## HS Black

**HS Paper 15/15**

**BOARD MEETING: 29 MAY 2015**

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

### Recommendation/action required:

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| The Board is asked to note the paper. |

**Author: Sponsoring Director:**

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| Margaret Burns  Board Chair |  |

**20 May 2015**

## Purpose of Paper

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide an update to the Board on activities and matters involving the Chair which are not covered by other papers on the agenda.

**Institute of Directors Dinner**

2. On the 26 March I attended the Institute of Directors Director of the Year Award dinner. Along with the Minister for Sport, Physical Activity and Mental Health, Jamie Hepburn MSP, I presented the Healthy Carer Positive Workforce award.

**Food Standards Scotland**

3. On 7 April I met with the Chair of the new Food Standards Scotland (FSS), Ross Finnie. We agreed that it was important that the FSS and Health Scotland should work closely together to avoid duplication and maximise impact. We also spoke about the importance of food and diet on health outcomes and the importance of an inequalities focus.

4. We agreed that it would be helpful for the Boards of both organisations to meet to discuss future strategies and ways of working. It is likely that this meeting with the Board of FSS will take place on the date of our Board meeting on the 21st August. Board members might be interested to note that 2015 is the Year of Food and Drink in Scotland

<http://www.scotlandfoodanddrink.org/yofd.aspx>

**Board Seminar**

5. At the Board seminar on 17 April, after an excellent presentation from Who Cares? Scotland, I signed on behalf of the Board a pledge to ensure that the needs of care experienced children and young people would be fully taken into account in the work that we do.

6. In signing the pledge I pledged NHS Health Scotland to:

* *Listen to the voice of Scotland's care-experienced young people*
* *Act so that Scotland is a better place for care-experienced young people*
* *Unite with and around Scotland's care-experienced young people*

We will do this by*:*

*Promoting the health and wellbeing of care-experienced children and young people in all of our work.*

7. At this seminar the Board also discussed Board development. There was a frank discussion of the level and nature of information that non–executives needed and wanted to see. The Chief Executive made it clear that the executive team strove to be as transparent as possible. It was unanimously agreed that non-executives could ask to see, and would be given access to, whatever information they wanted to see. It was also agreed that it was important that the Board did not interfere in the day to day operational management of the organisation and kept a focus on strategic and governance issues.

**Chairs Group Meeting**

8. On 27 April I attended the Chairs Group Meeting. Again the main focus of the meeting was progress on local integration of health and social care. Peter Johnstone and Ron Culley from COSLA gave a presentation. In the ensuing discussion the importance of tackling health inequalities and taking a preventative approach was agreed.

**Long Service Recognition Event**

9. On 19 May I attended the first of the events to recognise Health Scotland staff who have had more than 20 years service in the NHS. This was good-natured and fun and those I spoke to were very happy that their service had been recognised. I have no doubt that the commemorative mugs will become collectors’ items!

**Public Health Review**

10. On 21 May I attended one of the engagement sessions being run as part of the Public Health Review in Inverness. The Chief Executive and I are meeting with the Chair of the Review, Hamish Wilson on the 28 May.

**On Board**

11. A new edition of the guide for Board members in Public Bodies in Scotland, On Board, has been circulated to members. To support the launch of the guide, Scottish Government is developing information sessions in June 2015. Details of these sessions will be circulated once arrangements for the events are confirmed.

**Communications**

12. There are no specific communications issues arising from this paper which are not addressed through other relevant plans.

**Risk**

13. Any risks associated with this update are incorporated with related project plans.

**Equality and Diversity**

14. There are no specific equality and diversity issues arising from this paper.

**Environment**

15. There are no specific environmental issues arising from this paper.

**Action/Recommendations**

16. The Board is asked to note this paper.

**Margaret Burns**

**Board Chair**

**20 May 2015**