

**Notes of the Annual General Meeting/Annual Members Meeting  
held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 3pm in the  
Cleaddon Lounge, Quality Hotel, Junction A19/A184 Witney Way,  
Boldon, NE35 9PE**

**Present:**

**Mr Neil Mundy** Chairman  
(Chair of meeting)

**Governors:**

<b>Mr Mo Abuzahra</b>	Public South Tyneside	<b>Mrs Chris Morgan</b>	Public Sunderland
<b>Mr Stephen Clark</b>	Appointed	<b>Mrs Pauline Scott</b>	Public Sunderland
<b>Mrs Eleanor Dawson</b>	Public South Tyneside	<b>Mr Tom Scott</b>	Public Gateshead
<b>Mr Hemendra Gandhi</b>	Public Sunderland	<b>Prof Stephen Taylor</b>	Appointed
<b>Mr Terry Haram</b>	Public South Tyneside	<b>Dr Nigel Thomas</b>	Public South Tyneside
<b>Mr David Herbert</b>	Public South Tyneside	<b>Mr Mark Tull</b>	Staff Clinical
<b>Mr Graeme Howe</b>	Public Sunderland	<b>Cllr Joyce Welsh</b>	Appointed
<b>Mrs Marion Langley</b>	Staff Non Clinical		
<b>Mr Ian Leonard</b>	Public South Tyneside		
<b>Dr Bashir Malik</b>	Public South Tyneside		

**In attendance:**

Mr Ken Bremner	Chief Executive
Mr Alan Clarke	Non Executive Director
Mr Mike Davison	Non Executive Director
Mr Keith Tallintire	Non Executive Director
Mrs Allison Thompson	Non Executive Director
Mrs Melanie Johnson	Director of Nursing and Patient Experience
Mrs Julia Pattison	Director of Finance
Dr Shaz Wahid	Medical Director
Dr Sean Fenwick	Director of Operations
Mr Peter Sutton	Director of Planning & Business Development
Mrs Kath Griffin	Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development
Miss Debbie Henderson	Company Secretary/Head of Corporate Governance
Mrs Sylvia Rees	Private Office Assistant (note taker)
Ms Helen Taylor	Deloitte
Mr Paul Thomson	Deloitte
Ms Liz Davies	Head of Communications
Mr Angus McLellan	Business Manager
Tracey Potter	Safe Care Lead
Maria Purdy	District Nurse Sister

57 members of public

## **1. Chairman's Welcome and Introduction**

Mr Mundy, Chairman, welcomed everyone to the 2017 Annual General Meeting/Annual Members Meeting and introduced members of the Board and colleagues who would be

presenting during the meeting. He advised that the meeting would be in two parts, first a review of the 2016/17 financial year and presentation of the Annual Accounts and Quality Report. Second, Mr Bremner, Chief Executive, would then provide an overview of the year ahead. The meeting would close with a presentation by the Integrated Community Team to highlight the important role the team provided to the community they serve.

Mr Mundy stressed the importance of Foundation Trust membership and advised that the Trust would shortly be holding elections for public and staff Governors to sit on the Council of Governors. Awareness sessions would be held over the following few weeks and encouraged interested members to consider standing for election and attend the sessions. Further details were available from the Private Office or on the website.

Mr Mundy expressed his pride in the achievements of the Trust and how the Trust had met the challenges facing the health service over the previous year.

## **2. South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust – Review of the Year 2016/17**

The Chief Executive, Ken Bremner, addressed members. He advised that NHS organisations were facing significant pressures with the introduction of achievement of specific financial control totals to access Sustainability and Transformation Funds (STF). He was pleased to inform members that the Trust had achieved the control total for 2016/17 and had accessed the STF, he thanked staff for the hard work undertaken to achieve this.

Following the announcement of the alliance with City Hospital Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust, a single management team was appointed in November 2016. This gave the regulators, NHS Improvement confidence in the leadership to ensure sustainability of the Trust.

He presented a review of key performance against targets, including A&E 4 hour standard, Cancer treatment and 18 week referral to treatment (RTT). He also provided detail around the challenges ahead and the progress already made.

Mr Bremner recognised the achievements throughout 2016/17 including a new Surgical Centre, the anniversary of Haven Court and the announcement that the Trust was to become a Global Digital Exemplar (GDE) fast follower. The many awards and recognition of staff were also highlighted.

Mr Bremner advised that the pressures facing the NHS and the Trust would continue into 2017/18 and stressed that the NHS must change to respond to these challenges. The possible changes presented by the Path to Excellence Clinical Service Review consultation process would inevitably cause concern to service users. However, the process would create the best model of care to ensure sustainability into the future, and the Trust would continue to be underpinned by a strong consultation and engagement process.

Mr Bremner thanked staff who had provided quality care in times of great pressure, keeping patients safe and well looked after.

## **3. Annual Accounts 2016/17 including Auditors Opinion**

Julia Pattison, Director of Finance presented an overview of the Annual Report and Accounts, and Financial Performance for 2016/17 and advised that representatives from the external auditors, Deloitte, were present at the meeting.

Mrs Pattison provided detail of the developments within the NHS and the Trust during 2016/17.

#### **4. Quality Report 2016/17**

Melanie Johnson, Director of Nursing and Patient Experience presented the Quality Report 2016/17 and reported on progress with the delivery of the priorities for 2016/17 and outlined the Quality Priorities which had been selected for 2017/18 following consultation with key stakeholders.

