

## Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

<b>Subject:</b>	Chief Executive's report		<b>Date:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	
<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.				

## **Pressures: Update on pressures across our hospitals**

Things have remained busy across our hospitals throughout February, where we have continued to manage demand at the ‘front doors’ of our Emergency Department at King’s Mill Hospital and our Urgent Treatment Centre at Newark Hospital. We also continue to experience difficulties in discharging patients in a timely manner as soon as they are medically fit to leave our hospitals.

Those challenges underline the importance of continuing to make every bed count across the Trust, including by avoiding hospital admissions wherever possible, making good use of all our capacity across our hospitals, and working with our partners to ease discharges of patients as quickly as possible.

During February, we have seen a decrease in the numbers of patients who are being admitted into our hospitals with COVID and flu. This is a real positive following the high numbers of patients we treated for both conditions in December and early January.

While demand for our services remains high, those levels are beginning to return to a level that is more typical for the time of year. I am grateful to our colleagues across the Trust for the outstanding work they have done to help manage those pressures over the past month.

## **Preparing for potential industrial action**

We continue to monitor national announcements relating to the government’s disputes with a number of national staff bodies working across the NHS.

Significant developments over recent weeks have included [the Royal College of Nursing \(RCN\) pausing its plans to take industrial action elsewhere in Nottinghamshire in early March](#), as well as [the British Medical Association \(BMA\) announcing its own plans to take industrial action](#). The date for that industrial action from the BMA remains to be confirmed.

We know how important the work of our Junior Doctors is across the Trust every day and we are now accelerating the work to refine plans to prepare for potential industrial action from the BMA.

The Trust has tried and tested plans to ensure we can continue to provide the best possible care to our patients. We work really closely with all our trade unions and we are now doubling our efforts to refine our plans to keep essential services running for our patients throughout any period of industrial action that may directly impact our services.

We value all the hard work and dedication of our colleagues and we understand the importance of good pay and conditions for both them as individuals and the organisation. As a Trust, we will do everything we can to ensure that they are properly supported over the months ahead.

## **Maternity services at King's Mill Hospital rated 'good' following CQC inspection**

I am proud to share the news that Maternity services at King's Mill Hospital have been rated 'good' following our latest Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection.

In the report that was published on Thursday 23 February following their most recent inspection, King's Mill Hospital has maintained its rating as 'outstanding', while the Trust's overall rating remains 'good'.

We share the CQC's ambition to provide the best possible Maternity service to our local communities and I am grateful to the CQC for highlighting the areas that we can be rightly proud of – as well as those areas that we need to improve.

More detail about the findings of the inspection are included in the Chair's report to the Trust's Board of Directors Meeting today and I know that work is already underway to address the points raised in their report.

## **Multimillion pound funding bid approved for Mansfield Community Diagnostics Centre**



During February, we have been delighted to welcome the announcement from the Department of Health and Social Care that confirmed that [our multimillion pound government funding bid to bring Nottinghamshire's first Community Diagnostics Centre to Mansfield has been given the green light.](#)

The news follows the announcement we shared in January that [we have submitted plans to Mansfield District Council to build the purpose-built 'Community Diagnostics Centre' – or CDC – alongside our Mansfield Community Hospital.](#)

The plans had been subject to both a national funding bid and local planning approval, prior to national announcement from the Department for Health and Social Care that confirmed the government funding had been secured for the project.



We are now expecting the plans to be considered by the Council's planning committee in spring 2023. If approved, the Centre will become a 'one-stop shop' for patients to access the tests and investigations they need in a single visit, helping to give patients an answer to their concerns – including with an 'all clear' or diagnosis – sooner.

If the plans are given the go-ahead, the facility could open its doors to its first patients as soon as autumn 2024 to complement the services already provided at the Trust's other sites.

We hope the Centre will welcome thousands of patients each year, as well as creating hundreds of new jobs across a range of clinical and non-clinical roles at the Centre.

**We have made a commitment to recruit 20 new apprentices across #TeamSFH over the year ahead**



During National Apprenticeships Week, we were delighted to announce our plans to allow more local people to step into the NHS by sharing our commitment to recruit 20 new apprentices over the year ahead.

I was honoured to join a number of our existing apprentices pictured above to help share our announcement, as we prepare to welcome a number of other apprentices to a wide range of clinical and non-clinical roles across the Trust.

The apprenticeships, which will specifically be aimed at GCSE and A-level students, will be advertised by June, ready for successful applicants to start in September. The plan is for all apprentices to be offered a permanent job at the end of their training.

The Trust already has 198 employees who are studying for or have completed an apprenticeship as part of their current role. Offering external apprenticeships will help support recruitment and retention in line with both the national and the Trust's own People Policy.

As a Trust, we are already working closely in partnership with local education providers – including West Nottinghamshire College and Nottingham Trent University – to understand what courses are available to see how they can be aligned to roles within the Trust.

### **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