

Report on the Meeting of the Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust on 27th May 2015

The minutes of the meeting on 25th March which I had been unable to attend showed that the long awaited report into the Speaking out investigation into the activities of Jimmy Savile at Stoke Mandeville Hospital had been published and at the Press Conference following the publication the Trust Chairman had issued an apology on behalf of the Trust.

With the departure of Anne Eden the Chief Executive her successor was Neil Dardis who had previously been the Deputy Chief Executive who gave his report. The main points were that Finance continued to be a challenge both locally and nationally and that the Trust had been ranked as one of the C HKS awards.

On Finance the Financial Director presented his plan for 2015/16 which was robust and workable. If a surplus was to be achieved at the end of the year there would need to be an efficiency delivery of 4%. The Board approved the plan. With regard to the present position this financial year they were in a reasonable state.

One of the main concerns is the levels of sickness among the staff particularly among the HCAs in March 2015 but HR and occupational are working together to address these issues. Another is the level of employment or Agency Staff and in April there had been a reduction from 13.5% of Nursing Staff in March to 11.9% in April.

Surveys of patient experience are carried out and the latest showed that just over 50% found it to be excellent. And just under 40% found it to be good.

The Quality Performance report showed that there had been a higher rate of mortality in December 2014 but since then it had been reduced to the expected level. Similarly readmissions were higher in December but the number has now been reduced. There was a need to reduce the number of falls by 25% per 1000 bed days and there were plans to address this issue.

Lastly on the issue of Infection Control there had been no cases of MRSA in April 6 cases of C Difficile, and one Ward at High Wycombe Hospital had to be closed for 3 days after 10 patients had diarrhoea and vomiting.

David Pepler

27th July 2015