1. Purpose of this Report:

The purpose of this report is to update Board members on national, regional and local issues, announcements relating to mental health, learning disability and community health services and Chief Executive level discussions within the local health economy.

2. Summary of Key Points

There are a number of significant reports that have been published recently and the Board may wish to focus on one of more of the following:

- 2016/17 Control Totals
- Local Control Totals
- National Whistleblowing Policy

3. Recommendation:

That the Board:

- Agrees to note the content of the report and identifies any other items that require further discussion at the Board meeting itself.

4. Financial Implications

None.

5. Legal Implications

None.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

Not applicable.
7. Previous Meetings/Committees Where the Report Has Been Considered:

Highlight whether the paper has been discussed at any of the following meetings by placing a tick in the relevant box(es):

- Audit Committee
- Quality & Safety Committee
- Remuneration Committee
- Finance Business & Investment Committee
- Executive Management team
- Directors’ Meeting
- Chair of Committees’ Meeting
- MH Legislation Committee

8. Risk Issues Identified for Discussion

- Board members will want to identify any risks emerging from the content of the paper, and how new issues and challenges across the NHS might affect BDCFT. Any emerging issues may be taken forward through individual discussions with Directors outside Board meetings or suggesting a future paper to the Board or its Committees.

9. Publication under Freedom of Information Act

This paper has been made available under the Freedom of Information Act.
Local issues

Engaging Leaders Celebration

A number of Board members attended the Engaging Leaders celebration event at Cedar Court, Bradford on Wednesday. This was an excellent event where over 100 managers across the organisation (and some managers from partner organisations) reflected on the work they had done over the last 6 months as part of the Trust’s leadership programme. The theme of the celebration was around ‘maintaining momentum’ and identifying a personal commitment from each participant to take forward into their own leadership practice. The audience heard from Dr Suzie Hamlin, an expert in change management and organisational development, about the importance of relationships, organisational dynamics and making connections across teams as part of her own leadership journey. The next Engaging Leaders cohort will start later in the year as we continue to support staff and build leadership capacity across all our teams.

BDCFT services recognised in Awards

On 8 March 2016, Bradford Council Environmental Health (EHO) carried out their food safety audit at Lynfield Mount Hospital and the Trust has been given a ‘5 Star Rating’ for its Food Safety Audit.

RoSPA (The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) has awarded the Trust with its second successive Gold Health and Safety award. These internationally recognised awards have become the most sought after accolade by organisations from every sector, and they offer organisations the opportunity to prove their ongoing commitment to raising standards and to celebrate success.

The Trust’s ‘Engaging Leaders Programme’ has been shortlisted for the ‘Award for leadership development’ category in this year’s HPMA awards, which is fantastic news and recognises the work that has gone into developing the programme which is aimed at all staff at band 6 and above.

The Trust has been shortlisted for the Team of the Year category in the National Dentals Award highlighting best practice to patient care and professional development across the profession. The winners will be announced at the National Dental Awards held at the Dentistry Show in Birmingham on the 22 April 2016.
National Issues

2016/17 Control Totals

NHS Providers have last week issued a briefing note on control totals. They key points are:

NHS Improvement is waiting for three things before finalising control totals:

- The completion of the 2016/17 contracting round;
- The resultant submission of 2016/17 provider operational plans, due 18 April; and
- The completion of national level conversations on a range of national policy issues such as specialised commissioning CQUINs and potential reductions in the clinical placement tariff.

This will enable NHS Improvement to assess the overall aggregate 2016/17 financial position for the provider sector and, in discussion with NHS England (NHSE), the overall financial position and balance between providers and commissioners.

Local control totals

Once the national aggregate position is clear, we believe NHSI will then seek to finalise individual control totals, in late April and early May. We understand each individual provider’s control total will be a combination of:

- A financial position at the end of each quarter;
- The amount of Sustainability and Transformation funding to be allocated by the quarter;
- Agreement on the amount of capital to be spent in 2016/17;
- A performance trajectory, by quarter, for each of the key NHS constitutional targets;
- Confirmation of national performance conditions to be met. These are likely to include realising Carter Review savings; delivering spending controls on locum and agency staff; and full implementation of the junior doctor’s contract.

It will, as ever, be up to each individual Board to decide how they want to approach this control total finalisation process. We believe NHSI will want to avoid this turning into an open renegotiation and will therefore want to use the February control totals as the anchor, with the totals adjusted for variations since February.

England National Mental Health Director

The Chief Executive of Central and North West London NHS FT (CNWL), Claire Murdoch, has been appointed by Simon Stevens as the new NHS National Mental Health Director.

Claire’s appointment was made following a public job advertisement and an open competition. Claire will undertake her new national role on secondment from CNWL where she will remain Chief Executive.
Claire Murdoch said “There’s an important vision set out in the Taskforce report and I look forward to working with Paul Farmer and others on implementation. I have seen great commitment from Simon Stevens for better mental health so this is the right time to work with him and my first class colleagues at NHS England to deliver improvements.”

**National Audit Office review of mental health access and waiting standards**

The Department of Health has recognised that mental health has been treated as a poor relation relative to other health needs for many years. This recognition, the goal of ‘parity of esteem’ and the setting of new standards for access and waiting times are all bold and impressive steps forward. It is important that these steps are supported by implementation in a reasonable timescale if they are not to be a cause for disillusionment, and this looks challenging in current conditions.

