

**The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust
Trust Board – 27 March 2014**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OVERVIEW

FutureFit Programme

The Clinical Commissioning Groups issued on Thursday 13th March the outcome of the clinical advisory groups' discussions regarding the high-level vision for Acute and Community services. This clearly recommends, in line with the Trust's vision, that the best possible service for patients requiring urgent care can be delivered from a single major Emergency Hospital Centre coupled with more distributed Urgent Care Centres across the county.

Whilst there has been some adverse reaction to this announcement there has also been significant support from some key stakeholders, patient groups, and the public. A detailed Board paper within the agenda considers current progress on the Future Fit programme.

2014/15 Contract discussions

Whilst a satisfactory contract has been agreed with Shropshire County CCG, the Trust has not reached agreement with Telford & Wrekin CCG and have formally entered an arbitration process. Discussions will continue in an attempt to reconcile our different positions with regard to the 2014/15 contract and if possible then withdraw from the arbitration process.

Impact of key staffing shortages

I am becoming increasingly concerned with the day to day difficulties we are experiencing in medically staffing some key areas and whilst we manage to cover gaps in most instances, this is becoming an increasing struggle; it is proposed to identify this as a new risk in the Board Assurance Framework. I have asked Care Groups to quantify the level of risk and potential mitigating actions and will discuss this further during the Board Assurance item on the agenda.

Peter Herring
Chief Executive