

Annual Report 2014/15

### **Compliance with the Code of Governance**

The Board of Directors is committed to achieving the highest standards of governance within the Trust and has established processes to enable it to comply with Monitor's revised NHS Foundation Trust Code of Governance published in December 2013 and updated in July 2014.

The Code requires Foundation Trusts to disclose their governance arrangements for the financial year 2014/15. The Code also requires the Board to explain how the main principles and supporting principles of the Code have been applied; and to provide a statement either confirming compliance with the provisions of the Code, or where appropriate, an explanation in each case as to why the Trust has departed from the Code.

***In the Board's view the Trust has been fully compliant throughout the accounting period with all relevant provisions of the Code.***

***With regard to Provision B.6.2 which requires an external evaluation at least every 3 years to check that the Trust is meeting the requirements of Monitor's 'Board Leadership and Governance Framework' (published 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014), the Trust intends to commission its first review in 2016/17.***

***In readiness for this evaluation, the Trust has undertaken a number of discrete reviews in 2014/15, including an internal audit review of compliance with the Quality governance Framework; an external review of risk management arrangements; a follow up review of new governance arrangements introduced in July 2014; and a more recent review of Directorate management structures. Actions and improvement work arising from these reviews will be a focus for the Board in 2015/16.***

Further details of how the Trust has applied the Code principles and complied with its provisions are set out throughout this annual report. Further information on the Code can be found on Monitor's website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-foundation-trusts-code-of-governance>