

## Written questions received for June 2019 Board Meeting

Question	Answered By	Reply
<p>Today I learnt that HMG needs 6-8 months to prepare the arrangements for acute medical supplies to be finalised post a hard Brexit. What is the Trust's response to this?</p>	<p>Dan Bradbury, Chief Operating Officer</p>	<p>We have been given very clear instructions about the preparations that we are required to put in place in planning for Brexit.</p> <p>In terms of medical supplies, we have been told to hold no more than fourteen days of stock, but wholesalers will hold a further six weeks of stock and supply manufacturers will hold a further three months behind this. We believe this system is relatively robust and have taken all actions necessary to implement.</p> <p>In terms of local arrangements, there is now a joint arrangement between SW London and Surrey so that if one Trust runs out of a particular drug, we will have agreed arrangements in place to support and supply other trusts. This arrangement is currently not legal under Supply of Drugs Regulations, and the Trust is waiting for a Letter of Comfort around this.</p> <p>Planning will be 'ramped up' once it clearer what will be happening in October.</p>
<p>I have always understood that the Trust aim to publish the Board Documents five working days prior to the Board Meeting. Perhaps I have misunderstood and would therefore appreciate it if the Board could reissue their terms of reference relating to the publication date of documents for Board Meetings. I expect to be able to have, as a minimum, at least two clear days to be able to read the Board Documents prior to the deadline for written questions.</p> <p>As the Board Documents have not been published by the deadline time and date for questions, can you please</p>	<p>Peter Davies, Director of Corporate Services</p>	<p>We are committed to publishing the Public Board papers on the Trust website by 'close of play' on the Monday before the Friday Board. It was noted that there had been some difficulties around IT in June, leading to a delay in publishing the papers. However, this issue has now been addressed.</p> <p>The Trust is trialling a new method for responding to written questions at Board.</p> <p>In terms of submitting written question to the Board for a response at the Public Board Meeting, the deadline for submission is by 11.00am on the Wednesday before Board on Friday.</p> <p>Answers to all questions will be responded to as fully as possible at the meeting, with a written version of the response on the internet by 5pm on the following Wednesday.</p> <p>A log of all questions submitted and associated responses will be published on the internet.</p>

<p>postpone the requirement for written questions until the next Board Meeting and permit the usual period for verbal questions at the end of the meeting on Friday.</p> <p>You have stated “Questions submitted will be read out at the end of the Public Board Meeting and we will provide as full a response as possible.” But this statement does not indicate when the response will be provided. The other local hospitals provide the questions and answers within the minutes. Why is it not possible for the Epsom &amp; St Helier Board to do the same? You have a list of questions at the beginning of the Public Board Meeting why is it not possible to publish the list of questions at the start of the meeting.</p>		
<p>I have heard that members of the public can use the shuttle bus as it is now a public service for people needing to travel for appointments between Epsom and St. Helier. Where can people join this bus? What is the timetable? How long does the journey take? Presumably as patients can use this bus, if there is a charge they can use their bus passes?</p>	<p>Trevor Fitzgerald, Director of Estates and Faciliteis</p>	<p>Our inter-site shuttle bus service, which has been running successfully since its inception in July 2004, operates Monday to Friday between 6.40am and 7.50pm. The service comprises of three buses, which can each carry 27 seated passengers as well as six standing passengers if required. The buses are DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliant and as with public transport there is no need to wear a seat belt. The service is free for staff on production of a valid trust ID badge. From Monday 4 March, we opened our inter-site shuttle service to patients and members of the public. The price per journey is £1.50 and travels to all three of our sites. A copy of the timetable is attached to this e-mail.</p> <p>The buses accept cards or cash. The cost of the journey is £1.50 (75p for children). The service is free for Freedom Pass holders after 9.30am.</p> <p>A copy of the timetable can be found at: <a href="https://www.epsom-sthelier.nhs.uk/plan-your-journey">https://www.epsom-sthelier.nhs.uk/plan-your-journey</a></p>

<p>Why don't doctors take notice and listen to the concerns of relatives about their patients? Surely the more you know about the patient the better you can treat them.</p>	<p>Ruth Charlton and James Marsh, Joint Medical Directors</p>	<p>Ruth Charlton agreed that listening and engaging with relatives is an important part of looking after patients, and a lot of work is underway to ensure that staff have adequate time to talk with relatives.</p> <p>Ruth confirmed that the questioner's specific concerns are being robustly investigated and it is anticipated that there may be some specific learning points arising from this. Both Ruth and James confirmed that they are happy to meet with the questioner to better understand the specifics that led to the question being raised.</p>