

Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

Subject:	Chair's report		Date: 6 th April 2023	
Prepared By:	Rich Brown, Head of Communications			
Approved By:	Claire Ward, Chair			
Presented By:	Claire Ward, Chair			
Purpose				
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Chair's perspective.			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
Identify which principal risk this report relates to:				
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			
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before				
Not applicable				
Acronyms				
CQC – Care Quality Commission NEDs – Non-Executive Directors NUH – Nottingham University Hospitals				
Executive Summary				
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Chair's perspective.				

Updates on NHS pressures

I will start this month's update by taking a moment to pay tribute to our colleagues' work over the past month in managing the pressures we continue to face – including the unique challenges of the past month's industrial action.

While the Trust's Chief Executive, Paul Robinson, has included further operational detail in his report to Board this month, I wanted to add some additional context about our role as active partners within the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire health and social care system.

As a Trust and a Board of Directors, we are committed to supporting our Trust colleagues – both through their day-to-day work within the Trust, as well as by escalating our concerns to our regional and national colleagues about the impact of this industrial action on our patients as well as on Trust finances.

We will also continue to implore our system health and care partners to work together to help us to manage these additional pressures effectively as a system.

We recognise that there are real challenges across the NHS right now and we all hope to see some progress in these national disputes, in order to bring the disruption being caused to an end.

NHS National Staff Survey results rate Sherwood as best in the Midlands to work for and receive care

Another significant development over the past month has been the publication of the 2022 *NHS National Staff Survey* results that ranked Sherwood Forest Hospitals as the acute trust that staff would most recommend as a place to work anywhere in the East and West Midlands – for the fifth consecutive year!

Those results are testament to the incredible work that has been undertaken to make Sherwood a truly great place to work over recent years, as well as marking another significant milestone in our ongoing transformational journey as a Trust.

From being placed into special measures by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in 2013 to now proudly being rated 'good' overall and 'outstanding' for care, these Staff Survey results mark another proud milestone in our efforts to make our hospitals a truly great place to work and receive care.

Preparing to elect new Trust governors

Elections to find six new governors at Sherwood Forest Hospitals are due to take place in late spring this year, with potential governors able to put their names forward before Friday 26 May 2023 to represent the Trust's King's Mill, Mansfield Community and Newark hospital sites.

Governors have a key role to play in helping the Trust achieve its ambitions of providing healthier communities and outstanding care to all. The role will involve listening to feedback from the Trust's 14,000 members and the wider public, in-turn relaying these views to the Board of Directors. The role is central to representing the interests of local communities in the planning of services.

Elected by the members of the Trust, governors represent the interests of our members and the public and have a statutory duty to hold the Non-Executive Directors to account for the performance of the Trust Board. They bring valuable perspectives and ensure the Trust is publicly accountable for the services it provides.

Governors don't need to have a background in the NHS, but they must be able to ask the difficult questions and be passionate about improving our hospitals. The role of a governor is a voluntary position. Therefore, successful candidates will not be paid, but they will receive expenses for travel to meetings.

Elections will be taking place in late spring this year and those who wish to become a governor must first become a member of the Trust. They can do this by signing up online at www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk/get-involved or emailing sfh-tr.membership@nhs.net

A message of thanks for the community's support of our services

It has been another month where the support of our local community has played an important role in supporting the services provide across our hospitals.

One notable contribution this month has been how funding from the Friends of Newark Hospital has helped to fund equipment that will enable patients to receive treatment for chronic pain at Newark Hospital.

The £30,000 IonicRF™ Generator delivers non-surgical treatment for the management of pain in the nervous system. It uses heat to target specific nerves and block pain signals from reaching the brain. Radio-frequency denervation is a procedure that aims to change the way pain is transmitted by the nerve to the brain. The nerve is interrupted by heating (cauterising) it with an electrical current from the radio-frequency generator machine.

We are grateful to our supporters at the Friends of Newark Hospital for their invaluable support.



Notable engagements: *Let's all eat*

I had the pleasure of visiting the Lifespring Centre in Ollerton last week at the invitation of ATTFE College and their community interest company, *Let's all eat*.

The partnership between the College and LifeSpring launched their winter dinner initiative in November to welcome people from the community for a free meal if required. They set themselves the target of providing 10,000 meals across North Nottinghamshire and most Tuesday evenings in Ollerton they are providing around 50 meals to local people in addition to other sessions in Mansfield and Ashfield.

I visited to see this important project to tackle food poverty but also provide a supportive and warm place for people to socialise. A number of those attending live alone or need support with their mental health. I was able to talk to people about the services we provide here at Sherwood, as well as to get their feedback.

One of the challenges expressed was about the issue of transport to and from King's Mill as many in the area are reliant on public transport. There was a lot of praise for the care provided by our staff.



Other notable engagements and visits from over the past month

- I have supported NUH in their recruitment process for new Associated NEDs
- I have met with colleagues across the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire system
- Taken part in discussions with local authority colleagues about how we may work more closely together
- Attended governor events and meetings
- Continued my regular visits around Maternity services and other parts of our Trust