

Council of Governors

Subject:	Chair's Report	11 August 2020		
Prepared By:	Robin Smith, Acting Head of Communications			
Approved By:	John MacDonald, Chair			
Presented By:	John MacDonald, Chair			
Purpose				
To update on key events and information from the last quarter.			Approval	
			Assurance	X
			Update	
			Consider	
Strategic Objectives				
To provide outstanding care to our patients	To support each other to do a great job	To inspire excellence	To get the most from our resources	To play a leading role in transforming health and care services
X	X	X	X	X
Overall Level of Assurance				
	Significant	Sufficient	Limited	None
			X	
Risks/Issues				
Financial				
Patient Impact				
Staff Impact				
Services				
Reputational				
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before				
Executive Summary				
<p>An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items since the last Chair of Governors meeting from the Chair's perspective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 				

Chair Report

Covid-19

I continue to be impressed with how the Trust, along with its system partners is responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, and am pleased to see the continued focus on wellbeing including the completion of risk assessments alongside operational planning. The Board will remain interested in recovery and reform, and in how we assure ourselves about what the impact of paused and delayed services has on non-Covid patients.

Covid will be discussed verbally in more detail during COG, and in the Chief Executive's report, but I would like to thank once again all colleagues across Sherwood and with our partners for everything that they are doing in difficult circumstances.

SFH Doctors' Awards

Thanks and congratulations also go the Sherwood Doctors who were recognised in the Trust's first ever Doctors' Awards held in July. These awards were conceived to reward and thank our fantastic doctors for their ongoing contributions to the Trust. Well done to everyone who was nominated, and in particular to the winners listed below, and thanks to everyone who took time out to nominate a colleague at this busy time.

The winners were:

The Excellence in Clinical Leadership Award

David Hodgson

The Excellence in Medical Education Award

Emma Fitzpatrick

The Inspirational Senior Award

Bakur Jamjoom

The Commitment to Collaborative and Considerate Working Award

Rebecca Barker

The Extra Mile Award

Owain Blackwood

The QI/Research Award

Hayley Roscoe

Medical Directors' Commendation

Ruwani Abeyratne (pictured above)

Elizabeth Elsey

Dan Smith

Annual Baby Remembrance Service

This year's Sherwood Forest Hospitals' annual baby remembrance service took place streamed online on Thursday 16 July. The service will included a selection of poems, readings and prayers. Also, as in previous memorial services, members of the Chaplaincy Team released white doves as a mark of remembrance.

We hope that the service was as meaningful and supportive as possible, particularly during this challenging time, and we hope that we can hold our usual service in the Faith Centre and remember the babies together later in the year.

Sherwood Forest Hospitals AGM

This year's Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday 28 September, 5.30-7.00pm. We are encouraging anyone interested to join the meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams on <https://bit.ly/3hMwoCG>

Volunteers' Week

Volunteers' Week took place in June, and whilst we couldn't celebrate it how we would normally, I would like to thank and recognise the contribution our 600+ volunteers make on life at Sherwood day in day out. It has been great to see that some of our volunteers have been able to return to work in recent weeks, and the catering outlets have been able to re-open.

Digital Strategy

I am very pleased to see that we have launched the Trust's new Digital Strategy; Informed decisions and digitally connected care following a prolonged period of development and engagement with clinical and non-clinical colleagues and key partners. Ways of working introduced as part of the response to Covid-19 have only strengthened the need to implement the priorities discussed in the strategy document. The objectives are to:

- Deliver EPR
- Connect digitally with patients and partners
- Support our colleagues
- Unleash information for insight
- Improve our digital infrastructure

You can read a summary of the strategy [here](#), and the full version on our website [here](#).

CQC

The CQC published our latest inspection report with the good news that both of our main sites have improved their overall rating. King's Mill Hospital is now Outstanding overall, and Newark Hospital has improved to Good overall. SFH overall remains Good, and we are very pleased to have improved our rating for Safety to Good. This is an excellent achievement that rewards the enormous amount of work over the last few years.

Gamma scanner appeal

I am delighted to say we have been able to officially close our ambitious fundraising appeal for a new Gamma Scanner for Sherwood Forest Hospitals. This has been a significant undertaking, and our thanks go to everyone who has contributed.

The new sophisticated scanner will enable more than 2,000 patients each year to have advanced scans which will be able to speed up the diagnosis of diseases like cancer with greater accuracy, and will revolutionise how patients are treated.

The Gamma Scanner appeal was launched in April 2018, supported by the local Chad newspaper, to raise money to fund a new high-tech gamma scanner for the Trust. The new piece of life-changing technology will be used by the nuclear medicine department at King's Mill Hospital and will enable patients to receive quicker, more detailed diagnoses and start treatment sooner.

The money raised for the appeal has been generated by numerous voluntary and charity groups in the local community, patients and their families and friends, colleagues, volunteers and public donations. The support from the Chad newspaper has also been paramount to the money being raised.

New antibiotics service at King's Mill Hospital helps patients get home quicker

A new service at King's Mill Hospital is helping patients who would normally need to stay in hospital for intravenous antibiotics get home quicker, not only meaning they can get back to their everyday life, but also making beds available during the busiest time for the NHS.

The new Outpatient Parenteral Antibiotic Therapy (OPAT) service offers an alternative to an inpatient stay for patients that are otherwise able to go home but need to continue a course of intravenous antibiotics. It means that patients can go back to the comfort of their own home, hobbies and work, whilst their treatment continues to be administered in the OPAT clinic at King's Mill Hospital or their own home.

