



Department
of Health

Minutes

Title of meeting	NHS Improvement (NHSI) Q2 Ministerial Accountability Meeting	
Date	18 July 2017	Time 8:30 am
Venue	Richmond House Room 413	
Chair	Philip Dunne, Minister of State for Health	
Secretary	Douglas Hamilton	
Attendees	Philip Dunne, Minister of State for Health (MS(H)) Lee McDonough, Director of Acute Care and Workforce (LM) William Vineall, Director of Acute Care and Quality (WV) Ashley Noriega, Assistant Private Secretary to Phillip Dunne (AN)	
	Attendees – NHS Improvement	
	Jim Mackey, NHS Improvement Chief Executive (JM) Jonathan Brown, Senior Adviser to the Chair and CEO (JB)	

1. 16/17 performance and outlook for 17/18

MS(H) welcomed all to the meeting saying that while time would be spent looking back at the previous year he wished to focus on the year ahead. He praised JM for NHS Improvement's having significantly reduced the NHS provider deficit during 16/17 and asked him to reflect on how this had been achieved. JM said that it had been a challenge and, although land sales had played a part, the financial reset moment in June last year had focussed providers and it was their extraordinary efforts that had made this possible.

MS(H) asked JM how the first quarter of the year had gone and what the key risks were for the year ahead. JM said that the year had begun well with more trusts having agreed controls than at the same point last year. JM's view was that the main risk to delivery in 17/18 was demand for services increasing at a greater rate than had been planned for.

2. Operational Productivity

JM said that NHSI's Operational Productivity team were beginning to see some real progress although there was still room to improve local engagement with the programme. JM's view was that a focus on improving access to data would be fundamental to realising the full benefits of the recommendations made by Lord Carter in his review of productivity in NHS hospitals.

Action – Jeremy Marlow to provide a forward look of BCs that would come to the Department (not for public minute)

3. Reconfiguration

MS(H) noted that post-election there had been an increase in Parliamentary debates on proposed changes in the provision of local NHS services. JM noted that there had been increased engagement with NHSI by MPs to discuss these issues. There was agreement that it was vital that any changes to local services should take place after proper consultation and that it was important that local leaders engage with these processes thoroughly and professionally.

4. Chair and Chief Executive Appointments

MS(H) noted that Ed Smith would soon step down as Chairman of NHSI, remarked on the significance of the contribution that he had made and expressed his confidence in Richard Douglas who would replace Ed Smith on an interim basis from 21 July. The processes for the appointment of a substantive Chairman and replacement for JM were also discussed.

5. Remit Letter

It was agreed that the letter, containing NHSI's objectives, would be published soon.

6. AOB

MS(H) praised JM for the work that NHSI's estates team had been doing following the Grenfell Tower fire to ensure the NHS estate was safe and asked JM to offer his personal thanks to those involved.