

Council of Governors

Subject:	Chair's Report		February 2022	
Prepared By:	Marcus Duffield, Associate Director of Communications			
Approved By:	Claire Ward, Chair			
Presented By:	Claire Ward, 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's report: February 2022

Chair's reflections

On behalf of our patients across Newark and Sherwood, Mansfield and Ashfield, I would like to start by thanking everyone at Sherwood Forest Hospitals for their continued dedication and compassion in the face of the on-going Covid-19 pandemic.

In particular, the way they are meeting the challenges presented by the most recent Omicron wave – by increasing our bed capacity and developing new ways of working to keep our patients and each other safe.

Implementing and maintaining extra capacity (particularly at a time when high infection rates in the community meant our own workforce absence was rising) is testament to the commitment and dedication of colleagues across #TeamSFH and our partner organisations.

As restrictions in the wider community ease, it is important the public are aware that infection prevention and control measures remain in place and are unchanged throughout our hospitals and other healthcare settings.

Everyone coming on to our sites must wear a mask (unless they are medically exempt) wash their hands regularly and observe social distancing. If you can, please take a Covid test before coming into our hospitals and please come unaccompanied to appointments unless you need a carer, are under-18, or you are pregnant (a named birthing partner). In these cases, patients can bring one person with them to hospital.

Infection rates in the community are still high and our hospitals remain very busy so it is vital we continue to do everything we can to protect all our patients and our staff.

Anniversary for the King's Mill Vaccination Hub

We celebrated the first anniversary of the King's Mill vaccination hub by welcoming back Ann Allen. Former NHS worker Ann made history by becoming the first person in our area to receive the vaccine when the roll out began in December 2020. During the first year more than 178,000 vaccine doses were delivered.

Well done to the whole team for such an incredible job throughout 2021. We appreciate all your efforts and hard work over the past 12 months and more and we will continue to support you through 2022.

National NHS Staff Survey response is the best, so far

It was confirmed during December that we achieved our best response ever to the NHS National Staff Survey. In 2019 the response rate among #TeamSFH colleagues was 66%, putting us among the best in the country for engagement with the NHS workforce. This year we have achieved 66.4% - a fantastic result and I would like to thank everyone who took time from their busy days to complete the survey.

The greater the response the more we get to know about what we are doing right and where we can make further improvements. Results and feedback will be made available to us shortly and we will develop a detailed response to key points raised.

A remarkable birthday milestone for Ann

We reached a remarkable personal milestone for one member of #TeamSFH in January when Ann Seymour in our Clinical Illustration team celebrated her 80th birthday.

Ann has worked locally for the NHS locally for more than 45 years, including at Mansfield General Hospital, and her Clinical Illustration colleagues can't speak of her highly enough – popular throughout the Trust... warm-natured... kind, caring and compassionate.

Thank you Ann for your continued dedication to #TeamSFH and many happy returns.

Recognising the teams behind the scenes

During December #TeamSFH launched SFH Proud2bAdmin in recognition of the vital role our administration teams play in keeping Sherwood Forest Hospitals running.

Proud2bOps is a community of operational managers and leaders, providing a platform for ideas, discussion and personal and professional development. With more than 750 members across the country, it was formed and is chaired by Sherwood Forest's Executive Director of Culture and Improvement, Emma Challans.

The launch included two full days of interactive virtual sessions providing professional development, learning and recognition of their work and I would like to thank everyone for taking part. This work is one of our key priorities for 2022-2023.

Proud2bOps has already been [shortlisted as finalists in the Workforce and Wellbeing Initiative of the Year in the prestigious HSJ Partnership Awards 2022](#). This recognises their outstanding contribution to healthcare – in what has been an exceptional and challenging period.

They have been selected based on their ambition, visionary spirit, and the demonstrable positive impact that it has had on patient and staff experiences within the health and social care sector.

The overall winner will be announced on March 24.

Recruitment process begins for #TeamSFH CEO

We have started the process of recruiting a Chief Executive and I am confident we will attract a lot of interest. #TeamSFH is a great place to work and a provider of excellent care, which is down to the compassion and dedication of colleagues across the Trust.

We expect interviews to take place at the beginning of March and as soon as I am able, I will communicate the outcome of the process.

Chair activities

I have held recent meetings with other Chairs across the Nottinghamshire system as we continue to develop our approach to working together in advance of the Integrated Care Board and Integrated Care Partnership being formally established later in the summer.

I also met with Sherwood Forest Education Partnership, the Principal of ATTFE college and Connected Nottinghamshire to explore how we can involve more of our community, especially younger people, in promoting and supporting the expansion of digital access to healthcare. As we continue to develop our digital access to health and the opportunities it can bring to tackle health inequalities, it's important that no one is left behind. We are keen to promote more "digital champions" throughout our communities.

Membership summary

Opportunities for Governors to engage with patients and the public have been limited since tighter Covid-19 restrictions were re-introduced due to the Omicron variant.

As part of wider engagement and through the Mid-Nottinghamshire Place-based Partnership, our Chair of Governors Sue Holmes has been leading efforts to establish



more links with community groups with a focus on Priority Places (areas of high deprivation and traditionally low engagement with NHS and social care services).

Starting with the Bellamy Road Estate in Mansfield, this work will help us to better understand these communities' needs and reduce barriers to accessing our services – helping us to deliver outstanding care and, ultimately, leading to healthier communities.

Our public membership total currently stands at 14,603.