

Committee Terms of Reference

In this section I have limited myself to the expression of principles with the proposal that if these are accepted the Committee Members can add the detail which they think necessary. I would like to use the term Committee, partly to create a change and partly because Advisory Groups are not my favourite animals!

It will be no surprise that the recurrent theme is the setting of standards, establishing where we are, improving where necessary and continually monitoring.

The Committees must be complementary but with the minimum practical overlap. Minutes should be kept as necessary but the input to the Board should be in the form of a report on the significant issues presented by the relevant Chair. As far as possible I would like the Board to concentrate on issues and not on process.

With that background the proposals for each committee are as follow :-

Finance Committee

The Board does not have a formally constituted Finance Committee at present and de facto the full Board is sitting as a Finance Committee. So far I find this quite acceptable but I think that there should be a formally constituted Finance Committee to provide for situations in the future when the Board might wish to refer a matter for further analysis and /or decision. As such the Terms of Reference of the Finance Committee would be :-

- To support the Board on specific items referred to it by the Board for analysis, recommendation and/or delegated decision

The Standing Members of the Committee would be the Trust Chairman, the Chief Executive and the Finance Director with the Trust Chairman in the Chair.

Patient Care Standards Committee

This Committee would be expected to oversee all aspects of Patient Care. Provided we can establish a satisfactory set of definitions it would need to enter into the field of medical outcome inasmuch as this affects the performance of the Trust as a whole but steer clear of Medical Audit. I believe the answer lies in studying medical outcome on a statistical basis while leaving the underlying clinical factors to the Medical Audit Committee.

The Committee Terms of Reference would be :-