

**Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet**

<b>Subject:</b>	Chair's Report	7 January 2021		
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Robin Smith, Head of Communications			
<b>Approved By:</b>	Lorna Branton, Director of Communications, John MacDonald, Chair			
<b>Presented By:</b>	John MacDonald, Chair			
<b>Purpose</b>				
To update on key events and information from the last month.		<b>Approval</b>		
		<b>Assurance</b>	X	
		<b>Update</b>		
		<b>Consider</b>		
<b>Strategic Objectives</b>				
<b>To provide outstanding care</b>	<b>To promote and support health and wellbeing</b>	<b>To maximise the potential of our workforce</b>	<b>To continuously learn and improve</b>	<b>To achieve better value</b>
X	X	X	X	X
<b>Overall Level of Assurance</b>				
	<b>Significant</b>	<b>Sufficient</b>	<b>Limited</b>	<b>None</b>
			X	
<b>Risks/Issues</b>				
<b>Financial</b>				
<b>Patient Impact</b>				
<b>Staff Impact</b>				
<b>Services</b>				
<b>Reputational</b>				
<b>Committees/groups where this item has been presented before</b>				
N/a				
<b>Executive Summary</b>				
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Chair's perspective.				

## **Chair's Report – January 2021**

### **Chair's reflections**

As we enter 2021 and what we expect to be one of our busiest ever periods, I would like to say how proud I am for the way the Trust has responded to the huge challenges that came our way in 2020, and to thank each and every colleague within Sherwood Forest Hospitals and our partner organisations.

We are fully aware of what our colleagues have experienced this year both professionally and personally, and we know that it will continue to be challenging. As a Board we will continue to do what we can to keep the focus on colleague wellbeing as well as patient care.

The news of the Covid-19 vaccinations does some hope into the New Year, and thanks go to those involved in setting up our vaccination hub at speed. We are also working with our regional partners to get the vaccine out into the community.

At the time of writing we have just entered heightened Tier 4 Covid-19 restrictions in the area which we serve. I would encourage everyone to follow the guidelines to help try and protect our communities. We will get through this by working together.

I hope that colleagues feel well supported at the moment and are aware of the channels open to them to raise any issues or concerns, including through our Freedom to Speak Up Guardian.

Thank you again to all of our colleagues and partners for everything that you are doing. I wish you all a healthy and safe 2021.

### **Landmark moment as our first patient receives first Covid-19 vaccine in the North Nottinghamshire area**

A former NHS worker was the first patient in the North Nottinghamshire area to get the Covid-19 vaccination on Tuesday 8 December, as Sherwood Forest Hospitals began vaccinating patients against coronavirus at its hospital hub. This day marked the start of the biggest immunisation programme in NHS history.

Ann Allen, 81, from Sutton in Ashfield, was a physiotherapy assistant at King's Mill Hospital for 27 years, and was the first patient to have the vaccine at Sherwood Forest Hospitals, she said:

"I can't believe I'm the first person in this area to have the vaccine, I feel privileged to be part of this moment in history. I have spent a lot of this year on my own keeping safe, so to have the vaccine and know I'm going to be protected soon is such a relief, my family will be so pleased.

"I have seen nothing like this in all my years, and my advice to anyone offered the vaccine is if you can, you should. I would also like to recognise all of the wonderful NHS staff who have worked so hard this year."

### **Our Intensive Care Unit remembers loved ones in special Christmas Service**

A special Christmas service was held to remember ICU (Intensive Care Unit) patients who sadly passed away in the unit.

In the virtual service, members of staff from the Trust's Intensive Care Unit and Trust Chaplains paid their respects to friends and families' loved ones who sadly passed away this year, by reading a touching memoir, lighting candles and placing dedicated baubles on the Faith Centre's Christmas Tree.

The service was recorded so it could be shared with those friends and families who have lost loved ones this year.

