

## Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

<b>Subject:</b>	Chair's Report	1 April 2021		
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Robin Smith, Head of Communications			
<b>Approved By:</b>	Lorna Branton, Director of Communications, John MacDonald, Chair			
<b>Presented By:</b>	John MacDonald, Chair			
<b>Purpose</b>				
To update on key events and information from the last month.		<b>Approval</b>		
		<b>Assurance</b>	X	
		<b>Update</b>		
		<b>Consider</b>		
<b>Strategic Objectives</b>				
<b>To provide outstanding care</b>	<b>To promote and support health and wellbeing</b>	<b>To maximise the potential of our workforce</b>	<b>To continuously learn and improve</b>	<b>To achieve better value</b>
X	X	X	X	X
<b>Overall Level of Assurance</b>				
	<b>Significant</b>	<b>Sufficient</b>	<b>Limited</b>	<b>None</b>
			X	
<b>Risks/Issues</b>				
<b>Financial</b>				
<b>Patient Impact</b>				
<b>Staff Impact</b>				
<b>Services</b>				
<b>Reputational</b>				
<b>Committees/groups where this item has been presented before</b>				
N/a				
<b>Executive Summary</b>				
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Chair's perspective.				

## **Chair's Report – April 2021**

### **Chair's reflections**

As everyone knows we have been through probably the most challenging 12 months in the history of the NHS, with immense pressure on the personal and professional lives of all of our colleagues. It is nice therefore to be able to reflect on some good news this month which I hope has given everyone a boost at this time.

For Sherwood Forest Hospitals to be named the Health Service Journal Acute or Specialist Trust of the Year is a huge achievement for all of our colleagues, and reflects the remarkable improvements at Sherwood from when the Trust was rated as inadequate. I hope everyone who has played a part over the last year, and in the improvements over a number of years to get to this position, can take immense pride in the award. I know that Richard Mitchell will update in more detail in his report, but I would like to add my congratulations and gratitude to all involved.

The Chief Executive report will also feature the Trust's latest national staff survey results, which are also a really positive indicator for the progress that Sherwood has continued to make. Overall, we rank as the third best Trust in the NHS which is excellent.

The HSJ award, alongside our CQC ratings announced in 2020 and the latest national staff survey results, demonstrate that the Trust is in a good place. Our challenge now is to consolidate on our successes and continue to challenge ourselves to do the right things and to improve.

Reflecting on these successes feels to be an appropriate time to tell you some personal news I have to share. This will be my last Board report for a while, as I have accepted a one year secondment to be Chair of the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Foundation Trust.

Claire Ward, current Vice-Chair will become interim Chair and I have every confidence in her ability to move the Trust forward and, I know that in collaboration with our partners, you will continue to work as a team to provide high-quality, integrated care to our patients.

I will miss Sherwood Forest, the friends and colleagues I have here and the caring, dedicated team spirit that I recognise as being a core part of our organisation. But the time is right to try a new adventure and I won't be moving very far and will continue to support the communities of the East Midlands in my new role.

Focusing on Covid-19, this month has marked the one year anniversary of Covid in our hospitals and of the first national lockdown measures. We won't all have got everything right over the last year, but should take pride in the way we have responded as individuals, as an organisation and as

a system. My enormous thanks to everyone for what you have done, and how you have gone about it over the last year.

A number of indicators show that Covid pressures are reducing in hospitals and our community, and I am hopeful that we can continue to move in the right direction in the coming months by continuing to follow the guidelines. I am clear that the Board will have an important role to play as we move forward in ensuring our focus remains on doing the right things for both patients and colleagues as we move towards more normality.

I hope that colleagues feel well supported at the moment and are aware of the channels open to them to raise any issues or concerns, including through our Freedom to Speak Up Guardian.

### **International Women's Day**

I was pleased to see so many colleagues feature in the Trust's activity around International Women's Day on Monday 8 March.

Women make up 80 per cent of the Trust's workforce, more than 4,000 colleagues and to mark this year's International Women's Day, we shared profiles from more than 20 female NHS employees from across King's Mill Hospital, Newark Hospital and Mansfield Community Hospital, showcasing their roles and the obstacles they have faced as women throughout their career.

Thank you to everyone who told their story, including Sue Holmes our Lead Governor whose profile covers the gender bias and inequality she has faced in her 56-year career, but through determination and challenge has made it to where she is today.

### **Planting hope for the future – an 'orchard' of trees being planted across Nottinghamshire**

On Monday 22 March I was really pleased to join a number of colleagues planting fruit trees in the courtyard at King's Mill Hospital as part of the Hope Orchard initiative drawing a link between health and the environment.

On the day fruit trees were planted at each of our sites, and we were joined by organisations and individuals across Nottinghamshire and beyond as part of a commitment to a lower carbon future.

As well as Sherwood colleagues trees were planted by our partners in Nottinghamshire Healthcare, EMAS and Ashfield District Council, as well as the Woodland Trust and numerous schools in our communities. The Hope Orchard was conceived by Dr Helena Clements, consultant paediatrician and climate change clinician at Sherwood Forest Hospitals – thanks to everyone who has got involved.

### **HMP PPE contract keeps NHS staff safe whilst also receiving praise from OFSTED**

Sherwood Forest Hospitals and Serco-managed HMP Lowdham Grange have been working in partnership to help up-skill prisoners whilst benefitting the NHS by setting up an NVQ programme for prisoners to make PPE for hospital staff during the pandemic.

Prisoners at HMP Lowdham Grange, near Nottingham, have so far made 1200 sets of scrubs, 716 surgical gowns, 470 surgical caps and more than 16,000 face coverings for the Trust to use during the pandemic.

The Business Enterprise unit at HMP Lowdham Grange has been working with the inmates to produce the PPE, with the unlikely partnership beginning with a Facebook request from a group called 'For the Love of Scrubs', which the prison's Head of Contracts and Sustainability for Business Enterprise, Sally Allsopp saw and thought they could help with.

After speaking with managers at the Trust and Textiles Expert, Malcom Turner at Lowdham Grange, the partnership was made and patterns for scrubs were sent to the prison and they set to

work making sure they had the correct skills base in their workshop to set up a production line to produce the amount of PPE needed.

By April 2020 the prison had already donated 300 sets of scrubs to King's Mill Hospital and an official ordering system had been set up to manage what was needed.

The prison has now built the making of the PPE into its NVQ programme in Performing and Manufacturing Operations. At the beginning of February 2021 they received a virtual visit from OFSTED, who said: "Workshop instructors used tailored worksheets effectively to help prisoners develop their skills for their specific job roles. A few prisoners gained their performing manufacturing operations qualifications.

### **Latest Consultant Recruits**

We are pleased that our recruitment continues to perform well in a very competitive market. In the last month we have been delighted to welcome the following consultants who have been appointed to Sherwood Forest Hospitals.

- Mr Hatem Salem-Sager – Consultant in Trauma & Orthopaedics

### **Visits to Trust Teams and External Meetings**

I am continuing to attend internal and external meetings regularly, wherever possible virtually and have recently attended:

- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS Board
- ICS Development Session
- NHS Providers, regional Chairs update on Covid-19
- Meeting with Healthwatch
- Meeting with local MPSs
- Governor one to ones
- East Midlands Chairs Network

### **Membership summary**

The Forum for Public Involvement group meeting was held virtually on Monday 1 March and we will be continuing to keep these meetings virtual for the time being. We are also planning 'Meet your Governor' sessions for the coming month and are working with our governors to help restore our connection with our members and the wider public.



**Membership numbers**

Public members – 14,956

Staff members – 8,887

Total – 21,843