

Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

Subject:	Acting Chief Executive's report		Date:	7 th Nov 2024	
Prepared By:	Rich Brown, Head of Communication				
Approved By:	David Selwyn, Acting Chief Executive				
Presented By:	David Selwyn, Acting Chief Executive				
Purpose					
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Acting Chief Executive's perspective.				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	Insufficient financial resources available to support the delivery of services				
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					
<p>CDC = Community Diagnostic Centre CPR = Cardiopulmonary resuscitation ICB = Integrated Care Board MSK = Musculoskeletal NHS = National Health Service NIV = Non-Invasive Ventilation PICS = Primary Integrated Community Services</p>					
Executive Summary					
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Acting Chief Executive's perspective.					

Operational updates

Overview of operational activity

Following a seasonal ease in Accident & Emergency attendance demand in August 2024, we have seen demand pressures increase as we moved into September to return to above-planned levels once again.

Demand for non-elective admission has consistently remained above planned levels throughout 2024/25, however in recent months the gap to plan has reduced.

These demand pressures have meant that our Urgent and Emergency Care pathway remains pressurised, with patients not always receiving timely care in the manner we would wish despite us implementing escalation actions. National benchmarking data suggests that similar Urgent and Emergency Care pressures are being felt across the country right now. We continue to benchmark well against a number of national targets and work continues to improve our ways of working and to strengthen our front door capability, despite much of the increased activity remaining currently unfunded.

Within our planned care pathway, outpatient, day case and diagnostic activity levels are favourable to plan. Our 'Referral to Treatment' waiting list size continues to reduce, albeit slightly behind our plan.

We have fallen behind our plan for our long-waiting elective patients, which is partly driven by patients being transferred to Sherwood Forest Hospitals as part of our Trust playing its part in supporting our local system colleagues.

Performance against the three main cancer performance standards were above plan in August 2024, which is the most up-to-date reporting period available.

A more comprehensive update on our operational performance is due to be presented to the Trust's Board in our latest Integrated Performance Report which will consider the Trust's 2024/25 quarter two performance, and a review of the first six months of the year, later in the agenda.

Over 50,000 tests delivered as Nottinghamshire's first Community Diagnostic Centre marks one-year milestone

The project to bring Nottinghamshire's first Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) has celebrated delivering over 50,000 health checks and tests to local people - even before the first brick has been laid for the new purpose-built facility.

The tests include blood tests, X-rays, and MRI scans that are being offered as part of the project before the new purpose-built facility is eventually built alongside Mansfield Community Hospital in Stockwell Gate.

These additional tests have taken place across the Trust's King's Mill, Mansfield Community and Newark Hospitals, as well as from a specialist mobile unit at the Nottingham Road Clinic in Mansfield. Those tests have helped to reduce the time it takes for patients to be referred to help them receive an 'all clear' or diagnosis sooner.



Work is continuing to progress on the multimillion pound Community Diagnostic Centre scheme after [the project received planning approval for its revised plans from Mansfield District Council in September 2024](#).

Anyone looking to find out more about the project can attend the Trust's latest public information event on Thursday 21st November 2024 from 8.30am to 12noon at Mansfield Community Hospital. Members of the public are invited to drop-in at any time during the event, where they will have the opportunity to speak with team members leading the CDC project, ask questions, and learn more about the latest developments.

Partnership updates

Successful community event held for patients under NHS care

More than 150 people attended a third community event aimed at supporting patients with their health and wellbeing during October 2024.

The event was organised by MSK Together – a partnership hosted by Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust which includes Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Primary Integrated Community Services (PICS) and NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB).

Taking place at Kirkby Leisure Centre, it was attended by residents of Mansfield, Ashfield, and Newark and Sherwood who are on under the care of the NHS for musculoskeletal (MSK) conditions which affect bones, joints, or muscles.

MSK conditions can significantly impact people's quality of life and ability to work and socialise, often existing with other health problems like obesity, chronic pain, depression, and physical inactivity.

The purpose of the event was to help those people access the wide range of help and support services available to them within the local area, as connecting people with local support networks empowers patients to proactively manage their health while they wait for the next step in their treatment journey.

Events such as this are so important as they support members of the community to take control of their own health and wellbeing, providing them with the practical advice and resources they need to manage this.

We are grateful to all of the partners we work with who helped to make this event such a success.

Other Trust updates

Celebrating the life-saving actions of one of our Trust nurses, Eleanor Pike

During October 2024, we celebrated the life-saving actions of one of our Trust colleagues who helped save the life of a local resident while off-duty.

Eleanor Pike, our Deputy Ward Sister in Ward 31 at King's Mill Hospital, was walking along the river in her hometown of Newark when she came across 83 year old Phil Seagar on the floor in the recovery position.

As he had hit his head and was covered in blood, the people with him hadn't realised that his heart had stopped, which Eleanor identified in seconds.

She performed CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) on Phil for "what felt like ten minutes" and it later turned out that he had been clinically dead for a total of 15 minutes.



