

AUTHORISATION

of

ASHFORD AND ST. PETER'S HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

(pursuant to section 35 of the National Health Service Act 2006)



Signature: Steve Bundred

1 December 2010

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PART 1 Authorisation

1. Monitor ("Monitor"), the Independent Regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 35 of the National Health Service 2006 ("**the Act**") and all other powers exercisable by Monitor, hereby authorises Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Trust to become an NHS Foundation Trust ("**the Trust**"), subject to the Conditions set out in Part 3 hereof.
2. This Authorisation shall come into force on 1 December 2010.
3. Subject to the provisions of sections 54 and 55 of the Act, this Authorisation shall be of unlimited duration.
4. This Authorisation is not assignable.
5. Monitor may vary the Conditions of this Authorisation.

PART 2 Interpretation and construction

1. Words and expressions used in the Authorisation shall be construed as if they were in an Act of Parliament and the Interpretation Act 1978 applied to them.
2. Any reference to an enactment shall include any re-enactment thereof or amendment thereto.
3. Words and expressions defined in the Act shall have the same meaning when used in this Authorisation.
4. Unless otherwise specified, any reference to a numbered Condition (with or without a suffix letter) or Schedule is a reference to the Condition or Schedule bearing that number in this Authorisation.
5. In construing the provisions of this Authorisation, the heading or title of any Part, Condition or Schedule shall be disregarded.
6. Where any obligation of the Trust is required to be performed by a specified date or within a specified period, and where the Trust has failed so to perform, such obligation shall continue to be binding and enforceable after the specified date or after the expiry of the specified period.
7. In this Authorisation:
 - “ancillary services” means services which support the provision of the mandatory goods and services listed in Schedule 2.
 - “property” is land and buildings owned or leased by the Trust.
 - “the Board of Directors” means the Board of Directors of the Trust.
 - “the provision of goods and services for purposes related to the provision of health care” includes the provision of social care services.
 - “high security psychiatric services” has the same meaning as in section 4 of the Act.

PART 3 Conditions

1. Principal Purpose

The principal purpose of the Trust is the provision of goods and services for the purposes of the health service in England. This does not preclude the provision of cross-border services to other parts of the United Kingdom.

2. General duty

The Trust shall exercise its functions effectively, efficiently and economically.

3. Constitution

- (1) The Trust may make amendments to its constitution with the approval of Monitor.
- (2) The constitution, incorporating any amendments which may be made thereto, is annexed at Schedule 1.

4. Compliance and enforcement

- (1) The Trust shall comply with:
 - any requirements imposed on it under the Act or any other enactment;
 - the requirement to have regard to the NHS Constitution in performing its NHS functions in accordance with section 2 of the Health Act 2009;
 - the Conditions of this Authorisation;
 - the terms of its constitution;
 - if applicable, directions issued by the Secretary of State with respect to safety and security in connection with the provision of high security psychiatric services; and
 - the terms of its contracts with bodies which commission the Trust to provide goods and services (including education and training, accommodation and other facilities) for the purposes of the health service in England.
- (2) The Trust shall comply with any guidance issued by Monitor, unless Monitor has agreed with the Trust that, in the particular circumstances, the Trust is not required to comply.
- (3) A failure to comply may result in Monitor taking enforcement action under sections 52, 53 or 54 of the Act.

5. Governance

- (1) The Trust shall ensure the existence of appropriate arrangements to provide representative and comprehensive governance in accordance with the Act and to maintain the organisational capacity necessary to deliver the mandatory goods and services referred to in Condition 7(1) and listed in Schedule 2 and the mandatory education and training referred to in Condition 7(2) and listed in Schedule 3.
- (2) The Trust shall comply with the principles of best practice applicable to corporate governance in the NHS/health sector, with any relevant code of practice and with any guidance which may be issued by Monitor.

6. Health care and other standards

- (1) The Trust shall put and keep in place and comply with arrangements for the purpose of monitoring and improving the quality of health care provided by and for the Trust.
- (2) The Trust shall comply with the healthcare targets and indicators set out in the Compliance Framework (as may be amended from time to time).
- (3) If applicable, the Trust shall comply with any statements of standards with respect to social care services which the Secretary of State may issue from time to time.
- (4) If applicable, the Trust shall comply with any statements of standards with respect to security and risk management which the Secretary of State may issue from time to time.

