

Council of Governors

Subject:	Chair's Report	February 2021		
Prepared By:	Robin Smith, 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				
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items since the last Chair of Governors meeting from the Chair's perspective.				

Chair Report

Chair's Report – February 2021

Chair's reflections

January 2021, has been possibly the most challenging that Sherwood colleagues have faced during the Covid-19 pandemic. I know Richard Mitchell's CEO report will contain more detail on the pressure that both Sherwood colleagues and those of our partner organisations have been under. I do, though, want to thank everyone and recognise how hard they have been working, especially as this pandemic has now been running for almost a year.

As a Board, we will continue to do what we can to support colleagues and to ensure that the Trust's focus remains on patients, but also on colleagues, who will be understandably tired and frustrated.

I do have hope that the situation will improve in the coming months, and have been very impressed with how quickly the Covid-19 vaccine has been rolled out both in Sherwood, and across the region. Large numbers of people over the ages of 70, care home residents and workers, and frontline colleagues have now had their first dose Covid vaccination. The partnership working with Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust has been excellent with staff across the two trusts working closely and I would like to thank them for their support and leadership in getting the vaccination centre programme going so well.

I know we have made some necessary changes this month in terms of visiting in our wards, in maternity and by asking patients to wear surgical masks. We understand that these challenges may be difficult for patients, their families and loved ones, which is why I was pleased to see the Family Liaison volunteer scheme introduced this month. I say a bit more later on in my report and if colleagues can spare a couple of hours to support the service, I am sure you would be welcomed.

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.

We know that community Covid rates have remained very high throughout January, and I encourage everyone to keep following the Government's guidance, to keep wearing a mask, observe social distancing and keep washing your hands. We will get through this by working together.

Sir David Pearson

I would like to offer congratulations on behalf of myself and the Trust to David Pearson, who was knighted in the Queen's New Year's Honours list for services to health and social care integration. David is currently the Chair Social Care Sector COVID-19 Support Task Force and Chair of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System, and has been an excellent leader for a number of years. His award is fully deserved.

Governor Showcase at NHS Providers Virtual Governor Workshop

Last year we submitted an application to showcase a project at an NHS Providers Governor Workshop. We were one of two Trusts chosen and took part in a virtual Governor Workshop on Monday 1 February where Sue Holmes, Lead Governor, delivered a presentation titled 'Grow your own'. This centred on the work that we have been doing to recruit and engage young members as, like most other Foundation Trusts, the 16-22 age group is significantly underrepresented.

The presentation detailed the visit of two student representatives from West Notts College to the Trust and how, after visiting areas that were 'behind the front line', they were surprised at the variety of job roles available. A link was therefore established with the student representatives to work together with the governors and membership officer to encourage more young people to become involved with Trust and to learn about how the NHS operates and to inform them of job opportunities.

The presentation was very well received with governors from other Trusts praising the initiative. NHS Providers will also be producing a short animation of the project and this will be shared shortly.

Family Liaison team

Our teams understand how challenging and hard restricted visiting is for the patients we're looking after, and their friends and family. Therefore, during this period of visiting restrictions, we have introduced a Family Liaison Service, to support patients to keep in touch with their loved ones whilst receiving care in our hospitals.

Non-clinical colleagues, who can safely be released from other duties, working alongside Trust volunteers, who are members of staff giving up their own time, provide the Family Liaison service. Wards will be allocated support on a priority basis initially, with the expectation to widen the support when more colleagues and volunteers become available.

If families or friends want to send loved ones in hospital a message, photograph, picture or letter, they can email their message to sfh-tr.familyliaisonservice@nhs.net or speak to our friendly team on 01623 676069.

I was also pleased to see that we have announced that the Trust is funding incoming telephone calls to the Hospedia device on inpatient bedsides for the next three months. This means that patients can receive calls from their loved ones without having to pay for them.

Around the world in 80 Sherwood wishes

Over 80 strangers from around the globe sent thank yous and good wishes to our colleagues, in response to an appeal from a health care assistant aiming to boost her team's spirits.

Tori Proost, Health Care Assistant at King's Mill Hospital, sought to find a safe, unique and meaningful way to boost her colleagues' morale when they were at work looking after patients.

Tori received over 80 photographs from people around the globe, with hand-written messages celebrating '#TeamSFH, #Team44 and #TeamWTC' - with the furthest thank you coming from Sydney, Australia.

Some of the touching images were taken in front of famous landmarks such as the Sydney Opera House, Central Park in New York and the Colorado Springs.

Tori joined a Facebook group, where people around the globe offered to write personal messages, thank yous and words of encouragement to recognise and thank those working for and supporting the COVID-19 response.

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 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.

- Matloob Shajar – Consultant Anaesthetist started 4th January 2021
- Annie Richardson – Consultant Paediatrician started 4th January 2021
- Jessica Slater – Consultant in community paediatrics

Membership summary

The Forum for Public Involvement group meetings continue to be held monthly, 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

Public members – 14,956

Staff members – 8,887

Total – 21,843