

Council of Governors Meeting - Cover Sheet

Subject:	Chief Executive's Report	Date: November 2021		
Prepared By:	Marcus Duffield, Head of Communications			
Approved By:	Paul Robinson, Chief Executive			
Presented By:	Paul Robinson, Chief Executive			
Purpose				
To update on key events and information from the last month			Approval	
			Assurance	X
			Update	
			Consider	
Strategic Objectives				
To provide outstanding	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 from the Chief Executive's perspective.				

Thank you for the warm welcome and your support

This is my first report to you since becoming interim Chief Executive. I have always taken seriously my responsibility as a senior executive for the health of our community, for our patients and for ensuring the wellbeing of my colleagues, but as CEO this responsibility now ultimately sits on my shoulders. I do not take this lightly and am so proud to be CEO for #TeamSFH.

As I travel the corridors of our hospitals and get out into the community, I hope to meet many more of the excellent people we have here at #TeamSFH and I am reassured that with their continued support we continue to grow, to develop and to thrive so we can, in turn, provide the most effective care for our patients.

I know that with the support of the excellent leaders I see all around me and with the continued support of colleagues across the organisation we can ensure that Sherwood continues to grow, to develop and to thrive.

Covid-19 update

The number of Covid patients in our care continues to rise and, sadly, so does the number of deaths. Thankfully, more than 2,000 patients with Covid-19 have recovered sufficiently to be discharged.

Winter is always hard, but this year we expect things to be particularly tough. We are rightly still working within Covid-19 restrictions in our hospitals and this affects how we can deliver care; we have a backlog of patients who need tests and treatments that we couldn't provide during the peaks of the pandemic; and demand for our services is running extremely high. This sets us up for a difficult winter, but by working together and planning well we will prevail.

We are working across the health and care system to plan for winter and to ensure that we have the right services, in the right places for our patients.

We have a well-developed plan to scale up certain services should they be needed and we continue to recruit more staff where we have gaps. We know our colleagues are fatigued, mentally and physically, and continue to support them to take some proper breaks.

Vaccinations at SFH

It's always worth repeating that the best way to protect ourselves and our loved ones is to make sure we are fully vaccinated – that's taking up the offer of both doses and then the booster once we become eligible (six months since receiving the second jab).

The offer is an evergreen offer, so no one misses out, and it is being made to health and social care colleagues, all over 50s and people over 16 with a health condition that puts them at high risk of getting seriously ill from Covid-19.

The vaccine programme is also now offering a single dose to children aged 12 to 15 – much of these vaccinations will be delivered through school-based sessions but slots will also be made available at our King's Mill Hospital vaccination hub. And patients who are immunosuppressed are being invited for a third primary dose of the Covid-19 vaccination. Specialists working in hospitals as well as GP practices are working to identify patients and invitation letters are being sent out.

Another vital measure we can all take to protect patients and each other is to have the flu vaccine. As we approach winter – and with Covid-19 still a major issue – vaccination will play an important role in keeping our patients and our colleagues safe this winter. I am glad to see we are leading by example with more than half of all #TeamSFH staff already having taken up the offer of the jab.

Supporting each other

I am really pleased to see that peer-to-peer support for staff is being strengthened by the excellent work of our staff networks, particularly those for our LGBTQ+, ethnic minority and disabled workforce.

Our operational plans for the coming months are well formed and I look forward to sharing those shortly but if we are to continue delivering great care to our patients through what will undoubtedly be a tough winter, it is equally important that we support each other – making sure everyone feels they are an equal part of #TeamSFH.

We now have three closed Facebook groups dedicated to our staff networks. These groups have been created on this popular social media platform in the hope that colleagues will be able to engage more with the network and each other.

All members of the networks have been invited to join and membership to the groups is growing. Sherwood Forest Hospitals was featured in the NHS PRIDE Week virtual PRIDE Parade in September. It was great to see our march featured in this event

Don't miss our annual awards – recognising outstanding patient care

I'm really looking forward to our Staff Excellence Awards later this month when we will be able to celebrate the great care our colleagues have been providing over the past 12 months. We received more than 400 nominations and the judges had a tough time choosing the finalists.

I'm sure it will be a great opportunity to recognise those who have gone above and beyond in delivering outstanding patient care and services during the Covid-19 pandemic and the roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccination.

Staff and the public will be able to watch the online ceremony on November 26, which we will be streaming live on YouTube.

Welcome to our new deputy medical director

Earlier this month we were delighted to welcome Mr Andrew Marshall to #TeamSFH as our new Deputy Medical Director. Andrew takes up his post this week and was previously Deputy Medical Director at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust with a clinical background as a Consultant Paediatric ENT surgeon, with expertise in cochlear implantation and paediatric airways.

He will continue his clinical practice at Nottingham University Hospitals when he moves into his new role, strengthening the senior clinical leadership and clinical voice at Sherwood Forest Hospitals and supporting the Medical Director's office portfolio.

Kindness and respect are vital for better care

Last month we ran a civility conference, which was open to colleagues from across our ICS. There were a range of free virtual events, which were well attended and which sparked some useful conversations and action points.

One of the ways that we can support each other, both as colleagues and patients, is to treat each other with kindness and respect. This is sometimes harder when people are tired or stressed and behaviour can slip, but it is crucial in helping us to offer the best patient care and to take care of our own wellbeing.

NHS National Staff Survey

We launched the National Staff Survey. This is key for us to understanding how our colleagues are feeling, how they experience work, areas where we can improve and also to celebrate those things which we already do well. Each year the survey informs us, through the voices of our colleagues, the things we are good at and areas we need to do better.

From this we develop a You Said Together We Did approach with actions to improve, which the Board approves and the Executive team supported by our colleagues deliver.

In SFH colleagues views really do make a huge difference and ensure that Sherwood is a great place to work and receive care. Our teams have historically been hugely supportive in giving their feedback and views, which is unidentifiable to encourage complete openness. We will be urging colleagues to take part and I hope that even during such a busy time people take the few minutes to give us their thoughts.