

Board of Directors Meeting in Public

Subject:	Chief Executive's report		Date: 7 July 2022	
Prepared By:	Rich Brown, Head of Communications			
Approved By:	Paul Robinson, Chief Executive			
Presented By:	Paul Robinson, Chief Executive			
Purpose				
To update on key events and information from the last month.			Approval	
			Assurance	X
			Update	X
			Consider	
Strategic Objectives				
To provide outstanding care	To promote and support health and wellbeing	To maximise the potential of our workforce	To continuously learn and improve	To achieve better value
X	X	X	X	X
Overall Level of Assurance				
	Significant	Sufficient	Limited	None
			X	
Risks/Issues				
Financial				
Patient Impact				
Staff Impact				
Services				
Reputational				
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before				
Not applicable				
Executive Summary				
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Chief Executive's perspective.				

Masks guidance

In June we [announced that the Trust would be stepping-down the requirement to wear face masks in all areas of our hospitals before a rise in cases nationally, in the local community and among patients and colleagues led to us reintroducing masks later in the month.](#)

The reaction to those decisions from patients, colleagues and the wider public has generally been positive and supportive and I would like to thank everyone for their understanding while we have been introducing those changes. We acknowledge that those decisions will be the cause of anxiety for some and we are continuing to ask everyone in our hospitals to be kind and considerate to one another across our hospitals and in the wider community.

We will continue to keep national, local and Trust-wide transmission rates under regular review before reconsidering our position on mask-wearing and before we consider whether to make any changes to current social distancing and visitor guidance within the Trust.

Playing our part in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire's new Integrated Care Board (ICB)

This month saw the formation of the new Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB which came into effect on 1 July 2022.

The move towards ICBs will commit organisations like Sherwood Forest Hospitals to working more closely with local partners for the benefits of the wider community and we have been purposefully already working in that spirit with local partners for some time now to prepare the Trust for that change.

I am delighted to have been nominated and appointed to the ICB in the role of partner member to represent hospital acute and emergency services. I am excited about contributing and ensure that represent the views of our hospitals' staff, volunteers and service users when it comes to making decisions about how local services are shaped.

As an extension of that work, I also joined the Universities of Nottingham's Leaders Forum in the past month. This forum sees both the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University work with senior leaders across health and social care to understand how they can work better together to create education and employment opportunities for the population of Nottinghamshire.

We look forward to continuing our positive working relationships with partners across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire under these new arrangements.

Sherwood Forest to declare itself 'always open' to new recruits with launch of new dedicated recruitment website

The Trust is due to launch a new dedicated recruitment website to act as our virtual 'shop window' to potential candidates who are considering a career with #TeamSFH – particularly in nursing, midwifery and Allied Health Professional (AHP) roles which the site will initially focus on recruiting.

The launch of this new website is an important step in our ongoing recruitment efforts, particularly in ensuring that our services are appropriately resourced for the future. Thank you to everyone who has been involved in making that work happen to date.

Little Millers Day Nursery Ofsted inspection report published

In June, Ofsted published its report following its most recent inspection of the Trust's Little Millers Day Nursery in March 2022, which downgraded the facility's rating from 'outstanding' to 'inadequate'.

I personally visited the nursery's hardworking team this month following the publication of the report to show my support to the team and I am assured that an action plan is in place to address the concerns raised.

We hope that the site's rating will be reinstated back to a level that our Little Millers families deserve when the site is reinspected within the next six months, in-line with Ofsted reinspection timelines.

HSJ nomination

I was delighted to learn that #TeamSFH's Respiratory Physiology team have been shortlisted for a HSJ Patient Safety Award in the category of Safe restoration of Elective Care Services for their innovative work in restoring aerosol generating procedures (AGP) services at the height of the pandemic.

That recognition is testament to the team's work throughout the pandemic: I congratulate them for their good work and wish them luck for when the winners are due to be announced in mid-September.

Strengthening the Trust's commitment to our armed forces

[Sherwood Forest Hospitals has announced that it will be working to strengthening its commitment to our armed forces by starting to work towards an independently-assessed Veterans Covenant Healthcare Alliance \(VCHA\) accreditation.](#)

The accreditation will extend the Trust's signing of the Armed Forces Covenant in 2016 which committed the Trust to ensuring that those who serve or have served in the forces and their families are treated fairly whenever they contact the Trust. That commitment includes members of the armed forces family who attend our hospitals as a patient or visitor, as well as when they apply or are eventually employed to work as a member of staff or volunteer with the Trust.

The additional accreditation will also include specific commitments from the Trust to:

- Train staff to effectively identify serving and former members of our armed forces and their families when they become patients at the Trust's hospitals, as well as better understanding and meeting those individuals' needs
- Establish links with and actively refer veterans to local services for additional and more specialist support
- Formally support the UK armed forces as an employer

We will bring further updates back to the board to update on how that work progresses over the coming months.

Nottinghamshire PRIDE

Sherwood Forest Hospitals will be joining the Nottinghamshire PRIDE month celebrations this month by showing its support to our LGBTQ+ colleagues, patients and visitors to our hospitals.

Among the programme of work we'll be undertaking to join the celebration is our very own PRIDE events at our King's Mill and Newark Hospital sites which have been organised in coordination with our LGBTQ+ staff network. We will share details of these across staff- and public-facing Trust channels nearer the time of those events.

Showing our support for Nottinghamshire PRIDE month is an important part of our work to becoming a more inclusive employer that celebrates diversity and empowers staff to bring their whole selves to work.

I look forward to joining those celebrations over the month ahead and joining everyone who chooses to celebrate the events.