Mrs Johnson provided an overview of the CQC visits in 2015 and 2016 and was pleased to inform members that a report published had confirmed that substantial progress had been made and gave reassurance that safeguarding practices had improved.

Dr Shaz Wahid, Medical Director presented detail of mortality performance. He advised that the Trust figures included St Benedict's Hospice, taking this into account, the Trust performed within expected rates.

Mr Mundy thanked colleagues for the updates provided and opened the meeting to questions.

**Q** What was the Mortality rate for previous year and why only 70% review rate?

**A.** Dr Shaz Wahid, Medical Director replied that the review rates had significantly increased over the past year which was a massive achievement for the team and the review rates continued to increase.

**Q.** For the Non-Executive Directors, what had been the highlight of the year?

**A.** Non-Executive Directors noted a number of highlights, including:

- The positive leadership and integration of the new single executive team.
- Realising the stretching efficiency and financial savings during the year.
- The financial delivery of a surplus was a credit to the hard work of staff.
- The streamlining and alignment of policies and governance arrangements.
- The reduction in the sickness absence figures and the hard work which had been implemented to achieve this.
- The outstanding performance in A&E.
- Developing and strengthening relationships with Council of Governors.

**Q.** Why has the format of the AGM/AMM changed? There is less opportunity to express views and take part. How are members able to put questions to the Trust Board for debate at the AGM/AMM? Also, could you comment on the feedback from staff that they were unhappy with the options put forward as part of the Clinical Service Review process and had not felt to have been consulted with?

**A.** Mr Mundy offered assurance that the Clinical Service Review process gave a number of opportunities for staff and public to give their views and raise any issues. Mr Bremner added that the options being considered were subject to robust scrutiny by stakeholders including the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee at both South Tyneside and Sunderland Local Authorities. He assured members that the options considered would provide the most appropriate healthcare to the public and patients.

Mr Mundy advised that in regard to the AGM/AMM process, there were a number of opportunities for members and the public to raise concerns and the objective of the Trust was to be open, transparent and listen to the views of members. Ms Henderson added that the decision to combine the AGM and AMM into one meeting reflected best practice and had been advertised widely using many mechanisms including: members' newsletter, local media outlets, website, e-mail and social media. Members of the public are encouraged to raise any queries with the Trust via the Council of Governors or direct to herself as Company Secretary. Mr Mundy also advised that the meeting was an opportunity to allow members of the public to ask questions of the Board of Directors, Trust Auditors and Council of Governors.

**Q.** Is the IT system robust enough given the recent cyber-attack?

**A.** Mr Bremner gave assurance that the Trust had robust contingency plans in place which had been tested to ensure that systems were in place should a system failure occur. He added that processes would be scrutinised during the Global Digital Exemplar (GDE) process.

**Q.** What would it mean for the Trust if the declared deficit for 2017/18 was not met?

**A.** Mrs Pattison advised that the financial position would be closely monitored throughout the year with the aim to achieve the plan. She acknowledged that this would be challenging, work was ongoing within the Trust and with commissioners to identify more efficient ways of working together across the wider Local Health Economy.

**Q.** Why do all Path to Excellence options result in services heading away from South Tyneside towards Sunderland?

**A.** Mr Bremner advised that only Phase 1 of the process were currently being considered with further phases ahead. He assured members that the options being put forward by clinical teams would enable the services to be delivered in a safe and sustainable way. He acknowledged that the options in Phase 1 had focused on the Trust's most vulnerable services and did include providing services from Sunderland, but future phases could see services coming to South Tyneside.

**Q.** Would a 'hustings' process be available for candidates for the Council of Governors?

**A.** Ms Henderson advised that this would not be normal practice. She added that all potential candidates are invited to attend a Governor Awareness Session to find out more about the role.

**Q.** Have any of the bank staff currently being TUPE'd across indicated that they would withdraw from the contract?

A. Ms Griffin confirmed that bank staff would be transferring to NHS Professionals in October 2017, which would help the Trust to cover shifts, working towards a shared bank between South Tyneside and Sunderland.

Mr Mundy closed the formal section of the AGM/AMM and invited Mr Bremner to provide an overview, looking ahead into 2017/18.

## **5. Looking ahead to 2017/18**

Mr Bremner gave an overview of the Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP), with plans now in place to bring together the three regions STPs to work collaboratively to benefit patients and support local services across the whole region.

Mr Bremner shared some of the key priorities for the year ahead including achieving the control total and exploring further partnership working. The Clinical Service Review programme and consultation for phase 1 would end on 15<sup>th</sup> October and Mr Bremner encouraged everyone to attend the consultation sessions and share their views.

Mr Bremner gave further detail about the challenges facing the Trust in particular around workforce, and the opportunities and developments planned for the future.

Mr Bremner introduced Mr Angus McLellan, Business Manager and members of the Integrated Care Team.

## **6. Integrated Care Teams – Health and Social Care Working Together**

Mr McLellan introduced Tracey Potter, Safe Care Lead and Maria Purdy, District Nurse Sister who delivered a presentation on the aims and model of the integrated care teams working together to provide a more streamlined system for patient care.

Mr Mundy thanked the team for an inspirational presentation.

Mr Mundy thanked everyone for attending the Annual General Meeting/Annual Members Meeting 2017 and closed the meeting.