

Trust Board

TB2008.30

From: Mr Trevor Campbell Davis, Chief Executive

Date: May 2008

Subject: **Chief Executive's Report**

For: **Information**

This short report summarises Trust performance and matters of current interest.

1. I am pleased to be able to report that the Trust achieved a surplus of £4.3 million in 2007/08. A strong start has also been made to the new year, with an in-month surplus of £2.04 million in April. Further information is set out in the accompanying paper from the Director of Finance (TB2008.31).
2. The annual patients' survey was published on 14 May. It was carried out by the Picker Institute on behalf of the Healthcare Commission. The results for the ORH show that 46% of patients thought their care was excellent, compared with a national average of 42%. 92% of the patients rate their care as excellent, very good or good. The ORH was among the top 20% of trusts in 16 other areas, including information given to patients about their care, and whether or not they were treated with dignity and afforded privacy. Patients rated the Trust's two emergency departments more highly than previously, despite increased attendances.
3. The ORH continues to work closely with South Central Strategic Health Authority during planning for authorisation as a Foundation Trust. The Trust will undertake an extensive consultation exercise to give the public, staff and other key stakeholders the opportunity to comment on our application. The consultation is about our vision for the future, about how people can become more involved in the life of the ORH, and how we will be governed. These changes will make our services more responsive to local needs, and help to ensure that we provide the highest quality in everything we do.
4. Dr Maggie Hammersley and the specialist diabetes nursing team were finalists at the recent NHS South Central Annual Health and Social Care Awards. Dr Hammersley and her team had been shortlisted for their work on medical wards to identify patients with potential hypoglycaemia, and to treat them using a new approach, which has been successful in paediatric patients.
5. The Trust is organising a series of media events to mark the 60th birthday of the NHS. These include a 60th birthday special edition of ORH News, hosting outside

broadcasts with the local media, and participation in a national documentary on the NHS, which will be shown on ITV at peak viewing time.

6. Oxfordshire PCT has published a report, outlining how it plans to take forward consultation on services at the Horton Hospital, following the publication of the recommendations of the Independent Reconfiguration Panel, and the response of the Secretary of State for Health on 20 March. The programme of work, which will be known as “The Better Healthcare Programme for Banbury and surrounding areas” will be delivered in three phases.
 - Phase 1 – securing an effective interim plan for the Horton, developing an effective stakeholder and community engagement plan, and defining the population’s health needs
 - Phase 2 – developing service strategies for meeting those health needs
 - Phase 3 – developing a plan for local health services that delivers the strategy.

The expected timescale for the programme will be April 2008 – March 2010. The ORH is working closely with Oxfordshire PCT as it develops the programme, and the Trust expects to be fully represented on the Programme Board and on the relevant work streams.

7. Dr Hywel Jones became Medical Director/Chair of Division A at the beginning of May. The Division, which includes acute general medicine, emergency departments and cardiac services, was previously chaired by Dr John Reynolds. The Trust extends its warm appreciation to Dr Reynolds for his tireless work as former Chair.

Dr Jones has been a consultant geratologist and general physician in Oxford since the late 1980s and is the Older Persons’ Champion for the Trust. He has been a District Clinical Tutor for the last ten years, and has successfully managed the difficult introduction of Modernising Medical Careers at the ORH. Dr Jones also has experience in clinical management, having previously been the Chairman of the Medicine Clinical Centre in the 1990s. We warmly welcome Dr Jones to this position.

8. The Trust has welcomed the announcement by the Department of Health that additional funding is to be made available to improve stroke services across the country. £2.4 million of this funding has been awarded to South Central Strategic Health Authority to pay for additional care for stroke patients.

The Oxford Stroke Programme, headed by Professor Alastair Buchan, Professor Peter Rothwell and Professor Peter Jezzard, has an international reputation for the diagnosis and treatment of stroke. Many of the suggested improvements in stroke services are in place in Oxford or are in the process of being developed. This additional funding is most welcome.