

Public Board Meeting Report

Subject: Chief Executive's Report
Date: 21st December 2016
Author: Peter Herring, Chief Executive
Lead Director: Peter Herring, Chief Executive

Executive Summary	
This is the Chief Executives Report as presented to the Board of Directors.	
The Board is asked to note the content of this paper.	
Relevant Strategic Priorities (please mark in bold)	
Ensure the highest standards of safe care are consistently delivered by, and for, individuals, teams and departments	Ensure that patients experience the very best care, building on good practice and listening and learning from both negative and positive feedback and events
Provide timely access to diagnosis, treatment and care when people need it and safely reduce the time patients spend in hospital	Raise the level of staff engagement through strong leadership, communication, feedback and recognition
Reduce the scale of our financial deficit by reducing costs, improving utilisation of resources and productivity, and achieving best value for money	Work in partnership to keep people well in the community, and enable them to return as soon as they are ready to leave hospital
Develop and implement a programme of work in conjunction with Nottingham University Hospital NHST to create a new combined organisation	
How has organisational learning been disseminated	N/A
Links to the BAF	N/A
Financial Implications/Impact	N/A
Legal Implications/Impact	N/A
Partnership working & Public Engagement Implications/Impact	N/A
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before	N/A

Chief Executive's Report to the Board

December 2016

Minister Visit

We were delighted to welcome Health Minister, Phillip Dunne, when he visited King's Mill Hospital on 1 December. The primary purpose for this visit was to congratulate our staff after the Trust was removed from special measures, and to see for himself the improvements we have made.

Mr Dunne toured the hospital, with special visits to the emergency department and the Sherwood Birthing Unit. He spoke to a broad spectrum of staff, including Speak-Up Guardians, volunteers, domestic and nursing staff.

After speaking with staff in the King's Treatment Centre, the Minister said: "I was delighted to meet staff and congratulate them first hand for the impressive improvements they have made – in particular in the management and treatment of sepsis and Emergency Department waiting times."

I told Mr Dunne that at Sherwood Forest Hospitals we are committed to even better care, and determined to continue improving until the service we provide is outstanding. I also shared how immensely proud I am of the achievements made to date. Recognition from the Minister and the Department of Health highlights to staff that they should be proud of their efforts.

Meetings with the media

I have started to meet with Editors and health journalists from media outlets this month to help develop better, mutually beneficial relationships with a view to achieving fair, balanced and accurate media coverage. I met with the Editor of the Newark Advertiser this month, and will be meeting with the Nottingham Post, the Mansfield and Ashfield Chad and the BBC in January. Work continues with other media outlets and journalists, including those further afield to endeavour to improve relationships and understanding, and so maximise the likelihood of being approached for comment on matters that involve or affect us.

Sustainability and Transformation Plan

You will have seen that the Sustainability and Transformational Plan (STP) has been published. Local NHS providers (including Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust), Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), councils, and other health and care services have formed the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire STP - one of 44 in England - to collectively plan how local services will work to improve the quality of care, their population's health and manage finances across the system.

The full plan can be viewed at www.stpnotts.org.uk

The STP is particularly important to Sherwood Forest Hospitals in that we will need to collaborate with our health and care partners to deliver around £6million of our cost savings targets. This is over and above the £10m cost savings we have identified internally.

Visit from Director of Nursing for Improvement

We were delighted to welcome Mark Radford, Director of Nursing for Improvement from NHS Improvement at the beginning of December. Mark spent the day with us, talking to many staff across the Trust to understand our programmes of improvement underway and to evaluate the progress we have made to date. Mark's feedback following the visit was overwhelmingly positive. He said he was 'bowled over by the commitment, enthusiasm and passion of staff' and could see that everyone is clearly up for delivering the improvements needed to achieve a CQC rating of outstanding. He was particularly impressed with the Emergency Department, clinical leadership and the approach to patient flow, and remarked that he had never seen a reduction of length of stay achieved within only six months. He encouraged us to do even more to celebrate good practice and to share the improvement journey we have undertaken, including the psychological aspects.

Developing a stable leadership team

The adverts for Chief Executive, Chair and Chief Operating Officer posts were published at the beginning of December as per the plans shared at the last Board meeting. The Council of Governors' process for interviewing the Chair is scheduled for early February, and the interviews for the Chief Executive, led by the Chair and Non-Executive Directors, are expected to take place in early March. We have also been undertaking interviews for Divisional General Managers and Assistant General Managers. We have also confirmed interim arrangements to cover the two Clinical Director vacancies in Medicine and Surgery, which will ensure the necessary support is in place whilst we undertake the appropriate recruitment process for these posts.

Peter Herring
Chief Executive