

**BRIEFING FOR EAST SUSSEX HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
20 November 2009**

BSUH PROPOSALS TO BECOME A FOUNDATION TRUST

Background

Brighton and University Hospitals NHS Trust (BSUH) is the region's teaching hospital providing general and specialist hospital care from two main sites: the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton and the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath. We treat more than 500,000 people each year; employ 6,000 staff and have an annual turnover of £400 million.

Foundation Trust Status

The Government's clear ambition is for hospital care to be provided by foundation trusts. BSUH has agreed with South East Coast SHA that it should aim to achieve FT status in the Autumn of 2010.

Some key dates will be:

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| ▪ 23 September 2009 | Launch of membership campaign at AGM |
| ▪ 25 January – 23 April 2010 | Public consultation on the Trust's proposals |
| ▪ 4 May – 30 June 2010 | Conduct Governor elections (public and staff) |
| ▪ 27 July 2010 | Inaugural Board of Governors |

Foundation Trust Workstreams

A project structure has been established and resourced. Significant work is under way on several key workstreams, including: governance, leadership and workforce and the development of the Integrated Business Plan or "IBP" which sets out the Trust's strategy for the next five years.

Proposals

A draft constitution for BSUH FT has already been prepared and will be discussed with a range of people and organisations prior to the formal consultation at the beginning of 2010.

- A Board of Governors made up as follows:
 - 17 public governors
 - 5 staff governors
 - 8 stakeholder/partner governors
- Automatic membership of staff including contracted staff such as porters, caterers and cleaners who are integral to the successful operation of our hospitals
- Minimum membership age of 12 and a Governor minimum age of 16

We also propose that our catchment area covers all of Sussex. In order to ensure that our membership is geographically representative of our patient base, we propose that the public constituency should comprise members from the following electoral areas: Brighton & Hove City Council (7), West Sussex County Council (2), East Sussex County Council (2), Mid Sussex District Council (5) and Out of Area - all other electoral areas in England (1).

It is important that we reflect that we operate from two main sites, hence the proposal that there are five representatives from the area covered by Mid Sussex District Council which reflects the significant number of patients we treat there.

We would welcome informal feedback on our plans at this stage, prior to formal consultation in early 2010.