

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2012

**Gateway reference: 17885**

To: SHA Cluster Chief Executives  
SHA Cluster Directors of Provider Development  
SHA Cluster Provider Development Operational Leads

Dear Colleagues

**Single Operating Model: Part 2 - SHA Oversight of NHS Trusts**

This letter indicates the launch of part 2 of the Single Operating Model (SOM) for SHA Clusters, focussing on SHA Oversight of NHS Trusts.

Provided with this note is the guidance for this next stage of the SOM which details the rationale for this launch alongside the detail of the model and the associated tools to deliver this.

Also provided are write-able versions of the self-certification templates to support SHA Clusters delivering this approach to working with NHS Trusts towards FT status. Further tools may be issued following this launch to supplement these.

We have already had discussions with colleagues within each SHA Cluster to determine the implementation of this approach to working with NHS Trusts, given the different models currently used. The outcomes of these discussions are being agreed in bespoke letters to ensure clarity on each SHA Cluster's approach to implementation of this work.

The SOM will be further supplemented in relation to the Department's FT assurance process, approaches to supporting major transactions and consistency of decision making. Information and guidance will be issued to support these different aspects of the SOM as they are agreed and finalised.

**NHS Foundation Trust Unit  
Department of Health**