

**NHS National Services Scotland
Formal Board Meeting
Date of Meeting – Friday, 6th August 2010**

B/10/108

Chairman's Update

A brief summary of activities during July.

The extended period between NSS Board meetings means that two Chairs group meetings have taken place since the last report – the first included elections for Chair and Vice-Chair of the group, with Jim King (attending the group as my deputy) assisting in having the NSS Chair appointed as Vice-Chair of the group. The more recent meeting spent most of the discussion (there was no meeting with Cabinet Secretary) on HEI matters, along with a short review of how the Chairs group conducts business.

I attended a very good conference on NHS Governance in England, run by the professional body that represents Chartered Secretaries, which was both educational and reassuring.

Individual meetings with NSS OMT members continue, with positive discussions having taken place with NP, CFS and HFS during the month of July. The Director of CFS and myself are currently working on a joint communication to Board Chairs to raise the profile of the work of CFS, particularly important in these financially-challenging times.

I joined a tour of the new Forth Valley hospital, hosted by the Chair of the Board, and was extremely impressed by the scale and quality of the building, together with the calibre and enthusiasm of the staff who have already moved in. It was also reassuring to see evidence of continuing HFS presence as the fit out completes.

Key Meetings undertaken since my last update include:

- 1st July Practical Governance in the NHS – Conference held in Birmingham
- 8th July Meeting with Robert Gordon, Director-General Constitution and Corporate Change
- 19th July Tour of NHS Forth Valley Royal Hospital – Larbert with NHS Chairs Colleagues
- 26th July Private Chairs meeting

**Bill Matthews
Chairman
July 2010**