

Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

Subject:	Chair's Report	4 March 2021		
Prepared By:	Robin Smith, Head of Communications			
Approved By:	Lorna Branton, Director of Communications, John MacDonald, Chair			
Presented By:	John MacDonald, Chair			
Purpose				
To update on key events and information from the last month.		Approval		
		Assurance	X	
		Update		
		Consider		
Strategic Objectives				
To provide outstanding care	To promote and support health and wellbeing	To maximise the potential of our workforce	To continuously learn and improve	To achieve better value
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				
N/a				
Executive Summary				
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Chair's perspective.				

Chair's Report – March 2021

Chair's reflections

As has become customary, Richard Mitchell will provide a more detailed written and verbal update on the latest Trust's response to Covid-19 in his CEO update, but I also want to take the time to reflect on the period since February's Board report.

It has clearly continued to be a very busy time for all Sherwood colleagues, but it is positive that patient numbers have continued to reduce following the trend in community infections, and with the continued huge progress of the Covid vaccination programme, including through the hospital hub site at King's Mill Hospital.

The improving situation locally and nationally is of course reflected in the roadmap out of lockdown that the prime minister outlined on Monday 22 February. I share the cautious optimism of others that if we all continue to do the right things at the right time that we can see a more positive way forward. It is clear however, that Covid will be with us for the foreseeable future and we need, as a trust and as a community, to find a way of living and working with the virus.

We have all been living with Covid for a year now and as a Board we are focused on making sure that the Trust is doing all it can to support Sherwood colleagues from the accumulated strain that Covid has placed on both professional and personal lives

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.

The challenges will continue though, even as the immediate pressure of Covid positive patients will hopefully ease. We intend to help the Trust to navigate the delicate balance of restoring services and managing the backlogs that will have built up in some areas, with ensuring we do the right thing for colleagues who may be physically and mentally exhausted from the effects of the last 12 months.

Wherever you work within Sherwood, or are part of our wider health and care community I thank you for all that you are continuing to do.

Finally, I would like to wish both of our teams presenting in the HSJ Awards the very best of luck. We are very proud to have been shortlisted for the second year running for the prestigious Trust of the Year accolade, and are also shortlisted for in the Staff Engagement category. Both are a significant recognition for the Trust and we will be watching the ceremony on 17 March with pride and interest.

Captain Tom's donation makes a real difference to NHS colleagues and patients at Sherwood Forest Hospitals

Like many others, my thoughts last month were with the family and friends of Captain Tom Moore who passed away last month.

The Trust benefitted with £122,000 from Captain Tom Moore's £30 million fund raising total, which has given vital support to SFH colleagues whilst also helping to keep patients in touch with their families. The contribution helped colleagues benefit in terms of health care and wellbeing including extra psychological support for colleagues and 'wobble rooms' for teams caring for patients with Covid-19.

Many colleagues reported back that they were struggling to find spaces where they could take a break, so the idea of a 'wobble room' was set up. This is a safe, calm, space where colleagues can go for a break during a shift.

SFH colleagues have also been able to access additional psychological support and a range of wellbeing support has been put in place including; a wellbeing hub, self-care and wellbeing dens and extra rest areas. The funding also allowed the Trust to recognise and appreciate colleagues, with a special medal being designed to say thank you to everyone for their efforts throughout the pandemic.

Patients have also benefitted from the funds with technology being purchased to help assist patients communicate electronically with their families whilst visiting has been suspended at the Trust.

A full list of the support available to Sherwood Forest Hospital colleagues can be found [here](#).

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.

Sherwood Forest Hospitals launches ‘Build the Future Campaign: Train, Retain and Achieve’ during National Apprenticeship Week

To celebrate National Apprenticeship Week Sherwood Forest Hospitals has been encouraging colleagues who are interested in an apprenticeship to get in touch.

More than 150 SFH colleagues are currently undertaking both clinical and non- clinical apprenticeships across the Trust.

Sherwood is a proud supporter of apprenticeships and has a wide variety of apprenticeship opportunities for colleagues including; Health Care Support Workers, Finance, Business Administration, Leadership Development and Physiotherapists to name but a few.

As part of the Trust’s Build a Future Campaign: Train, Retain and Achieve’ - a range of videos have been produced including interviews with colleagues who are undertaking an apprenticeship with the Trust. The videos include colleagues talking about their experience of undertaking an apprenticeship programme and how it has supported their career progression, increased their confidence, improved their skills and knowledge and how apprenticeships have kick-started incredible careers.

The video of Sherwood Apprentices can be found here - [Sherwood Forest Hospitals Foundation Trust - Current Apprentices - YouTube](#) – please note that this was recorded before the pandemic.

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.

- Pierce Yousef – Locum Consultant in Acute Medicine started 8 February 2021
- Saroona Haroon – Locum Consultant Histopathologist started 10 February 2021
- Amr Ali – Consultant Anaesthetist started 20 February 2021

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 Providers, regional Chairs update on Covid-19
- Kings Fund session on ICS and Place
- East Midlands Chairs Network
- Family Liaison session at Newark Hospital
- Board of Directors workshop
- Council of Governors meeting
- Action for Change: Health Inequalities session with Sir Michael Marmot

Membership summary

The Forum for Public Involvement group meeting was held virtually on Monday 1 February and we will be continuing to keep these meetings virtual for the time being. We are also planning 'Meet your Governor' sessions for the coming month 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