

Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

Subject:	Acting Chair's report		Date:	6 th June 2024	
Prepared By:	Rich Brown, Head of Communication				
Approved By:	Graham Ward, Acting Chair				
Presented By:	Graham Ward, Acting Chair				
Purpose					
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Acting Chair's perspective.				Approval	
				Assurance	Y
				Update	Y
				Consider	
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					
CQC = Care Quality Commission EMCCA = East Midlands Combined County Authority NICU = Neonatal Intensive Care Unit					
Executive Summary					
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Acting Chair's perspective.					

Temporary changes on the Trust's Board of Directors

Over the past month, the Trust has confirmed a number of interim changes on its Board of Directors – including my appointment as Acting Chair, following the resignation of Claire Ward.

Appointment of new Acting Chair

Claire had been a part of the Trust's Board for 11 years and has served as the Trust's Chair since 2021. We wish her well in her new role. She leaves with our best wishes, following her election to lead the new East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

As a result of Claire's decision to step-down, I have been appointed the Trust's Acting Chair for a 12-month period, with recruitment to begin soon for the resulting Non-Executive Director vacancy on the Trust's Board of Directors.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Claire for her amazing work here at Sherwood over the past 8½ years of us working together – a time that I have thoroughly enjoyed.

Claire leaves a great legacy here at Sherwood, with a Trust that is now rated 'good' overall and 'outstanding' for care by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). I, along with everyone else here at Sherwood, wish her all the best in her new role.

Changes to Non-Executive Directors' representation on Trust Committees

Following my appointment as Chair, there are to be a number of changes to Non-Executive Directors' representation on Trust Committees that I will update the Board about in due course as these are confirmed.

Appointment of Acting Chief Executive

Meanwhile, the Trust's Chief Executive, Paul Robinson, will be taking a period of planned sickness absence this summer. I am sure I speak for everyone here at Sherwood in sending our very best wishes to Paul and his family during that time.

In the meantime, the Trust's Medical Director and its Deputy Chief Executive, Dr David Selwyn, will serve as the Trust's Acting Chief Executive.

The Trust's Deputy Medical Director, Dr Simon Roe, will, in-turn, serve as our Acting Medical Director and Dr James Thomas from the Trust will serve as Acting Deputy Medical Director.

I look forward to working with our new-look leadership team over the coming months ahead.

Trust *Excellence Awards* nominations

Plans for this year's Trust *Excellence Awards* are progressing at pace, with nominations now closed for this year's awards.

Our Trust *Excellence Awards* are Sherwood's single greatest opportunity to say 'thank you' to our hard-working colleagues for their contributions over the year gone by. This year's awards have already attracted well over 500 nominations, which is an incredible show of support for colleagues' efforts.

One element of this year's awards that I am particularly excited about is the number of nominations for our publicly-nominated *People's Award*, with over 100 members of our local communities having made a nomination to thank our Trust colleagues for their hard work.

Shortlisting will be taking place soon and I look forward to learning more about some of the incredible stories behind each and every one of those nominations.

Our Trust *Excellence Awards* are entirely funded by the generous contributions of our valued sponsors. Any business wishing to show their support for our Trust colleagues can enquire about sponsoring this year's *Excellence Awards* by emailing sfh-tr.communications@nhs.net

Recognising the difference made by our Trust Charity and Trust volunteers

One of the areas of the Trust that I am most excited about learning more about in my new role as Chair is that of our Trust's Community Involvement team and our Sherwood Forest Hospitals Charity.

May was another busy month for the team, both in how they encouraged financial donations via our Trust Charity and in the thousands of hours that continue to be committed to support the Trust by our volunteers. In May alone, 378 volunteers generously gave over 4,650 hours of their time to help make great patient care happen across the 36 services they supported during the month.



Other notable developments from our brilliant Community Involvement team and our team of volunteers during May include:

- The Sherwood Forest Hospitals Charity donating an amazing £24,000 to Ward 22 to purchase a new ultrasound scanner for the ward, pictured above. That scanner will help to improve care for inpatients who require ascitic drains and taps. Having this equipment readily available will enable earlier diagnosis from point-of-care testing and will significantly reduce patients' length of stay within our hospitals.
- Meeting with representatives from Jacksdale Butchers, who donated £1,101.72 to the Children's Ward at King's Mill Hospital. The funds were raised by a collection box and raffle, which were kindly supported by the local community and their customers.
- One particularly powerful moment from the month that underlines the importance of the community's support for our Trust came following the return of the Trust's OPUS Healthcare Musicians to our hospitals.

A successful grant application to NHS Charities Together has enabled us to extend our partnership working with OPUS Healthcare Musicians, who visit our Paediatrics, NICU and Health Care of the Elderly Wards each week. OPUS recently held a musical engagement event in the King's Treatment Centre to share with patients, visitors and staff how we are exploring the journey towards creating a musical hospital.

One parent who had recently been under the care of our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) shared this powerful feedback following their encounter with the OPUS Musicians at King's Mill Hospital:

"Last week I had an amazing and unexpected experience. Whilst in the hospital extremely tired and emotionally drained, these guys turned up with their music and gave me the strength I needed to carry on.

"Their music wasn't just two people playing, it was a healing moment for me and my baby. It became a source of hope, happiness, and strength when I was feeling very, VERY low. It was perfect timing that they showed up when I was feeling most helpless. As a new mom, I was tired and emotionally overwhelmed.

"Their music not only had a big impact on me but the fact their also brilliant at it really helps. I want to express how grateful I am to you.

"This review is more than just appreciating your musical skills. It's a heartfelt recognition of the big role you played in turning a really bad day into a special one.

"I want to say a big thank you to you both for being a surprising help during a vulnerable time. I filmed you signing 'twinkle twinkle little star' and now we're home I play it to my son every night.

"I will treasure you both forever please keep bringing peace to all those parents who need the support in such difficult moments."

Thank you to everyone who is involved in that powerful partnership.

During May, the Community Involvement team has also:

- Welcomed its latest cohort of volunteers who have joined the Trust during the month. Pictured opposite.
- Celebrated the long service of a number of volunteer colleagues, including Daffodil Cafe volunteer Diane, who was delighted to receive her five years' long service award. Thank you to Diane for her contribution.
- Continued to provide a team of volunteers to support the pharmacy team in their temporary location and the pathology team during the period of closure of the spine corridor at King's Mill Hospital.
- Supported by ensuring that volunteers were on stand-by to support wards and departments during the recent period of Medirest industrial action.



We remain so grateful 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.