CITY HOSPITALS SUNDERLAND NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

DIVISION OF ESTATES AND FACILITIES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS/BOARD OF GOVERNORS WORKSHOP

ALCOHOL FREE ZONES – UPDATE

MARCH 2006

1. Introduction

Directors/Members will recall the main thrust of the Alcohol Free Zone paper submitted to the December workshop which advised that we experience well over 200 alcohol fuelled incidents every year associated with patients and visitors. The proposal to help reduce the impact of these incidents was to declare known trouble spots as "alcohol free zones" .

Following much debate there seemed to be unanimous support for the use of alcohol free zones however a decision could not be reached as to whether these should be applied just in the known trouble spots or across the Trust generally.

It was agreed that further thought would be given to the matter and for the proposal to be re-submitted to a future workshop.

2. Further Progress

The matter has been further debated by Executive Board and it is still felt appropriate that we should look in the first instance to declare our known trouble spots as alcohol free zones. It is also felt that all areas of the Trust should be kept under review and that should we experience alcohol fuelled incidents in these areas, steps should be taken to extend the number of declared zones.

3. Proposals

It is therefore proposed that we immediately seek a declaration of an alcohol free zone in A&E/X-ray, Main Concourse corridors, Grounds and Gardens.

It is also proposed that we continue to review all other areas of the Trust and seek to extend these zones should this be necessary in the light of alcohol fuelled incidents.

George Hood

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Chief Executive