

News Release

27 May 2010

New Chief Executive and Director of Finance Appointed

Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is delighted to announce the appointment of its new Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources.

The hospital's Council of Governors today (May 27) approved the appointment of Jean O'Callaghan (Mrs) as the new CEO. Bill Boa has been appointed as Director of Finance and Resources.

Jean is currently the Chief Executive of Bedford Hospital NHS Trust. She joined Bedford Hospital as Chief Executive in September 2005 from New Zealand where she was Chief Executive of the Canterbury District Health Board.

Bedford is an acute district general hospital with 408 beds and 2,400 staff. Under Jean's leadership the hospital has moved from a financial deficit to surplus position and from a 'weak' rating in the Annual Health Check to 'good'. The hospital won a National Health and Social Care Award for capacity planning in 2009 and is now meeting all key targets.

Jean is a nurse by background and has extensive experience in managing change. She is a strong advocate for open communication and is committed to quality patient care.

Bill Boa is an experienced financial manager with significant board experience in a wide range of NHS sectors and a proven track record in financial recovery.

He is currently the Deputy Director of Finance at NHS South West and has led the financial recovery of two organisations in the region in recent years – The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust and North Somerset Primary Care Trust.

Bill has strong links with networks within the NHS nationally, in the South West and within Dorset in particular. He has been responsible for the development of the NHS South West financial strategy and financial planning in the short, medium and long-term, and has contributed to national policy through the National Strategic Health Authority Directors/Deputy Directors of Finance meetings.

Chairman of Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Dr Jeffrey Ellwood said:

"I am delighted that both Jean and Bill have agreed to join us. These permanent appointments replace the current interim executives and enable DCH to continue to put in place its challenging recovery plan with two very experienced NHS individuals at the helm. We wish both Jean and Bill every future success."

The Trust is also due to appoint a Director of Human Resources shortly to complete its permanent executive team.

ENDS

Photos of Jean O'Callaghan and Bill Boa attached

For more information please contact communications manager Susie Palmer on 01305 254683 or susie.palmer@dchft.nhs.uk or the Chief Executive's Office on 01305 254645