult on these proposals which, if endorsed, come into effect from 31 March 2013. In summary they cover:

- linking of incremental pay progression to performance
- removal of accelerated pay progression for new entrants to pay band 5
- removal of unsocial hours payments during periods of sickness absence
- guidance on workforce re-profiling

Colleagues are aware the trust remains supportive of the nationally determined Agenda for Change terms and conditions and hopes that the flexibilities being sought nationally are agreed. We will continue to work in partnership with staff, the local trade unions and professional organisations through the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC).

5. STAFF ELECTION TO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

The deadline for staff nominations for election to the Council of Governors has closed and details of candidates can be found on the trust's website at www.southtees.nhs.uk. In total five members of staff have put themselves forward for one seat including:

- Jonathan Broughton
- Steve Duncan
- John A Hyde
- Gerry Ramsden
- Trish Stephenson (Carillion)

Ballot papers have been distributed to all of our staff members, who have until Friday 7 December to cast their votes. All results will be published on the trust's website.

6. AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

I am proud to share a number of awards and recent achievements of staff:

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- Staff nurse Kim Barstow, ward 3 in the division of acute medicine, won the 'rising star' category of the national Nursing Times Awards for her work to enhance the experience of patients with dementia and supporting their families.
 - Cardiothoracic surgeon Simon Kendall has been named as the best trainer of future heart surgeons in Europe. Simon was awarded the Leonardo Da Vinci Award for Training Excellence 2012 by the European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgery (EACTS).
 - The award is based on nominations from surgical trainees and was announced in front of 2,000 delegates at the EACTS annual meeting in Barcelona. This is a fantastic achievement, not only for Simon, but for the cardiothoracic division, the trust and the Northern Deanery
 - Consultant trauma and orthopaedic surgeon at the Friarage Hospital, Colonel Mike Stewart, a distinguished member of the Army, was awarded the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) Fellowship *ad hominem* in recognition of the contribution he has made in the field of orthopaedic surgery, particularly in the management of serious trauma.
 - Colonel Stewart has served in the Army for over 25 years and for over a decade, until his retirement, had been the senior trauma and orthopaedic surgeon in the Armed Forces, consultant advisor to the surgeon general, and programme director of training in military trauma and orthopaedic surgery.
 - The cardiothoracic physiotherapy team who last week were worthy finalists in the Health Service Journalists awards in both the 'Quality and Productivity' and 'Secondary Care Service Redesign' categories.

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE – PROFESSOR TRICIA HART
