

**TO:** 2gether NHS Foundation Trust Board

**FROM:** Rennie Fritchie, Trust Chair

**DATE:** 27 November 2009

**SUBJECT:** CHAIR'S REPORT

**1. PURPOSE**

To bring to the attention of the Board activities undertaken by the Trust Chair since the last meeting of the Trust Board.

**2. MAIN REPORT**

- 2.1 The Chief Executive and I were pleased to attend a lunch time meeting organised by Jan Stubbings, NHS Gloucestershire, with Baroness Jan Royall of Blaisdon to talk about our services. This meeting was also attended by the Chair and Chief Executive of Gloucestershire's Acute Foundation Trust and we were able to discuss the NHS in Gloucestershire and share information and aspirations.
- 2.2 Working together with Dermot McMeekin, Paul Winterbottom, Kay Harrison and other clinicians we completed this year's work on the Clinical Excellence Awards.
- 2.3 On the 4<sup>th</sup> November I was very pleased to attend NHS Gloucestershire's Innovate 09 Conference. There was a very full programme with high quality and diverse contributors and it certainly lived up to its name.
- 2.4 Together with other Board members I attended a day organised by the Strategic Health Authority in Somerset. It was attended by all health care organisations in the South West Region and focussed on the future and how we best work together.
- 2.5 Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November was the date of our annual ROSCAs where we recognise and celebrate the achievements of our staff and volunteers, both in their day to day work and in the length of their service to the NHS. It was an uplifting evening and I was proud to take part in the ceremonial point of the evening. Our guest speaker was Dr John Bird, the founder of The Big Issue who made the links between homelessness and mental health.
- 2.6 Alongside other NHS colleagues, I was privileged to attend the annual general meeting of Carers Gloucestershire at the Guildhall in Gloucester this month. An extremely well attended event which described another hard working and successful year for Carers Gloucestershire and a thought provoking external

speaker. Enhancing the lives of carers was the theme on the day and indeed for the year which is one I whole heartedly support.

- 2.7 Other meetings include a review of our appraisal process and a meeting with our internal auditors PriceWaterhouseCooper in my role as Chair of the Appointments and Terms of Service Committee. Also a meeting with the Chair designate of another Mental Health Trust to talk through roles, responsibilities and best practice which I hope will prove helpful in undertaking his new role.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board is asked to note the contents of this report.