Due to Eleanor keeping the CPR going, the ambulance crew were able to shock him back to life.

Since the incident, the two have become firm friends, after a chance meeting between Eleanor's mum's friend and Phil's brother put them in touch with each other.

Eleanor described their initial meeting as being 'very emotional', with tears from them both. She now checks in with him on a weekly basis, even chauffeuring him from further hospital visits and says that Phil couldn't be more thankful to her for saving his life.

We are incredibly proud of Eleanor for putting her training into action – it's very different doing CPR beside the River Trent compared to in a hospital. We're delighted that it was successful and has given Phil more time with his family and friends.

Survival rates for people who have a cardiac arrest outside of a hospital setting are incredibly low. We encourage everyone to learn CPR and how to use a defib so that those having a sudden cardiac arrest have the best chance of surviving.

Cataract patients to benefit from new one-stop clinic



Patients who have cataracts are set to benefit from a new one-stop clinic which will reduce the need for multiple hospital visits ahead of surgery. The Trust's clinic at Ashfield Health Village in Kirkby-in-Ashfield will also help to reduce overall waiting times for surgery.

At the clinic, patients will see their consultant, have all the tests they need and, if all is well, they will be given a date for both their pre-op appointment and their operation. There are likely to be fewer cancellations because appointments are made to suit patients.

Previously, patients had to make multiple visits to hospital before they got a date for their surgery. The location at the health village has free parking and good access for patients, especially those with mobility problems, and its small size provides a calm and quiet environment.

Patients can be referred to the service via their optometrist or GP. Operations will continue to take place at either King's Mill Hospital or Newark Hospital.

The cataract clinic joins the ophthalmology community diagnostic centre already at Ashfield Health Village, which assesses patients who have conditions such as glaucoma, macular degenerative disease and diabetes.

The official opening of the clinic on Monday 30th September 2024 was attended by Trustees from the League of Friends (Mansfield and Sutton) who generously donated £58,844 to buy specialist equipment for the clinic. This includes a state-of-the-art instrument that accurately measures the eye in a non-invasive way, an ultrasound scanner, and a special microscope with a bright light attached to it that is used to look at different parts of the eye.

The one-stop cataract clinic will be a huge benefit to patients who will experience a quicker, smoother process, and means we can potentially see more patients.

As a Trust, we are very grateful to the League of Friends for providing equipment that will ensure patients receive gold standard care and a date for their surgery on the first visit for cataract referral.

Moving all cataract appointments to Ashfield Health Village creates more space at the main Trust for complex clinical cases, meaning we can maximise our resources and ultimately treat more patients.

Trust playing its part in nationwide RSV vaccination campaign

The Antenatal Vaccination Team administered their first vaccination for Respiratory Syncytial Virus or 'RSV' at King's Mill Hospital during October 2024.

Mansfield resident Morgan Panting is due to give birth on 16th November 2024 and decided to have the vaccine to ensure she protects the health of her future baby.

The RSV vaccine is now available during pregnancy to help reduce the severity of the RSV virus in newborns. The virus can cause respiratory illness which in some cases can have serious lifelong consequences or lead to death.

Giving the RSV vaccine from week 28 of pregnancy will temporarily boost antibody levels in the birthing parent, enabling them to transfer a high level of antibodies to their unborn child through the placenta, and this will protect the newborn baby against RSV in their first months of life.

This will also give the parent enough time to make the antibodies and transfer them to the unborn child, considering the possibility that the baby may be born prematurely.

RSV is a major respiratory virus that is common over the winter period, typically from November to February. While the symptoms are mild for many, RSV accounts for around 30,000 hospitalisations of children under 5 in the UK each year.

Expectant mothers and birthing people can speak to their midwife if they are pregnant and would like to have the vaccine.



Celebrating Excellence at Sherwood Forest Hospitals



During October, the Trust hosted its second annual *Celebrating Excellence* conference as an opportunity for Nursing, Midwifery, Allied Health Professional and other colleagues to showcase some of the improvement projects that have been taking place across the Trust over the year gone by.

The morning was filled with a range of presentations from colleagues aimed at inspiring others to start their own improvement projects across the Trust, with projects included as part of the showcase including a Non-Invasive Ventilation (NIV) ward accreditation project and the benefits that have come following the opening of the Trust's Same Day Emergency Care surgical unit.

The event was a timely celebration of this work, ahead of the Trust's *Improvement Week* in early November, where the Trust's Improvement Faculty will be working with colleagues to start bring their own improvement ideas to life.

Trust risk ratings reviewed

The full Board Assurance Framework was presented to Risk Committee for oversight and it was agreed that discussions should take place with Lead Directors and Board Committee Chairs to describe metrics/deliverables to reduce scores (particularly risks scored at 20).

Risk Committee members scrutinised Principal Risk 7 – 'A major disruptive incident' – for which the Risk Committee is the lead committee. It was agreed that there should be no changes to the risk score or assurance ratings.