

Council of Governors - Cover Sheet

Subject:	Chair's report		Date:	14 th May 2024	
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 from the past three months from the Chair's perspective, covering the period March to May 2024.				Approval	
				Assurance	Y
				Update	Y
				Consider	Y
Strategic Objectives					
Provide outstanding care in the best place at the right time	Empower and support our people to be the best they can be	Improve health and wellbeing within our communities	Continuously learn and improve	Sustainable use of resources and estates	Work collaboratively with partners in the community
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Principal Risk					
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					
None					
Acronyms					
AGM = Annual General Meeting NICU = Neonatal Intensive Care Unit					
Executive Summary					
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items from the past three months from the Chair's perspective, covering the period March to May 2024.					

Hosting the Trust's first Governors' Conference

On Tuesday 16th April 2024, I was proud to join the Trust's Lead Governor, Liz Barrett, at King's Mill Hospital to host the Trust's first-ever *Governors' Conference*.

As a Foundation Trust, we are proud to have over 14,000 public members and 5,000+ staff members. This event was a fantastic opportunity to discuss with governors how we can better engage and involve the Trust's governors and members in the Trust's work to Improve Lives in the communities we serve.

The event was also a great opportunity to understand how well we are engaging with our members already – and where we can go further to improve that engagement and ensure we are representing the views of all of the communities we serve.

Colleagues from the Trust's operational and nursing teams also joined the event to share detailed information on the Trust's Discharge and Patient Experience processes – two topics that are often raised with governors through their conversations with the members they represent.

An action plan will now be drawn-up to take that work forward. I look forward to working with the Trust's Council of Governors on this important work as it develops over the coming months.

A vision for the future

At the conclusion of the Trust's Public Meeting of its Board of Directors last month, we launched the five-year strategy for our Trust – *Improving Lives*.

In the next five years, we want to be known as an outstanding local healthcare provider that *consistently* delivers quality services for our patients and improves lives. We will achieve this by delivering *consistently outstanding* care by compassionate people who feel enabled and supported to do their best by Sherwood Forest Hospitals.

Our vision reflects this: **Outstanding care, compassionate people and healthier communities**
During the implementation of this strategy, we will improve the lives of our patients, our people and our local population.

Together with the Chief Executive and our Lead Governor, Liz Barrett, I was delighted to present the strategy to an invited audience of our partners across the community, board members, governors and staff.

Achieving these objectives will only be delivered through the partnerships that we have built over recent years, so I want to take this opportunity to thank them for their engagement with us during the development of this strategy.



Recognising the difference made by our Trust Charity and Trust volunteers

It's been another busy few months for our Trust's Community Involvement team.

We continue to see fantastic support for the Trust – both in how we encourage financial donations to be made via our Trust Charity and through the thousands of hours that continue to be committed to support the Trust by our volunteers across our hospitals:

- In April 2024, 380 Trust volunteers generously gave over 4,600 hours of their time to help make great patient care happen across the 36 services they have supported during the month.
- In March 2024, 390 Trust volunteers gave over 4,700 hours of their time within 36 services during the month.
- In February 2024, 402 Trust volunteers gave over 4,300 hours of their time across 36 services supported during the month.



Caption: Four recliners chairs are presented to Newark Hospital's Minster Ward

Notable developments from our brilliant Community Involvement team and our team of volunteers during April 2024 alone include:

- The Friends of Newark Hospital have kindly purchased four recliner chairs for Minor Ops on Minster Ward using funds raised in coffee shops and fundraising stalls. Pictured above.
- The team co-ordinated the numerous donations of Easter eggs and gifts which were distributed to Childrens' Services and Health Care of the Elderly wards. We welcomed our regular fundraisers, the Mansfield Roadrunners Scooter Club, who arrived at King's Mill in a huge scooter convoy to deliver Easter eggs and a £500 donation to our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).
- We offered a warm welcome to 10 new #TeamSFH volunteers who joined the Trust during the month and were officially inducted into the organisation.
- As well as welcoming new volunteers into the organisation, we have also presented a number of our volunteers with long service awards over the past month. One such presentation was made to Daffodil Cafe volunteer Kath, who received an award for her 15 years' service from the Trust's Deputy Divisional Manager from our Clinical Support, Therapies and Outpatient Division, Mandy Toplis. Pictured opposite.



- The mealtime assist volunteer role was launched on Sconce and Castle Wards at Newark Hospital, following bespoke training sessions from the Speech and Language Team.
- Volunteers continue to support training sessions for medical students using their acting skills to become the patient in a number of role-play scenarios.

I would like to reiterate my personal thanks to everyone who has given their time, money and support in other ways to support the Trust and our hard-working colleagues over the past month.

Andy Haynes formally receives MBE

On a personal level, I would like to congratulate the Trust's Specialist Advisor to the Board, Dr Andy Haynes MBE, after he formally received his MBE at a ceremony at Windsor Castle in February.

The award recognises Dr Haynes' outstanding achievement and services to patients and their families across Nottinghamshire.

Through Andy's skill and dedication, he has helped to transform the way that people living with cancer are cared for and how their families are supported at what we know can be one of the most challenging times in their lives.

This is fantastic and well-deserved recognition for Dr Haynes' career for this important work. We could not be prouder to call him a colleague here at Sherwood.

Other notable engagements during the quarter:

- During April, I joined Trust governors and colleagues in undertaking our latest '15 Steps' visit to Trust services. The month's event took place in the Trust's Colposcopy areas, which provided an essential opportunity for colleagues to showcase their achievements and highlight areas where we can further improve. I want to give a special mention to Sally in the department as it was clear from our visit how much she is valued by the team for her dedication to the patients and the services provided.
- I was delighted to be invited to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the League of Hospital Friends (Mansfield and Sutton). Over the last year, they have raised funds for the Trust which has helped to make great patient care happen here at Sherwood. Their contributions have helped to pay for presents for all inpatients who spent Christmas in hospital and a tabletop activity unit that will be used by all three wards at Mansfield Community Hospital. It was an enjoyable afternoon event and an opportunity to thank all the volunteers for their fundraising to support our patients.
- I have attended meetings with our local councils as part of my regular engagement with partners.
- In my role as Board Maternity Safety Champion, I took part in the monthly walkaround of our maternity services and wards with the opportunity to engage with patients and staff and observe the care of our smallest and youngest patients.

- My regular visits to maternity and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) continue to provide the assurance needed of the services we provide to parents and our smallest patients. There are always improvements we can make to care, but I remain proud of our staff and the service they provide. I have visited wards and services during April, including with other members of our executive team.
- I continue to meet regularly with our Lead Governor and other governors to hear their feedback from our patients, staff and public.