7. Mandatory Services

- (1) The Trust is required to provide for the purposes of the health service in England the goods and services listed in Schedule 2 in the volumes or amounts specified therein ("**mandatory goods and services**") which goods and services in the volumes or amounts specified are to be provided pursuant to a legally binding contract or contracts between the Trust and one or more of the commissioning bodies, or on the understanding that the Trust and the relevant commissioning body or bodies will conclude a legally binding contract or contracts for the provision of said goods and services in the volumes or amounts specified within 12 months of the date on which this authorisation comes into force. This requirement includes an obligation to provide any ancillary services, accommodation and other facilities related to said goods and services and which are generally accepted to be required for the effective, efficient and economic provision of said goods and services in the volumes or amounts specified.
- (2) The Trust is required to provide education and training to third parties for the purposes of the health service in England listed in Schedule 3 in the volumes or amounts specified therein ("**mandatory education and training**"), which are to be provided pursuant to a legally binding contract or contracts between the Trust and one or more of the commissioning bodies, or on the understanding that the Trust and the relevant commissioning body or bodies will conclude a legally binding contract or contracts for the provision of said

education and training in the volumes or amounts specified within 12 months of the date on which this authorisation comes into force.

- (3) Monitor reserves the right to vary the goods and services and the volumes or amounts thereof which the Trust is required to provide in terms of Condition 7(1) and the education and training to third parties and the volumes or amounts thereof which the Trust is required to provide in terms of Condition 7(2), in particular in order to ensure the continuity of local service provision and the fulfilment of local health needs as they may vary from time to time.
- (4) The Board of Directors shall regularly review and shall at all times maintain and ensure the capacity and capability of the Trust to provide the mandatory goods and services referred to in Condition 7(1) and listed in Schedule 2.

8. Authorised Services

- (1) The Trust is authorised to provide goods and services (including education and training, accommodation and other facilities) for purposes related to the provision of health care, subject to written confirmation to Monitor by the Board of Directors that the Board of Directors is satisfied that the Trust has the capacity and the capability to provide said goods and services and that the provision of said goods and services will not inhibit the provision by the Trust of the mandatory goods and services referred to in Condition 7(1) and listed in Schedule 2.
- (2) Monitor reserves the right to refuse to authorise specific goods and services in circumstances where Monitor is not satisfied that the Board of Directors has a proper basis for the written confirmation referred to in Condition 8(1).
- (3) The Trust shall establish and maintain an up to date register of the goods and services referred to in Condition 8(1). With respect to education and training, only education and training provided to third parties shall be included in the register. Accommodation and other facilities do not require to be included in the register of goods and services.
- (4) The Trust shall make the register of goods and services available for public inspection on payment of such reasonable fee, if any, as the Trust may determine.
- (5) The Trust is authorised to carry out research in connection with the provision of health care, subject to written confirmation to Monitor by the Board of Directors that the Board of Directors is satisfied that the Trust has the capacity and the capability to provide said research, that all relevant authorisations with respect to the carrying out of said research have been secured, that the said research will be carried out in accordance with the generally accepted ethical standards and that the said research will not inhibit the provision by the Trust of the mandatory goods and services referred to in Condition 7(1) and listed in Schedule 2.
- (6) Monitor reserves the right to refuse to authorise research in circumstances where Monitor is not satisfied that the Board of Directors has a proper basis for the written confirmation referred to in Condition 8(5).

- (7) The Trust is authorised to make facilities and staff available for the purposes of education, training or research carried on by others.
- (8) Any activities undertaken by the Trust, other than the provision of goods and services for purposes related to the provision of health care, shall be subject to any restrictions which may be imposed by Monitor in terms of section 43(3) of the Act.

9. Protection of property

- (1) Property needed for the purposes of providing any of the mandatory goods and services referred to in Condition 7(1) and listed in Schedule 2 (including the ancillary services, accommodation and other facilities related thereto) and the mandatory training and education referred to in Condition 7(2) and listed in Schedule 3 is protected.
- (2) The Trust may not dispose of any protected property without the approval of Monitor.
- (3) The Trust shall establish and maintain an asset register in respect of protected property, in accordance with guidance to be issued by Monitor.
- (4) The Trust shall make the asset register available for public inspection on payment of such reasonable fee, if any, as the Trust may determine.

10. Private health care

The proportion of total income of the Trust in any financial year derived from private charges shall not be greater than the percentage set out in Schedule 4.