This new service was introduced for eligible respiratory patients in December. Normally, patients who require antibiotics intravenously are kept in hospital for the duration of the course of antibiotics. This new service means that patients can be fitted with a midline or PICC line, which are both thin tubes that are inserted into a large vein in the arm so that antibiotics can be delivered directly to the bloodstream, before going home. They then return to the OPAT clinic at King's Mill Hospital each day or have their antibiotics at home for the duration of the course, which is normally around two to three weeks.

Sherwood Forest Hospitals rated as one of the cleanest Trusts in the country

Sherwood Forest Hospitals has been rated above the national average in all areas of the latest Patient Led Assessment of the Care Environment (PLACE) survey.

The Trust has been rated as one of the cleanest in the country scoring 100% for cleanliness at King's Mill Hospital, 99.35% for Newark Hospital and 99.86% for Mansfield

Community Hospital against the national average of 98.06% alongside high scores for food, privacy, condition appearance, dementia care and disability.

The figures published by NHS Digital, show that Sherwood Forest Hospitals' Trust-wide score for cleanliness at the time of assessment was more than 1.5 percentage points above the national average of 98.06%.

To determine the results, local independent patient representatives, Governors, Health Watch representatives and Trust staff along with the PLACE Lead for the Trust, Louisa Ward, visit the three sites to review, through the patient's eyes, the environment within which the Trust delivers care. The inspection focuses on cleanliness, food, privacy, dignity and wellbeing, dementia, disability, condition, appearance and maintenance of the buildings.

The PLACE assessments apply to hospitals, hospices and day treatment centers providing NHS-funded care. They focus on the environment, rather than clinical care. Details of this year's PLACE survey can be found here - <https://www.digital.nhs.uk/pubs/place19>

New bleep system reunites parents with their children after operations

A new bleep system for parents who are waiting for their child to come out of an operation has been developed at King's Mill Hospital. The bleep system will ensure that parents get a pager, which will bleep immediately once their child is out of theatres and is ready for them to greet them.

Deputy Sister on the Children's Ward, Ward 25, Carol Hind, who has been involved in the project explains: "In the past parents may have missed a call from the ward when their child is ready or the ward has not been able to contact them, which can be distressing for both the parents and the patient. The new system will ensure that parents will be beeped as soon as their child comes out of theatres, so they will be able to be reunited as soon as possible.

"We know that having an operation at a young age can be quite a scary experience and so we wanted to look in to how we could improve the process and make things better for our patients and their families."

The project has involved teams from Ward 25 and Theatres collaborating across both specialties to improve the pathway, with the hope that this will be a big improvement and take some of the stress out of the situation for everyone involved.

Andrew and Sarah Longmead were the first family to try the new bleep system, they said: "It's a really good idea, it was good for us because we were able to go and get a cup of tea and take a short walk around the hospital, safe in the knowledge that we would hear the bleep go off as soon as Toby was ready for us to greet him again.

"It's a really stressful time for the whole family, so little things like this can really make a difference. It's something so simple, but we didn't need to worry about getting a phone signal or checking our phones for missed calls, so it was one less thing for us to think about."

The bleep system began this week and is being run in conjunction with the ‘theatres car’ which allows younger patients to go down to theatre in a mini electric car, taking the stress out of the situation by having some fun on the journey.

Study shows King’s Mill Hospital is one of best in the country for emergency bowel surgery

Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is one of the best performing Trusts in the country when it comes to carrying out emergency bowel surgery, according to the National Emergency Laparotomy Audit.

An emergency laparotomy (emergency bowel surgery) is a surgical operation for patients, often with severe abdominal pain, to find the cause of the problem and treat it. Emergency bowel surgery can be carried out to clear a bowel obstruction, close a bowel perforation and stop bleeding in the abdomen, or to treat complications of previous surgery. These conditions could be life-threatening.

The audit results released in December look across a large number of key metrics to assess how well these patients are being treated at all acute Trusts. Sherwood Forest Hospitals ranks particularly high in some of the most important measures, including:

- The National 30-day mortality rate, for these patients this stands at 9.6% nationally, at Sherwood Forest Hospitals this figure is as low as 3.8%, the fourth best score in the country and puts them in the top six Trusts in the country
- The average length of hospital stay for these patients stands at 16 days nationally, the figure is half that at Sherwood Forest Hospitals of only eight days. Joint eighth in the country with a number of other Trusts (the best figure is seven days).
- One of a number of Trusts that could evidence that 100% of the most acutely at risk patients had their surgery directly supervised by a consultant surgeon and a consultant anaesthetist. This suggests that patients are always being accurately assessed for risk, and are being treated by the most appropriate clinicians.

Around 24,300 people need emergency bowel surgery each year in NHS hospitals, often as a result of severe infection, and 143 emergency bowel operations were carried out at King’s Mill Hospital during the period covered by the study.

The National Emergency Laparotomy Audit was started in 2013 because studies showed this is one of the most risky types of emergency operation and lives could be saved and quality of life for survivors enhanced by measuring and improving the care delivered. You can read the reports in more detail at: <https://www.nela.org.uk/reports>.

Membership summary

We have paused our Meet Your Governor sessions during Covid-19, but the Governors continue to meet, and we have been exploring ways of communicating with constituents in other way. We have also continued to hold the monthly Forum for Public Involvement meetings virtually

Membership numbers

Number of public members: 15,314

Number of staff members: 6,289

Total: 21,603