



MINUTES OF THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICES NHS TRUST BOARD, HELD ON THURSDAY 4 JUNE 2015, IN HEADQUARTERS, ST ASAPH AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING LINK TO VANTAGE POINT HOUSE, CWMBRAN

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Mick Giannasi	Chairman of the Board
Tracy Myhill	Chief Executive
Emrys Davies	Non Executive Director
Kevin Davies	Non Executive Director (Via VC, VPH)
Pam Hall	Non Executive Director
Judith Hardisty	Director of Workforce and Organisational Development
John Morgan	Non Executive Director
James Mycroft	Non Executive Director
Patsy Roseblade	Director of Finance and ICT
David Scott	Non Executive Director
Martin Woodford	Non Executive Director and Vice Chair

TRUST BOARD

REPRESENTATIVES:

Trish Gaskell	Solicitor/Claims Manager
Nigel Heal	Staff Side Representative
Melfyn Hughes	Welsh Language Officer
Andrew Jenkins	Deputy Director Medical and Clinical Services
Steve Owen	Corporate Governance Officer
Bleddyn Roberts	Staff Side Representative
Gordon Roberts	Interim Assistant Director of Operations (EMS)
Dawn Sharp	Corporate Secretary
Nick Smith	Interim Assistant Director of Operations (PCS)
Jonathan Watts	Associate Portfolio and Programme Director
Julie Winspear	Head of Concerns and Business Management

APOLOGIES

Mike Collins	Director of Operations
Mike Coupe	Director of Strategy, Planning and Performance
Sara Jones	Director of Quality and Nursing
Brendan Lloyd	Medical Director

17/15 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

RESOLVED: That the standing declaration of Mr Emrys Davies as a retired member of UNITE be noted.

18/15 FINANCE/SAVINGS – (Deferred from Open session)

The Chairman reminded the Board that there must be a point at which the Trust had implicit agreement to continue spending as it did or failing that, take corrective action. He further advised the Board there were a series of planned high level meetings intended to address the financial situation.

The Chief Executive advised the Board that the First Minister of Wales was pleased with the continuous improvement in A&E performance and along with the Chief Executive of NHS Wales confirmed that the status quo should be maintained in terms of the Trust's spending position. She explained the importance of a strong relationship with EASC and Welsh Government being maintained in terms of keeping them constantly informed of the Trust's overall financial position. The Chief Executive stressed that the continual use of double time/overtime and the use of external provision was not sustainable going forward.

Members deliberated at length the issues and challenges which had arisen within the savings plan and focused on solutions in terms of how the possible overspend which was looming with increased inevitability, could be addressed. The Board acknowledged that there was still a great deal of further work to be undertaken in reaching a reasonable resolution and expressed their ongoing concerns in that regard.

RESOLVED: That the discussion be noted.

19/15 UPDATE ON LEGAL CASES

The Chief Executive advised the Board that it would be useful to be updated periodically with an outline of ongoing legal cases/claims against the Trust and of any Coroner's inquests. Furthermore it would also be of benefit for the Trust to be advised of how it dealt with and responded to cases.

Trish Gaskell, Solicitor/Claims Manager brought Members up to date with ongoing legal cases and Coroner's inquests, providing a comprehensive synopsis of the claims which potentially might be of high value cost to the Trust.

Members posed a series of questions ranging from the costs involved when dealing with cases and matters of a technical nature in terms of the procedures at Coroner's inquests. Trish Gaskell responded to all enquires adding that important lessons were continually being learnt from cases and where possible the Trust circumvented repetition of those cases which were similar in nature. Examples were provided whereby this could be achieved, one of which was the provision of supplementary driver training which was being developed going forward. It was agreed that the Deputy Director Medical and Clinical Services would consider, through the Organisational Learning Group, how learning could be captured from claims against the Trust and a report would be provided to the QuEST Committee.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the update be noted; and**
- (2) any learning from claims be provided to the Quality, Patient Experience and Safety Committee**