11. Limit on borrowing

- (1) The total amount of the Trust's borrowing is subject to the limit set out in Schedule 5 and the principles set out in the Prudential Borrowing Code for NHS Foundation Trusts.
- (2) The limit is subject to annual review by Monitor.

12. Financial viability

The Trust shall at all times remain a going concern as defined by relevant accounting standards in force from time to time.

13. Dividend payments on Public Dividend Capital

The Trust shall be required to pay annually to the Department of Health a dividend on its Public Dividend Capital at a rate to be determined from time to time by the Secretary of State.

14. Information

The Trust shall disclose to Monitor and directly to any third parties as may be specified by the Secretary of State the information, if any, specified in Schedule 6 as

may be varied from time to time and such other information as Monitor may from time to time require.

15. Entry and inspection of premises

The Trust shall allow Monitor, any member, officer or member of staff of Monitor, and any agent acting on behalf of Monitor, to enter and inspect premises owned or controlled by the Trust.

16. Fees

The Trust shall pay to Monitor such reasonable annual fee, if any, as may be determined by Monitor.

17. Representative membership

The Trust shall continue to take such reasonable steps (as may be required by Monitor, by such date or within such period as may be specified by Monitor), to secure that (taken as a whole) the actual membership of any public constituency and (if there is one) the patients' constituency is representative of those eligible for such membership.

18. Co-operation with other bodies

- (1) The Trust shall co-operate with Primary Care Trusts, Strategic Health Authorities, Special Health Authorities, the Care Quality Commission, other NHS foundation trusts, NHS trusts and other health authorities and organisations in accordance with the Act and any future guidance to be published by Monitor.
- (2) The Trust shall co-operate with the Care Quality Commission, the National Oversight Group for High Security Hospitals and such other bodies (as may be specified in any future guidance to be published by Monitor) which have a remit covering activities related to the provision of mental healthcare services.
- (3) The Trust shall co-operate with local authorities in the exercise of its own functions and in the exercise by the local authorities of their respective functions.

19. Emergency planning

The Trust shall assist the relevant authorities with, and participate in, local and national emergency planning and provision.

20. Information technology

The Trust shall participate in the national programme for information technology, in accordance with any guidance issued by Monitor.

21. Audit committee

- (1) The Trust shall establish a committee of non-executive directors as an audit committee to perform such monitoring, reviewing and other functions as are appropriate.

- (2) The Board of Directors shall satisfy itself that at least one member of the audit committee has recent and relevant financial experience.

22. Audit

- (1) The Audit Code for NHS Foundation Trusts (“the Audit Code”) contains the directions of Monitor under paragraph 24(5) of Schedule 7 to the Act with respect to the standards, procedures and techniques to be adopted by the auditor.
- (2) The Trust shall comply with the Audit Code.
- (3) The auditor shall comply with the Audit Code.

23. Public interest reporting

The Trust shall forward a report to Monitor within thirty days (or such shorter period as Monitor may specify) of the auditor issuing a public interest report in terms of Schedule 10 paragraph 3 of the Act. The report shall include details of the Trust’s response to the issues raised within the public interest report.

24. Notification

The Trust shall deal with Monitor in an open and co-operative manner and shall promptly notify Monitor of anything relating to the Trust of which Monitor would reasonably expect prompt notice, including, without prejudice to the foregoing generality, any anticipated failure or anticipated prospect of failure on the part of the Trust to meet its obligations under this authorisation or any financial or performance thresholds which Monitor may specify from time to time.

25. Information given to Parliament and to Members of Parliament

In addition to any statutory requirements, the Chairman, Chief Executive or any other person giving information to Parliament or to a Member of Parliament on behalf of a Trust shall ensure that they comply with the standards expected of Ministers of the Crown with regard to openness of dealings, the giving of accurate and truthful information and the correction of any inadvertent error at the earliest opportunity. Any question submitted to the Trust by a Member of Parliament shall be responded to by the Trust within the same timescale as that expected of Ministers with respect to Parliamentary questions.

26. Co-operation and Competition Panel

The Co-operation and Competition Panel (CCP) will advise Monitor on issues involving the Principles and Rules for Co-operation and Competition and NHS foundation trusts. In response to that advice, Monitor may issue directions to the Trust. The Trust shall comply with any such directions issued by Monitor