

Weekly message Darren Grayson, Chief Executive

27th July 2011

Dear colleague

On Monday evening I met with many of our consultants to share with them an overview of our progress in developing our clinical strategy: 'Shaping our Future'. We need a strategy that enables bold and radical change that reflects the changing needs of patients, the rapid development of clinical practice and the new era of financial austerity. Our strategy will set the strategic direction for the next five to ten years so we can achieve our objective of providing high quality care to all our patients. It will allow us to have a consistent and coherent approach to developing, designing and re-configuring services and help us re-shape our workforce, estate and information technology.

I am pleased with the enthusiasm of clinicians to get involved in the next critical phase of the strategy to develop more detailed plans for eight strategically important specialties: A&E, Acute Medicine, Stroke, Cardiology, General Surgery, Paediatrics, Trauma and Orthopaedics and Maternity. We want to broaden our engagement in the development of these plans to involve clinical staff, GPs, external partners and we have two focus groups organised with the public to get their views. I recognise the timescales we are working towards are tight but this is urgent and I want staff to be involved in contributing to the clinical strategy.

This week also saw the first of nine clinical strategy staff awareness sessions. It was well attended and everyone had the opportunity to ask questions. I would encourage you to come along to any of the remaining sessions, the dates and times are available on the extranet.

I would like to thank those staff who attended the recent staff survey focus groups. The feedback received was interesting and relevant. Some subjects were brought up repeatedly and we will be concentrating on these areas to look at practical ways in which they can be improved. We will be holding further focus groups to look at these areas in detail and in particular how we can make changes in a practical way. The areas we are concentrating on are; incidents and reporting, delivering quality patient care through motivated staff and developing skills and competences through appraisals.

Focus groups on these subjects will be held from 12.30pm until 1.30pm on:

- Thursday 4th August at Grove House Seminar Room, Crowborough
- Monday 8th August at Seminar Room 1, Newhaven Rehab Centre
- Tuesday 9th August at Lecture Theatre, Conquest Hospital
- Thursday 11th August at Lecture Theatre, Eastbourne DGH

Please come along and give us your views. There will be no weekly message for the next two weeks as I am on holiday; Andy Horne will be covering.

With best wishes



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Chief Executive

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