The NAO report issued last week finds that full information does not exist to measure how far the NHS is from meeting the access and waiting time standards, but it is clear that meeting the standards will be a very significant challenge. Nationally, the access and waiting times for IAPT are already being met but performance varies substantially across different areas. A survey of acute hospitals in July 2015 indicated that 7% had the level of service NHS England considers will be beneficial to patients – at least a core liaison psychiatry service operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Complete information is not yet available to measure performance for early intervention in psychosis.

In short the report says that the DH and NHSE don’t know what the mental health money has been spent on and has no means of finding out and cannot monitor waiting times.

[Link To: National Audit Office](#)

**Whistleblowing Policy**

Following a public consultation on the draft policy in November last year, NHS Improvement and NHS England have published a single national integrated whistleblowing policy to help standardise the way NHS organisations should support staff who raise concerns. Recommended by Sir Robert Francis in his Freedom to Speak up review, this new policy contributes to the need to develop a more open and supportive culture that encourages staff to raise any issues of patient care quality or safety. The new policy aims to ensure:

- NHS organisations encourage staff to speak up and set out the steps they will take to get to the bottom of any concerns;
- organisations will each appoint their own Whistleblowing Guardian, an independent and impartial source of advice to staff at any stage of raising a concern;
any concerns not resolved quickly through line managers are investigated;
investigations will be evidence-based and led by someone suitably independent in the organisation, producing a report which focuses on learning lessons and improving care;
whistleblowers will be kept informed of the investigation’s progress; and
high level findings are provided to the organisation’s Board and the policy will be annually reviewed and improved.

Link: Whistleblowing policy

NHS England publishes Business Plan 2016/17

NHS England published its Business Plan for 2016/17 which reflects the main themes of the Government’s mandate and embodies the agenda of the Five Year Forward View. As with the previous plan, there remains strong continuity in the 10 business plan priorities for the year ahead. The priorities are grouped under the following themes: improving health, transforming care and controlling costs.

Link: NHS England Business Plan 2016/17

CCG improvement and assessment framework for 2016/7

On 31 March, NHS England published a new CCG improvement and assessment framework for 2016/17. The framework represents a new approach including, from June 2016, ‘Ofsted-style’ ratings for CCGs. The four-point ratings (as given for providers from CQC) will be based on CCG-level performance on 57 indicators for 29 key areas encompassed within four domains: better health; better care; sustainability; and leadership. Performance ratings will also be given for each of six key clinical priorities set out in the Five Year Forward View: cancer, dementia, diabetes, mental health, learning disabilities and maternity care.

Each performance rating will be verified by the independent panels that were set up to support delivery of these clinical priorities as part of the Five Year Forward View. This will be followed by an annual assessment in June 2017 which will incorporate additional information from the local Sustainability and Transformation Plans and other relevant data. This approach will replace the current CCG assurance framework and the separate CCG performance dashboard.

Two free webinars: Developing youth volunteering in health and care

These NHS England funded webinars are aimed at professionals in health and social care, including hospital volunteer managers, primary care practitioners, care home managers and health commissioners, and the youth sector, including youth work managers. Join on 27 April 2016, 10-11.00am, to learn about the Youth Social Action Toolkit and take an in-depth look at safeguarding and how to gain organisational buy-in. The event on 3 May 2016, 2-3.00pm will focus on engaging harder to reach communities and how to create attractive volunteer roles.
Link to event details: **27 April 2016, 10-11am** and **3 May 2016, 2-3pm**

**King’s Fund Report: Tackling the growing crisis in the NHS**

The King’s Fund has identified three big challenges for the NHS in England: sustaining existing services and standards of care; developing new and better models of care; and tackling these challenges by reforming the NHS ‘from within’.

Link: [http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/articles/nhs-agenda-for-action](http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/articles/nhs-agenda-for-action)
Key areas of focus for this month were supporting the opening of the carers’ hub - media, digital and bespoke promotional support - and the Trust achieving zero out-of-area placements for a year. The hub story continued to build our digital profile with active engagement on twitter from BBC Radio Leeds (71,500 followers), as well as MP Barbara Keeley and Positive Practice in Mental Health, with a spike in web traffic to the hub page.

In March the Trust achieved 100% positive coverage for the following proactive media activity:

- **Carers hub opening** – extensive coverage across local media: BBC Radio Leeds (7 news updates), BCB Radio, T&A (3 pieces), Keighley News, Craven Herald, many featuring interviews with young carer and hub user, Kaley Gregory.


- **Friend and Family Test national award finalists** – T&A
March – website traffic:
- **8,996 unique visitors** – the number of distinct individual visits, regardless of how many times they visit.
- **13,026 total visits** – all the pages that individuals view.
- **60.76% bounce rate** – visitors leaving the site after only visiting one page.

Communications Team External Media Focus
Quarter 1 (April 2016 – June 2016)
- Annual Plan 2016/17 - (April/ May)
- Volunteers thank you event - (24 May)
- Cellar Trust Safe Haven opening - (June date tbc)
- Nursing celebration event - (17 June – promote on day/ post event)
- You're a Star Awards - finalists and winners (on-going to 15 July)
- Board on the Road meetings - (on-going)