

PRESS RELEASE

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LOCAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL APPOINTED TO OVERSEE IMPROVEMENT PLAN AT MORECAMBE BAY HOSPITALS

Glenys Marriott has been appointed as the Independent Chair responsible for overseeing the programme of work to deliver the further improvements needed following the recent Care Quality Commission hospital inspection.

The Trust was placed into special measures in June 2014, following the publication of the CQC's Hospital Inspection report. As part of the improvements required, the Trust was asked to submit a plan detailing how it would improve in the areas identified. The Trust will be re-inspected within the next 12 months.

John Hutton, the Interim Chair of the hospital Trust commented on the Trust's approach:

"The Improvement Board is part of our ongoing commitment to being open and transparent. Membership of this Board includes local commissioners, governors, County Councils and the patient's champion, Healthwatch."

John goes on to explain the ambition of the Trust:

"Achieving a rating of 'good' next time around has to be our minimum aim. Staff, volunteers and governors continue to work incredibly hard to improve services and we all remain committed to seeing the job through and we value the support that our partners have given us."

Glenys brings with her a wealth of valuable experience and I look forward to working with her and the Improvement Board so that our hospitals can become the very best they can be for our patients and staff."

Glenys Marriott, Independent Chair for the Improvement Board commented on her appointment:

"I am very pleased to have been appointed and look forward to working with the Trust over the next year to achieve the standards required by the Regulators. I am aware that good progress continues to be made to improve services but coming out of special measures will reassure the public that services are of a good standard."

Glenys went on to comment on the establishment of the Improvement Board:

"I must give credit to the Trust for establishing the Improvement Board. The Trust was not required to do this but they felt that it was important that governors, partners and patient representative groups such as Healthwatch were fully included in developing the plans. I believe this is a really positive approach. Whilst ultimate responsibility rests with the Trust board for the delivery of the plan we will be doing everything we can to ensure the improvements are sustainable."

ENDS

Notes to editors:

1. The Trust's CQC Improvement Plan can be found on the NHS Choices website (www.nhs.uk) or via the Trust's website: <http://www.uhmb.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/cqc/>.
2. The Improvement Plan will be updated each month and a new version placed on NHS Choices and Trust websites, as well as via links through its established social media channels.
3. Biography of Glenys Marriott
4. For further information, please contact the communications team on 01539 716675