



NHS Confederation (Employers) Co Ltd Board Notes of the Meeting

24 July 2013

The NHS Confederation, Broadway, London

Directors in attendance

Michael O'Higgins (Chair)
Jo Cubbon (Non-executive Director)
Edward Colgan (Non-executive Director)
Mike Farrar (Chief Executive, NHSC)
Sheila McKenzie (Director of Finance and Resources)
Dean Royles (Director, NHSE)

Apologies

Karen Charman, (Director of Engagement, NHSE)
Sue Covill (Director, Employment Services, NHSE)
Gill Bellord (Director, Employment Relations & Reward, NHSE)

Also in attendance

Lisa Rodrigues (independent trustee NHSC)
Mike Parish (NHSC trustee) (part meeting)
Wendy Jones
(Business Planning Manager, NHSE)

Welcome

1. Michael O'Higgins (MoH) opened the meeting and welcomed Lisa Rodrigues (independent trustee). Lisa accepted an open invitation that had been issued to NHS Confederation trustees to attend.

Apologies

2. Apologies were noted from Gill Bellord, Sue Covill and Karen Charman.

Paper 1

Notes of the meeting held 30 May 2013

3. The notes were agreed.

Paper 2

Action tracker/matters arising

4. Dean Royles (DR) confirmed that he would keep the board advised of any developments in connection with the review of the core Department of Health (DH) contract and that he and Mike Farrar (MF) were considering the options for business development and working together between NHS Employers and NHS Confederation at their one-to-one discussions.

5. The board noted the action tracker.

Paper 3

Director's report

6. DR highlighted some of the key items in his report including the work being undertaken by the new regional engagement teams and the recent 'Values' week; a week-long series of activities promoting and embedding the NHS Employers' values to staff.
7. MoH said he had received positive feedback about the compact version of the NHS Employers annual review for 2012/13.
8. The NHS Employers summit in November is proving very popular.
9. DR updated the board on the current position with regard to pay negotiations in respect of junior doctors and consultants. The board discussed the key issues, comments included:
 - a. a wider, more public and transparent debate would be helpful
 - b. DR said there was an opportunity for the new engagement teams to help get the message across to the service in an effort to encourage them to become part of the process.
10. DR said not to under-estimate the efforts taken by the negotiating team to get Heads of Terms.
11. DR highlighted other key pieces of work around the Francis report and staff engagement and referred to a range of reports to government.

Chief Executive Report

12. MF outlined the twin strands of the political debate - quality of care vs financial constraints. One agenda supported a positive change in the culture of the NHS and the other supported a strengthened inspection regime.
13. MF believes there is a crossover with the Confederation's role and both organisations could work together to support senior management whilst holding parallel discussions about how to create a sustainable NHS. He said public trust in the NHS remains high and supported opening the debate directly with them.
14. DR said that a 'how to' publication on using social media, specifically aimed at CEs had been very well received.
15. MF acknowledged the challenges being faced by the CQC and proposed a joint campaign with the Confederation working in conjunction with Chief Executives to open discussions with the CQC in an effort to work towards designing better, empirical standards.

16. MoH highlighted the importance of 'celebrity' retweets.

Paper 4
Integrated performance report

17. DR introduced the Integrated Performance Report. He reported that all deliverables were on track apart from the main Picker survey which had been deferred until September.

18. DR reported on the progress being made by NHS Employers in building up key relationships with the new organisations, the majority of which are Leeds based; NHS England, Health Education England, the Leadership Academy etc. A jointly badged NHS Employers/Leadership Academy event on organisational development has attracted 160 delegates. NHS Employers is also working with colleagues from NHS organisations across the city including Leeds Community Trust, Leeds Teaching Hospitals, Yorkshire Ambulance Service and NHS England who will all be taking in the Leeds Pride parade on 4 August as part of the Personal Fair & Diverse (PFD) campaign.

Paper 5
Risk register

19. DR introduced the risk register and advised the board that there had been no changes since the previous meeting.

20. The board noted the risk register.

Approvals under the Scheme of Delegation (standing item)

21. There were no approvals at this time.

Paper 6
Website and intranet development project

22. DR introduced the report into the project to update the NHS Employers' website and provide a new intranet for staff.

23. The NHS Employers' website receives approx. 200,000 visits a month which demonstrates its value and importance to the work that NHS Employers does and reinforces the investment that has been made into the comms and digital teams.

24. The board acknowledged the importance of NHS Employers' digital presence to its business and welcomed the improvements to the internal and external websites.

Paper 7
Financial Statements 2012/13

25. Sheila McKenzie presented the Financial Statements for approval by the board and highlighted some key points.

26. The board noted and approved the Financial Statements for 2012/13.

Paper 8
Management accounts – June 2013

27. SM reported on the management accounts for the period ending June 2013.

28. MF acknowledged the high quality of management within NHS Employers.

Any other business

29. There was no other business.

NHS Employers
Corporate Office
July 2013