


The North West London Hospitals 		Agenda Item	8
Trust Board		Paper	12/09/05
Meeting on: Wednesday 26 September 2012		Board Assurance Framework Reference	6
Subject: A&E Interim Overnight Closure at Central Middlesex Hospital (CMH)			
Director Responsible: Rory Shaw Medical Director		Author: Tina Benson DGM, Specialist and Emergency Medicine	
Summary: On the 14 th November 2011 the Trust started an interim overnight closure of the A&E department at CMH on the grounds of safety. This was necessary due to the high volumes of locum cover at CMH and the reduced resilience of the medical staffing model. The Trust Board asked for an updated position in September 2012 and the attached paper describes the work which has occurred to recruit to medical staff in A&E. Unfortunately recruitment to the substantive consultant and middle grade roles has been largely unsuccessful. This means that whereas the numbers of substantive nurses have increased, medical staffing levels have not. Following the interim closure in November 2011 additional considerations are the strategic risk in the light of Shaping a Healthier Future proposals and the financial viability due to the significant activity reductions. The safety risks in relation to medical staffing which existed in November 2011 remain unchanged and therefore it is recommended that the interim overnight closure remains in place for a further year with an interim review in six months' time, subject to Brent Health Select Committee agreement.			
Financial Implications: The current loss of Brent emergency activity income continues.			
Risk Issues (including legal implications, reference to Assurance Framework and Risk Register): The risk regarding substantive medical recruitment in A&E remains unchanged.			
Communication & Consultation Issues (including PPI): None currently.			
Workforce Issues (including training and education implications): The inability to recruit senior medical staff as described in the attached recruitment update.			
How this Policy/Proposal Recognises Equality Legislation: N/A			
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out on this issue or proposal? No			
What impact will this have on the wider health economy, patients and the public? Inability for the public to access a 24/7 Emergency department at CMH. However, Care UK provides a 24/7 Urgent Care Centre at the CMH site.			

What is required of the Trust Board?

The Trust Board is asked to approve the continuation of the current interim overnight closure for a period of 12 months.