

## Council of Governors - Cover Sheet

<b>Subject:</b>	Chair's Report	<b>Date:</b> 8 November 2022		
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Rich Brown, 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 Chair's perspective since the previous Council of Governors meeting.		<b>Approval</b>		
		<b>Assurance</b>		
		<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>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>				
<p>To update on key events and information from the Chair's perspective since the previous Council of Governors meeting, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Starting work to refresh the Trust's five-year strategy</li> <li>Celebrating the best of Sherwood Forest Hospitals at our annual Excellence Awards</li> <li>Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Members Meeting of Sherwood Forest Hospitals</li> <li>October is Freedom to Speak Up month</li> <li>Continuing our 'Meet Your Governor sessions' across our hospitals</li> <li>Other engagements and visits over recent months</li> </ul> <p>Full details included in Appendix One below.</p>				

## **APPENDIX ONE: DETAILS OF CHAIR'S REPORT**

### **Starting work to refresh the Trust's five-year strategy**

The Board set aside time together over the past month to prioritise planning for the future strategy of the Trust – an important piece of work that will set the direction of the organisation as we look to the future with a new-look Executive Team and working with our Integrated Care System partners.

Together, we considered the views of several partners, ranging from neighbouring NHS organisations to the wider public sector – including colleagues from the education sector.

Giving consideration to the way we plan and deliver services (as well as how we respond to the changing system architecture) was also at the heart of those conversations. We also recognised that getting closer to the communities we serve and positively impacting upon the challenges people face in their lives will be a critical success factor for that work.

I look forward to proposing a revised five-year strategy to the Trust's Public Board meeting and the Council of Governors in the New Year.

### **Celebrating the best of Sherwood Forest Hospitals at our annual *Excellence Awards***

[On Friday 7 October, the Trust hosted its annual \*Excellence Awards\* to celebrate our Trust colleagues and partners who have gone above-and-beyond the call of duty for patients and the communities we serve over the past year.](#)

I was delighted to be able to join colleagues from the Trust's Executive Team to announce the winners of this year's awards across 18 categories – including a special Chair's Award, which I was delighted to award to colleagues from our Sherwood Community Unit.

The Unit has been a hugely important part of our Trust plans to help free-up hospital beds for those patients that need them most this year, which has seen the Trust look creatively to extend the walls of its hospitals to transform an old care home into a temporary ward. The Unit plays an important role of providing transitional support for patients who no longer require hospital treatment but are waiting for confirmation of their discharge packages before they can be discharged to their home, care home or another community setting.

Lindsey Chapman, the Unit's Head of Nursing, has been an exceptional and inspirational leader throughout the first six months of the Unit opening, ensuring that the Unit provided safe and effective care while always demonstrating and setting the standards expected. She has been well supported by Mandy Toplis, her deputy, and Claire Haywood, who agreed to step-up to take the role of sister and lead nurse for the unit.

The team have been widely supported by colleagues from across the Trust including in Skanska, Medirest and IPC who were all pivotal in helping to set up run and manage the unit.

I look forward to getting out to meet the team to present their award to them in person, as well as sharing more details about the Unit's work publicly over the coming weeks.

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Members Meeting of Sherwood Forest Hospitals**

[The Annual General Meeting \(AGM\) and Annual Members Meeting of Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust was held virtually on Thursday 29 September](#), giving our members, the public we serve and the partners we work with the opportunity to learn more about how the organisation performed over the 2021/22 financial year.

Despite demand for services remaining exceptionally high over the past few years, there remains so much for us to be proud of as a Trust and those meetings are a real opportunity for the Trust to reflect upon its activities, challenges and achievements over the past financial year.

Items discussed at this year's meeting included the presentation of the Annual Report and Accounts and the External Auditor's Annual Report. As a result of the discussion on proposed revisions to the Trust constitution that were put forward at last month's public board meeting, considerations are also now being made about arrangements for the next members election.

### **October is Freedom to Speak Up month**

The Trust has been supporting Freedom to Speak Up (FTSU) month throughout October as a month-long celebration to raise awareness and celebrate the difference that Freedom to Speak Up is making – including within the Trust.

The Trust's FTSU Champions have been out-and-about across the Trust's hospitals during the month, visiting each site to promote the work of the Champions so that colleagues know they will be supported when they do speak up. It is also vital that we all understand that speaking-up is an important part of improvement, learning and providing outstanding care.

We are really proud that 70.9% of our Trust colleagues told us in the 2021 NHS National Staff Survey that they would feel safe to speak up about anything that concerns them about the organisation, with 61.5% also saying they would be confident the organisation would act upon those concerns when raised. While there is always room for improvement, those scores place us well above the national averages in both categories and reflects the emphasis we have placed on this important area of work.

Our FTSU champions and guardian play an important part in making our hardworking NHS colleagues feel safe and supported in their work. I am grateful to them all for their continued contributions.

### **Continuing our 'Meet your governor sessions' across our hospitals**

A programme of the Trust's *Meet Your Governor* events have been continuing throughout the past three months, with the latest series having taken place during the week commencing 31 October.

The events are a fantastic opportunity for our Trust governors to get out-and-about in our hospitals and the wider community to talk to patients and members about their experiences of accessing our services. The outcomes of those discussions will be fed back to the Trust to consider how it can improve its services in future, with similar sessions also planned for November and December.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to facilitate those sessions, as well as to all those who have offered feedback or have registered to become members of the Trust at those sessions.

### **Other engagements and visits over recent months**

We know it takes a whole Trust to run our hospitals and, over the past month, I have had the privilege of visiting members of our extended #TeamSFH family from Medirest to learn more about how they support our NHS colleagues.

That visit – which included visiting staff on the switchboard and HR colleagues within Medirest – was incredibly useful in being able to understand how we work with our partners and how we can get them more involved in helping us to deliver the best possible care to our patients.