

# News Release

18 November 2011

## **Monitor signs DCHFT out of breach of authorisation**

Monitor (the independent regulator of NHS foundation trusts) has announced it has signed Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust out of breach of authorisation.

Monitor found DCHFT in significant breach of its terms of authorisation as a foundation trust on 28 October 2009 due to the Trust's serious ongoing financial position.

Since then the Trust has appointed a new permanent executive team to lead the financial recovery and has been working hard to make savings while maintaining quality care for patients.

The Trust was facing a deficit of £5.1million at the end of 2009/10. It ended 2010/11 with a £3.3million deficit and is predicting a surplus of £700,000 for the end of 2011/12.

Chairman of DCHFT Dr Jeffrey Ellwood said: "It has been difficult and challenging getting where we are today. On behalf of the Board, I wish to thank all stakeholders of DCH for their patience, understanding, but above all for their contributions on the journey to recovery.

"This simply would not have been possible without the engagement and support of our staff and our Governors, all of whom have maintained their determination to see DCH return to financial sustainability.

"We now have a platform on which to move DCH forward in challenging times for the whole of the NHS, and to provide our community with the health care they deserve."

Chief Executive of DCHFT Jean O'Callaghan said: "Getting out of breach recognises the organisation's hard work to reverse its financial position whilst improving quality. It shows how far we have come over the last two years.

"Staff throughout the organisation have worked incredibly hard to make savings while striving to improve standards of care. Everyone can take great pride in what has been achieved.

"It will still be very challenging but now it is time to leave the poor performance of the past behind and move forward to ensure we can continue to provide first class services for our patients now and into the future."

**ENDS**

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