

Borders NHS Board**CHAIR AND NON EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT****Aim**

To update the Board on the recent activities undertaken by the Non Executive Directors.

Committee Meetings and Events: The following committee meetings and events have taken place.

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| 7 December | Borders NHS Board |
| 7 December | Board Development & Strategy Session |
| 11 December | Audit Committee |
| 11 December | Staff Governance Committee |
| 18 December | Health & Social Care Integration Joint Board |
| 15 January | Financial Performance Group |
| 16 January | Endowment Fund Board of Trustees |

John Raine: Meetings/Events attended include:-

December 5: Tree of Light Ceremony
 December 14: Christmas meal event for DME patients
 December 14: Scottish Government release indicative health board allocations in draft 2018/19 budget.
 December 18: Volunteers event
 December 21: Presentation to meeting of Scottish Borders Council
 January 15: Finance Performance Group
 January 16: Endowment Fund Trustees

Recent weeks have been marked by intense activity in our hospitals and across primary and community services. Front line staff at BGH, many of whom are long servicing employees, have described the pressures as unprecedented in their experience.

We have seen a marked deterioration in some of our waiting time statistics as a result yet the quality of services across NHS Borders is being maintained and there have been many examples to illustrate the commitment of staff to deliver the best possible care in difficult circumstances. I know the Board will wish to formally express its support and thanks to all staff for rising to the ongoing challenges.

Malcolm Dickson: During a discussion at a recent Clinical Governance Committee, it was agreed that Cliff Sharp and David Love would meet with Malcolm Dickson so that the latter could gain a better understanding of current practice in reporting deaths to the Procurator Fiscal. This meeting took place on 9th January, following an exchange of relevant guidance, a useful and searching discussion ensued mostly focussing on the

admittedly very low risk of criminal actions by health personnel, alleged/suspected negligence/error, and how families of deceased were made aware of avenues available should they have any dissatisfaction/concerns in relation to a death. The discussion developed to include the changing culture within the NHS, and NHS Borders in particular, and Malcolm left the meeting with a much greater degree of assurance on all these matters than he had before the meeting.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to **note** the report.

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| Policy/Strategy Implications | Not Applicable. |
| Consultation | Not Applicable. |
| Consultation with Professional Committees | Not Applicable. |
| Risk Assessment | Not Applicable. |
| Compliance with Board Policy requirements on Equality and Diversity | Compliant |
| Resource/Staffing Implications | Not Applicable. |

Approved by

| Name | Designation | Name | Designation |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| John Raine | Chair | | |

Author(s)

| Name | Designation | Name | Designation |
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| Non Executive Directors | | | |