

## Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

|  |   |   |   |                                |
|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Subject:</b>  | Chief Executive's report  |   | <b>Date:</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 |                                |
| <b>Prepared By:</b>  | Rich Brown, Head of Communications  |   |   |                                |
| <b>Approved By:</b>  | Paul Robinson, Chief Executive  |   |   |                                |
| <b>Presented By:</b>   | Paul Robinson, Chief Executive  |   |   |                                |
| <b>Purpose</b>   |   |   |   |                                |
| To update on key events and information from the last month.   |   |   | <b>Approval</b>                           |                                |
|  |   |   | <b>Assurance</b>                          | X                              |
|  |   |   | <b>Update</b>                             | X                              |
|  |   |   | <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>Identify which principal risk this report relates to:</b>   |   |   |   |                                |
| PR1  | Significant deterioration in standards of safety and care   |   |   |                                |
| PR2  | Demand that overwhelms capacity   |   |   |                                |
| PR3  | Critical shortage of workforce capacity and capability  |   |   |                                |
| PR4  | Failure to achieve the Trust's financial strategy   |   |   |                                |
| PR5  | Inability to initiate and implement evidence-based Improvement and innovation                         |   |   |                                |
| PR6  | Working more closely with local health and care partners does not fully deliver the required benefits |   |   |                                |
| PR7  | Major disruptive incident   |   |   |                                |
| PR8  | Failure to deliver sustainable reductions in the Trust's impact on climate change                     |   |   |                                |
| <b>Committees/groups where this item has been presented before</b>   |   |   |   |                                |
| Not applicable   |   |   |   |                                |
| <b>Executive Summary</b>   |   |   |   |                                |
| An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Chief Executive's perspective. |   |   |   |                                |

## **The passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the declaring of the national bank holiday**

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in September. I am sure I speak for the whole of Sherwood Forest Hospitals and our local communities in sending our greatest sympathies to the Royal Family for their loss.

Following Her Majesty's passing, we have worked to ensure colleagues have access to wellbeing support, as we know her passing and the period of national mourning that followed will have personally affected many of our colleagues – particularly in evoking feelings of their own personal grief.

Across our hospitals, we have been enabling colleagues, patients and visitors to pay their respects, including by holding memorial services in our hospital chapels and observing two minutes' silences across the Trust. We were also grateful to the providers of our bedside television units who agreed to grant free access to the units for inpatients to watch the State Funeral, as it was such an important moment in world history.

As well as enabling our colleagues, patients and visitors to pay their respects, the declaring of the national bank holiday also had a number of very practical implications on daily business across our hospitals.

I note and reiterate my thanks to all our teams who helped us to prepare for the bank holiday, essentially mobilising plans within just a few days' notice for an event we would ordinarily have a year to prepare for.

While normal bank holiday arrangements applied to all Sherwood Forest Hospitals services, it was inevitable there would be some disruption to some non-urgent planned care originally planned for that day which meant that some patients' appointments needed to be postponed. All affected patients were contacted directly to explain the impact on their appointments and we are grateful to our patients and colleagues alike for their patience and understanding.

Our colleagues' work at pace was essential in ensuring that our highest priority patients could continue to access the care they needed and their efforts were very much appreciated.

## **Playing our part in the national flu and COVID vaccine programmes**

Operationally in the Trust during September, we have begun to see a small increase in COVID cases among patients in our hospitals.

We know the impact that COVID continues to have on our services and the rules remain different for NHS staff compared to the wider public when they get COVID, particularly in affecting our ability to provide the best possible care for patient while staff cannot attend our hospitals. COVID is not over and those case rates are something we will keep under review before it becomes a cause of any greater concern.

It is for those reasons that we have been particularly pleased to have begun delivering COVID autumn boosters from our vaccine hub at King's Mill Hospital during September, as our Trust will once again be playing our part in the national COVID vaccine programme.

We're grateful to all those who have already come forward and we look forward to welcoming more over the coming weeks, with eligible patients, members of the public and frontline healthcare staff able to get their boosters as either pre-booked or drop-in appointments from either the vaccine hub at King's Mill Hospital or other sites locally.

This winter is also expected to be the first where COVID and flu are both in circulation together. While at the time of writing we are waiting delivery of this year's flu vaccine, we hope by the time of our Board of Directors Meeting to have begun vaccinating those eligible.

Our Sherwood Forest Hospitals colleagues have a long and proud history of engaging well with the COVID and flu vaccination programmes – and we look forward to that continuing as this winter approaches.

### **Changes in the Trust's Executive Team**

We send our best wishes to Emma Challans-Rasool, our Director of Culture and Improvement, who is leaving Sherwood to take up a role at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire as their Director of Organisational Development, Culture and Talent.

Emma has been a key part of the Executive Team at #TeamSFH during her time with us and I would like to thank her for her contribution to making SFH a great place to work. We wish Emma every success in her new role that will commence transition from October 2022.

### **Working towards international Pathway to Excellence accreditation**

Another key development over recent weeks has been the progress made in our work towards achieving the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) *Pathway to Excellence* standard, which the Trust has committed to working towards to assure ourselves that the care we provide is in-line with the high standards of excellence, quality and collaboration internationally.

For Sherwood, this accreditation is also important to ensure that the Trust remains a great place for colleagues to work and we hope that working towards this accreditation shows that the organisation's ambition to provide the best possible care for patients. We also hope it will help us to attract the very best new recruits to our hospitals in future, as well as retaining the great colleagues we already have.

The launch of the survey in September saw us move to the next stage of the accreditation, which invites all our registered nursing and midwifery colleagues to complete the survey and give their views. Early indications are that engagement with this process has been strong, which shows the level of support and aspiration within the Trust to work towards this accreditation.

This accreditation cannot be achieved without the input and support of our staff, so we are incredibly grateful for the level of support they have offered to date. We look forward to hearing the outcome of our work towards that accreditation, after the survey closed on 28 September.

### **Preparing to take part in the National Staff survey**

October will see the Trust take part in the NHS National Staff Survey – one of the largest workforce surveys in the world that is carried out each year to improve staff experiences across the NHS.

The 2021 results for our Trust continued our successful track-record, with our survey results ranking among some of the best in the country for acute and acute community trusts.

As well as allowing us to benchmark against other NHS organisations, the survey is also important in identifying areas for improvement. In recent years, the insights provided by the survey have led to us strengthening our 'zero tolerance' approach to tackling racism and abuse, as well as finding new ways for us to meaningfully support the wellbeing of our colleagues. We must continue to develop that support to ensure we can properly look after the people who look after our patients.

These results are not just important for our own assurance that we are making our Trust a great place to work; they are also important as proof we are creating the environment where our patients can receive outstanding care.

A new development for this year's survey will be the inclusion of bank staff who will be among those surveyed for the first time ever, taking account of the views of the wider team who help to deliver services across our hospitals.

Sherwood Forest Hospitals will be encouraging colleagues to fully engage with this year's survey once again, with the results of the survey likely to be shared early in 2023.

### **Risk ratings reviewed**

The Board Assurance Framework (BAF) risks have been scrutinised by the Trust's Risk Committee. The Committee has confirmed that there are no changes to the risk scores affecting the following areas:

- Principal Risk 6: Working more closely with local health and care partners does not fully deliver the required benefits
- Principal Risk 7: A major disruptive incident
- Principal Risk 8: Failure to deliver sustainable reductions in the Trust's impact on climate change.