### **Putting a smile on our patients' faces this festive season**

My thanks to colleagues in the charity team and chaplaincy who worked together with our community to ensure that our patients could celebrate Christmas this year, even whilst in hospital.

Thanks to the generosity of our local community, Sherwood Forest Hospitals League of Friends provided presents for all patients in hospital on Christmas Day.

Our chaplaincy service provided some cheer to patients by singing carols at outdoor locations around the King's Mill Hospital site, and at Newark Hospital the Salvation Army band played outside the hospital.

On Christmas Day morning our Chaplains visited the wards and work areas, supporting patients and colleagues at a safe distance whilst wearing face masks and appropriate personal protective

equipment. We were also able to make some extra concessions for visiting on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Patients also had free access to the Hospedia television service up until the end of December, whilst also being able to access the free patient Wi-fi to make video calls and keep in touch with loved ones.

### **Sherwood Forest Hospitals in the running for prestigious national award**

We have also had cause for celebration this month, after being shortlisted in the prestigious HSJ Partnership Awards 2021, which recognises our outstanding dedication to improving healthcare and effective collaboration with the NHS.

In the shortlist announced on Monday 14 December, SFH and Proud2bOps were shortlisted for their partnership work in the Workforce Innovation Award. Proud2bOps is a national network for operational managers and leaders across provider health and care organisations and is hosted by SFH.

The winners will be selected following a rigorous judging stage ahead of the HSJ Partnership Awards 2021 awards ceremony. Congratulations and good luck!

### **Planning begins for new high tech scanner to be installed at King's Mill Hospital**

I was delighted to see that work has begun at King's Mill Hospital to install a brand new, high tech scanner which will improve patient care, by providing greater accuracy and speeding up diagnosis for diseases such as cancer.

In May we announced that the Gamma Scanner Appeal raised enough funds to purchase the new scanner for King's Mill Hospital patients.

With the support of the regional procurement network and with the tremendous fundraising efforts from members of the public, volunteers and staff, we have been able to purchase a state-of-the-art scanner at a cost of £485,000.

On Tuesday 15 December, the previous Gamma Scanner was removed, so that extensive building works can take place to make way for the larger, more sophisticated scanner which will be arriving in April 2021.

The new modern nuclear medicine machine, which has a CT (computerized tomography) scanner attached to it, will enable more than 2,000 patients each year to have advanced scans. The advanced scans will be able to speed up the diagnosis of diseases like cancer with greater accuracy, and will revolutionise how patients are treated.

The new Gamma Scanner will be delivered to King's Mill Hospital in April 2021, following building works taking place to prepare the site for the bigger machine.

Following the success of the Gamma Scanner appeal, we have now launched an End of Life Care Enhancement Programme appeal. The project will provide better ward facilities for patients in the last days of life.

The project will also provide emotional and practical support to carers and families at a difficult time. For more information on the appeal, or to donate please visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/SFHCharityEOL>

### **Latest Consultant Recruits**

We are pleased that our recruitment continues to perform well in a very competitive market. In the last month we have been delighted to welcome the following consultants who have been appointed to Sherwood Forest Hospitals.

- Anne Richardson - Consultant paediatrician
- Jessica Slater – Consultant in community paediatrics

### **Visits to Trust Teams and External Meetings**

I am continuing to attend internal and external meetings regularly, wherever possible virtually and have recently attended:

- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS Board
- NHS Chairs meeting
- Council of Governors workshop
- Meeting with Chairs of partner organisations
- Chairs and CEOs networking
- NHS Providers, regional Chairs update on Covid-19
- Consultant interviews

### **Membership summary**

The Forum for Public Involvement group meeting was held virtually on Monday 7 December and we will be continuing to keep these meetings virtual for the time being. We have also paused the Meet your Governor sessions and are working with our governors to help restore our connection with our members and the wider public.

### **Membership numbers**

Number of public members: 15,198

Number of staff members: 6,738

Total: 21,936