

## Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

<b>Subject:</b>	Chair's Report	1 July 2021		
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Robin Smith, Head of Communications			
<b>Approved By:</b>	Claire Ward, Chair			
<b>Presented By:</b>	Claire Ward, 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 – July 2021**

### **Chair's reflections**

We continue to follow national Covid developments very closely as you would expect, and since the last report it was announced that many of the national restrictions that the Government had been hoping to relax in June have been extended until 19 July.

Community infection rates have been increasing, although at the time of writing for Sherwood we haven't seen that convert into increased hospital admissions – we now have zero patients with Covid in critical care for the first time in more than a year, which is very positive news (more below). This suggests that the vaccination programme is being effective in protecting the more vulnerable groups.

I would reiterate that the most important thing we can do collectively now is to keep increasing the number of people with first and second doses of the vaccine – at the time of writing all adults in England can make an appointment for the vaccine and I would ask everyone to make sure yourself and your family are taking up the opportunity.

Away from Covid I know that our hospitals have been very busy over the course of the last month, in terms of elective work, but also in our emergency department. As always my thanks go to everyone for your hard work and compassionate care.

### **Dean Whelan, Sherwood's Mansfield Public Governor**

It is with deep sadness that I offer condolences on behalf of both myself personally and the Board to the passing of Dean Whelan, who was Mansfield Public Governor for the Trust.

Dean passed away on the 30 May at King's Mill Hospital and we offer our sincerest condolences to Dean's family, friends and colleagues for their loss. Dean's contribution as a Sherwood Governor will be remembered fondly by colleagues and our local Nottinghamshire partners.

### **High-tech Gamma Scanner's first patient following fundraising appeal**

Last month the first patient was able to benefit from the Trust's new Gamma Scanner following a two-year appeal to raise £490,000 to fund the new piece of equipment.

Huge thanks go to the Trust's charity for running the appeal, and of course to the many donations from volunteers, the local community and colleagues.

Primarily used to identify cancerous tumours in patients, the machine revolutionises how patients are diagnosed and treated. The kit can also be utilised for identifying bone and joint issues, as well as sourcing internal bleeding and injuries. In addition, the advanced piece of equipment is able to take two scans at once, a gamma scan and CT scan, condensing patients' appointments and wait time.

The top-spec machine scanned its first patient during National Volunteers' Week, a period of celebration and recognition for all volunteers and their service across the country. Sherwood's volunteers were particularly central to the appeal's success as profits from the Daffodil Café, ward trolley services, fundraising stalls and events resulted in a donation of £296,000 on behalf of Sherwood's volunteers: more than 50% of the target.

Following the Gamma Scanner appeal, the Trust's latest appeal supports an enhancement to the end of life ward facilities that will enable Sherwood staff to deliver high quality care for patients in the last days of life. This appeal will also provide emotional and practical support to carers and families at a difficult time. To donate to the appeal, please visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/SFHCharityEOL>

### **King's Mill Hospital Covid-19 patient is last to leave critical care after 115 day stay**

It was lovely to see the really positive news story last month featuring George Paterson who had been in our critical care unit for 115 days before finally being moved to a ward to continue his recovery. George's discharge from critical also meant that we had no Covid positive patients in the unit for the first time since March 2020.

It is just one example of the incredible care multi-disciplinary colleagues have been giving to our patients for well over a year now, and it was very moving to read how grateful George and his family have been for the care they've received. [You can read more about George's story here.](#)

### **Carer's Week**

National Carer's Week which celebrates and recognises the vital contribution of the UK's unpaid carers ran from the 7-13 June, and it was fantastic to see so much work across the Trust during the week, both in terms of supporting people who are Carer's of our patients, and in recognising how many of our colleagues are carers themselves in their home lives, and looking at how we can support them better.

We heard about the Carer's Passport scheme in May's Board as a patient story, and it was clear the huge benefit it is having for our patients, so I was delighted to hear that it was officially launched during Carer's Week meaning many more patients will be able to take advantage. You can read more about how the passport has helped Ann and Ray Bennett [here](#).

I also wanted to share this video which recognises both colleagues who are carers and talks about the difference the Carer Passport will make. You can watch the video [here](#).

Finally, I was also really pleased to note that we signed the Nottinghamshire Carers Association (NCA) Carers Pledge to Support Carers in Employment to show our commitment to unpaid carers within our organisation. By signing the pledge, the Trust has committed to acknowledging and supporting informal carers within our organisation, nominating a Carers Champion, reviewing our policies and procedures to ensure we are inclusive of carers, and communicating the support available throughout the organisation.

### **Charitable donations**

As always we have continued to receive very generous donations from our community – often in tribute to care given to patients, and for which we are extremely grateful. In addition to the monetary donations last month we were also delighted to receive a commemorative bench from Egglestone Steel which is situated in the main courtyard at King's Mill Hospital, and recognises the contribution the NHS has made over the course of the last 12 months.

As discussed last month, we also celebrated Volunteer's Week in June and I was pleased to join others in presenting specially commissioned cards and badges to our fantastic volunteers.

### **Meet your Governor sessions**

Our Meet Your Governor sessions are continuing across our sites, having been reinstated in May, and we are starting to gain valuable feedback from patients and carers. The sessions are being outside the entrances of our hospitals, weather permitting, in order to meet with infection control measures. The Meet Your Governor programme is an important method for hearing the patient voice and gaining valuable feedback on how we are performing. Thanks to the Governors who have embraced the opportunity to resume these sessions.

### **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 Purnendu Majumdar – Consultant in Urology

### **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
- Governor one to ones
- Governor's Forum
- Maternity safety champions walk
- Board development workshops

### **Membership summary**

The Forum for Public Involvement meeting was held virtually on Monday 7 June, and we will continue to keep these meetings virtual for the time being. We are also looking to recruit new members to the group and will share more details shortly.

### **Membership numbers**

Number of public members: 14,887

Number of staff members: 7,506

Total: 22,393