## HS Black

**HS Paper 1/15**

**BOARD MEETING: 6 FERUARY 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 |  |

**29 January 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.

**Healthy Working Lives National Advisory and Advocacy Group**

2. On 11 December 2014 I attended a meeting of Healthy Working Lives National Advisory and Advocacy Group. The main items discussed were the development of the new Fit for Work Service which will come on stream in April this year, the Work Foundation’s review of policy options for improving workforce health and the potential implications of the Smith Commission’s Report. The Chair, Andrew Cubie, also indicated that he was looking to stand down from his role and there was a need to consider succession planning.

**Shelter**

3. On 16 December I met with Ros Miklem, Chair of Shelter’s Scotland Committee with Alison Watt, Deputy Director and George Drenan-Lang,

Head of Business Development. I was accompanied by Pauline Craig and Elspeth Molony.

After a fruitful discussion we agreed on a number of shared areas of work:

* influencing the Commission on Housing and WellBeing
* influencing primary care
* engaging at local level
* strengthening knowledge into action through sharing different types of evidence and joint public affairs work.

4. We agreed that a Memorandum of Association was not necessary but a working document detailing areas of shared interest would be useful.

**NHS Chairs Group meeting**

5. On 26 January I attended the meeting of the NHS Chairs group. This was the first meeting of the group with the new Cabinet Secretary, Shona Robinson and the new Minister for Public Health, Maureen Watt.

6. The bulk of the meeting involved discussion of the strategic direction of the NHS. Since September there have been ongoing discussions between NHS Chairs, Chief Executives and Scottish Government about the need for a new direction. In the Parliamentary debate about the NHS on 22nd January http://www.scotland.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/2886 ) the Cabinet Secretary had signalled her intention to develop a longer term,10-15 year, plan for the NHS going beyond the existing 2020 Vision. To help develop this there will be a consultation paper before Easter with engagement about this over the summer.

7. In the parliamentary debate the Cabinet Secretary also indicated the importance of prevention and the need for more focus on tackling health inequalities. She envisaged an NHS with more care delivered locally and more services organised around primary care. She wants to see the health service work effectively with the third sector and community organisations to engage people who are least likely to access healthcare and consequently most at risk of poor health outcomes and health professionals better able to support patients facing wider social issues which are having an effect on their health and wellbeing.

**Communications**

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

**Risk**

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

**Equality and Diversity**

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

**Environment**

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

**Action/Recommendations**

12. The Board is asked to note this paper.

**Margaret Burns**

**Board Chair**

**29 January 2015**