

Board of Directors

Thursday, 05 July 2018

Report Title:	Maternity CNST – confirming approval of submission by the Ipswich and Colchester Board of Directors
Executive/NED Lead:	Catherine Morgan, Chief Nurse
Report author(s):	Ann Alderton, Company Secretary
Previously considered by:	Board members by email

Approval
 Discussion
 Information
 Assurance

Executive summary
<p>Purpose The Standing Orders of both the former Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust and Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust has provision for urgent board decisions to be made outside a general meeting under Chair's actions after having consulted at least two non-executive directors. Such decisions must be reported to the next formal meeting of the Trust Board in public session for formal ratification.</p> <p>Background The Department of Health has instigated an incentive scheme to reward those Trusts who have taken action to improve maternity safety through the implementation of good practice across all maternity units. Trusts were asked to submit evidence of good practice against 10 criteria, with board assurance of compliance against the standards and action plans for any areas for potential improvement. This will reduce the Trusts' insurance premium.</p> <p>Process The deadline for submission of this return was 29 June 2018 and as board activity during June was mainly focused on the merger, there had been no opportunity for a board discussion on the submission. The papers were uploaded to the board portals at both Ipswich and Colchester Hospitals for the respective board members to review, with a request to board members to confirm their decision by email. Although the minimum requirement was to consult only two NEDs, all board members consulted.</p> <p>The submission was supported by both Executive teams and three NEDs from both Trusts responded to confirm their approval, with both Trusts meeting the 29 June deadline.</p>
Action Required of the Board of Directors
To ratify the urgent board decision relating to the Maternity CNST submission undertaken under the Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust Standing Order 5.2 and Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust Standing Order 6,2 Emergency Powers and Urgent Decisions

Link to Strategic Objectives (SO)		Please tick
SO1	Improve quality and patient outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SO2	Provide better value for money	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SO3	Sustain and improve access to services that meet the needs of the population	<input type="checkbox"/>
SO4	Deliver a sustainable, skilled workforce	<input type="checkbox"/>

Risk Implications for the Trust <i>(including any clinical and financial consequences)</i>	If the DH did not receive the evidence of the Trusts' actions to improve maternity safety, the Trusts would miss out on the opportunity to pay a lower insurance premium
Trust Risk Appetite	Quality: The board will take minimal risks when it comes to patient safety, patient experience or clinical outcomes. Its tolerance for risk taking will be limited to decisions where the impact is low and the potential mitigations are strong

Legal and regulatory implications <i>(including links to CQC outcomes, Monitor, inspections, audits, etc)</i>	Regulatory requirement
Financial Implications	The reduction in the insurance premium is significant across both Trusts
Equality and Diversity	None noted