**Title:** PATHOLOGY SERVICES COLLABORATION

**Purpose:** To brief the Board on the work programme established across Dorset and Wiltshire to deliver savings in pathology services through collaboration and clinical networking.

**Summary:**

Attached is a short project initiation document (PID) that sets out the goals, objectives and scope of the work to be undertaken.

The aim is to produce an options paper for the provider Chief Executives in October 2010.

The outcome of this work will be presented to the Hospital Executive Committee and Board of Directors later in 2010.

**Recommendation:** The Board is asked to note the attached PID.

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<th>Prepared by:</th>
<th>CHRIS BOWN</th>
<th>Presented by:</th>
<th>CHRIS BOWN</th>
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**This report is relevant to:** (Please tick relevant box)

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DORSET & SOUTH WILTS PATHOLOGY SERVICES COLLABORATION

PROJECT INITIATION DOCUMENT

AIM

To realise efficiency savings in Pathology within the spending round 2010-2013 in line with the savings target in the wider NHS. The expectation is to also maintain or improve the quality of the service.

GOALS

1. To ensure that the Pathology service meets clinical needs with regards to reliability, timeliness, access to results and access to clinical interpretation and advice.

2. To ensure that the Pathology service meets patient needs with regards to specimen collection and timeliness of results.

3. To ensure the sustainability of the Pathology service with regards to recruitment and retention of staff with technical expertise and the training of staff at all levels to ensure competence and succession planning for the future.

4. To ensure cost effective service provision within existing constraints such as access to capital, employment law and IT capability.

5. To ensure that acute services in each Trust are not jeopardised.

OBJECTIVES

1. To form a project board and then form a project team by May 2010.

2. To draw up and agree a matrix for evaluating proposed business models by June 2010.

3. To produce an options paper of various business models for evaluation by mid-September 2010.

4. The Chief Executives of Poole, Bournemouth, Dorchester and Salisbury to agree their preferred options and first steps by October 2010. To inform business planning in the four Trusts.

5. Review of project board and project team to ensure that these are optimal for the delivery of the agreed first steps by October 2010.

6. To have an open and transparent management culture and to ensure staff in Pathology in all four disciplines across all four sites are informed of deliberations, progress, plans and developments. A written staff briefing sheet to be agreed at each project milestone and to be used by Managers for briefing purposes at all four sites.

SCOPE

This project covers Microbiology, Clinical Chemistry, Haematology, Immunology, Histopathology and Cytopathology. It excludes mortuary services and genetic services. This project includes Pathology services in the four Trusts in Dorset and South Wiltshire and may extend to neighbouring Trusts both within and without the SHA.
OUTPUT

An options paper with outline costings, options appraisal criteria, agreed next steps and a project management structure.

CONSTRAINTS

1. There is currently a full NHS change agenda with many demands on Chief Executives' time.
2. There is limited experience across organisational working at Chief Executive and department management level.
3. There is limited access to capital.
4. IT capability
5. Geographical limitations
6. Cultural & Operational Differences
7. Financial positions

ASSUMPTIONS

• That Trust Boards, Executive Teams and PCTs will operate in a co-operative way, sharing risks to deliver system wide benefits;
• That a business model, different to the current model, is capable of delivering cost savings over and above those that could be delivered by the current way of working.

REPORTING

Chief Executives will report to their individual Trust Boards. There is a relationship between Chief Executives and the SHA Chief Executive.

The project team will report to the project board. Project team members will report to their own Trust management structure.

NEXT STEPS

1. The Laboratory Managers and Clinicians in Pathology at Poole, Bournemouth, Dorchester and Salisbury to agree this document and to submit it to Matthew Kershaw, Chief Executive, Salisbury Trust by 20 April 2010.
2. Matthew Kershaw to meet with the Pathology Collaboration discussion group at the beginning of May. Delegates from each hospital to attend and feedback to colleagues. The purpose of the meeting is to set the parameters for the half day workshop (3.).
3. To arrange a half-day meeting for Chief Executives, Finance Directors, Pathologists and Laboratory Managers with a presentation from Kent and Medway Pathology Network and Medical Mosaic and presentations from the local managers. The plan would be to hold this meeting in late July 2010 or as soon thereafter as possible.
4. The output of the half-day meeting to be an agreement to work together to produce an options paper and options assessment criteria. To agree the membership of the project board and project team. To agree or amend the goals and six objectives in this document.

DR C FULLER
9 April 2010
Modified 22.04.2010
Modified 09.06.2010