

TO: West Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust Board

FROM: Liz Boait, PCT Chair

DATE: 17th November 2005

SUBJECT: CHAIR'S REPORT

1.0 VICE CHAIR

1.1 Changes in non Executives to the Board in the recent past have lead to the process of appointing a new Vice-Chair. Fred Simpson has kindly volunteered to take on the additional responsibility in addition to his role of Clinical Governance lead, and I ask that the Board confirm this position. Each non Executive Director carries out a number of lead roles for the organisation and the roles for our non executive team are accessible on the PCT website.

2.0 RE-APPOINTMENTS

2.1 I can also confirm that the Appointments Commission has reconfirmed the terms of office for myself, Derek Harbottle and Mark Hendry. The Appointments Commission provides an independent role overseeing the appointment of non Executive and lay members to all NHS statutory bodies. We are all pleased to have been invited to continue to service the PCT and to serve the population of West Gloucestershire PCT.

3.0 IMPROVING WORKING LIVES (IWL) PRACTICE PLUS VALIDATION

3.1 The PCT submitted a Base Line Self Assessment (copy available on request) on 3rd October 2005 and scored itself 192 points out of a possible 204 (the minimum score required to achieve Practice Plus Status is 182).

3.2 Together with Ann McCluskey and Tina Ricketts, I met with the four appointed Validators during their orientation day on 3rd November. The validation team also visited a number of sites briefly and held a meeting with the Directors and the IWL Steering Group to discuss the evidence required to validate the Base Line Self Assessment.

3.3 Validation will take place during week commencing 28th November 2005 and the Validators have asked to meet a cross section of employees (mainly 'hard to reach' employees such as Twilight and Night Staff) either for focus groups or individual interviews. The Validators will also join other pre-arranged meetings such as the Joint Consultative Forum and Whole Family Event.

3.4 Confirmation on whether the PCT has achieved Practice Plus Status will be received in early January 2006.

4.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4.1 The Annual General Meeting was held on 29th September 2005 and once again featured an afternoon event of displays and the opportunity to meet some of our staff who have led major projects during the year. The formal AGM itself was attended by over 20 people and a series of interesting and helpful questions and comments were raised by members of the public as part of the question and answer session. The AGM also presented me with the opportunity to handout Long Service Awards to members of staff who chose to attend the meeting and receive their awards in this way. I would like to extend my thanks to all PCT staff who participated in and managed the arrangements for the day.

5.0 PCT RECONFIGURATION

5.1 Discussions are continuing across the county about PCT reconfiguration, in the lead up to the planned new PCT for Gloucestershire subject to public consultation. My fellow Gloucestershire PCT Chairs and I are working together with Chief Executives and Chairs of PECs to ensure as smooth a transition to the new organisation for staff, and minimal disruption to services, in the lead up to the new organisation.

5.2 Timetables are yet to be confirmed by the Department of Health, but it is expected that the new organisation will be in place by October 2006 at the latest.

6.0 SMOKE FREE GLOUCESTERSHIRE

6.1 I attended the launch of the Smoke Free Gloucestershire Vision on 5th October at the Racecourse, Cheltenham. Congratulations to the staff team that put together the successful programme for the day.

6.2 Judith Hann, TV presenter set the scene and a local resident gave a very robust case for moving to the Smoke Free county.

6.3 We heard about the success stories from New York and Ireland and from experts in the area. I aim to repeat the message and ask that all go on line to <http://www.stopsmokingsupportglos.org.uk/smoking/smoking20.html> and sign the vision statement.