

Board of Directors Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

Subject:	Chief Executive's report		Date: 4 th May 2023	
Prepared By:	Rich Brown, 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	X
			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
Identify which principal risk this report relates to:				
PR1	Significant deterioration in standards of safety and care			
PR2	Demand that overwhelms capacity			
PR3	Critical shortage of workforce capacity and capability			
PR4	Failure to achieve the Trust's financial strategy			
PR5	Inability to initiate and implement evidence-based Improvement and innovation			
PR6	Working more closely with local health and care partners does not fully deliver the required benefits			
PR7	Major disruptive incident			
PR8	Failure to deliver sustainable reductions in the Trust's impact on climate change			
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before				
Not applicable				
Acronyms				
<p>BMA = British Medical Association CDC = Community Diagnostics Centre MNPBP = Mid Nottinghamshire Place Based Partnership NHS = National Health Service</p>				
Executive Summary				
An update regarding some of the most noteworthy events and items over the past month from the Chief Executive's perspective.				

Pressures and industrial action update

I will start this month's update by reflecting on the impact that April's industrial action from the British Medical Association (BMA) had on our colleagues, patients and the running of our services.

I will begin by focusing on the impact that the strikes have had on our hard-working colleagues – both personally and professionally. That impact cannot be overstated, both in managing day-to-day pressures and in the extensive planning that helped to prepare us in the best possible way for that industrial action.

It is thanks to their hard work and professionalism that we were able to maintain safe urgent and emergency care services for our communities throughout that extraordinarily difficult time. We are so grateful for their incredible efforts.

Ultimately, we know that maintaining the safety of those essential services came at the cost of hundreds of planned appointments, procedures and operations. That cost will be felt by our patients for many months to come, both for those who were immediately affected during the week and for the tens of thousands of patients who will come into contact with our services over the months ahead as we continue our work to drive-down the elective backlogs that we saw build-up during the pandemic.

We know there is a patient behind each and every one of those rearranged appointments and we are grateful to all those whose planned treatments, operations and appointments were affected by those strikes. Their patience, understanding and kindness to our staff really is appreciated, particularly as our colleagues continue to work hard to provide the best possible care in really challenging circumstances as pressures remain high across our services.

While these strikes have been held over nationally-decided issues that are beyond the control of Sherwood Forest Hospitals, we have taken every opportunity to stress the impact that this ongoing industrial action is having on our colleagues, patients and communities alike.

As a Trust, we are committed to properly supporting everyone at #TeamSFH throughout this period. Whether that support comes by providing clarity on the areas we need our staff to focus on during periods of industrial action or by stepping-up our wellbeing offer to colleagues, I am keen to make clear that we have the backs of our colleagues.

During the course of the week, we saw so many outstanding examples of the Trust's CARE' values being brought to life as colleagues from all professional disciplines pulled together to provide the best possible care for our patients who need us.

I am sure I speak for us all in saying that I hope a solution can be found to this national dispute as quickly as possible.

Hundreds attend second 'Step into the NHS' recruitment event with West Notts College

On Tuesday (25 April), I was delighted to join colleagues from across the Trust as we returned to West Notts College in Mansfield for the second of our incredibly successful 'Step into the NHS' careers showcase events.

We held the first event of its kind in January, which attracted almost 700 prospective new recruits who came along to learn how they can start their own NHS careers. It was great to see that our second event earlier this week – which focused on non-clinical roles across the Trust – attracted a similar level of interest.

The event was another outstanding example of how we are bringing our partnership with West Notts College to life, as the College generously hosted the event to showcase the range of careers available across our King’s Mill, Newark and Mansfield Community Hospital sites and the wider NHS.

While there are more than 350 different roles in the NHS, many people’s first thoughts of NHS careers are of doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics and other frontline roles. However, there are a host of rewarding non-clinical roles where people can make a real difference by working as everything from clinical coders and finance officers to facilities workers, admin support, procurement and human resources – and so much more!

We know it takes a whole Trust to run our hospitals and we are proud of the way our colleagues work brilliantly together across their clinical and non-clinical roles to make great things happen across our hospitals.

Following the success of these events, we also plan to host a similar event focusing on clinical roles on Tuesday 20 June. That event will be hosted at King’s Mill Hospital for the first time and I look forward to being able to share the details of that event with you all over the coming weeks.

To make sure you’re the first to know about future events and job opportunities here at Sherwood Forest Hospitals, make sure you’re following [our dedicated ‘Sherwood Forest Hospital Careers’ Facebook page](#) and visiting [the careers pages of our Trust website regularly](#).



Leaders from Sherwood Forest Hospitals and West Notts College at the *Step into the NHS* recruitment event

Nottinghamshire's first Community Diagnostics Centre (CDC) receives vital planning approval

Our ambition to create a 'one-stop shop' for patients to access NHS tests and investigations received a vital boost in April, as our plans to bring Nottinghamshire's first Community Diagnostics Centre to Mansfield were rubber-stamped.

[We previously announced we had submitted plans to Mansfield District Council in January](#) to build the purpose-built 'Community Diagnostics Centre' alongside our Mansfield Community Hospital in Stockwell Gate.

The multimillion-pound plans went on to receive national funding in February, prior to them being considered by Mansfield District Council's decision to approve the plans at its Planning Committee earlier this week (Monday 24 April 2023).

The approval was the vital go-ahead we needed to allow work to begin on the new facility this summer. The Centre will be built where a derelict building that is awaiting demolition currently stands on the Mansfield Community Hospital site.

Once built, the Centre will become a 'one-stop shop' for patients from across Nottinghamshire to access the tests and investigations they need in a single visit.

The Centre will also reduce the time it takes for patients to be referred for vital tests, which will in turn help patients to receive an 'all clear' or diagnosis sooner.

A range of clinical and non-clinical roles will also be recruited to work at the Centre, with details of those roles to be publicised over the weeks and months ahead.

Anyone interested in learning more about the plans and the range of job opportunities on offer at the Centre can [find out more via the Sherwood Forest Hospitals website](#) online at www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk/cdc

I look forward to update you on the project's progress over the coming months.

Boosting car parking capacity at Newark Hospital

In planning news elsewhere, Newark and Sherwood District Council's Planning Committee has also approved the Council's planning application to create 80 additional car parking spaces for patients and staff at Newark Hospital.

The 80 new spaces will include 59 standard spaces, 16 electric vehicle charging points and five accessible bays on a site on Bowbridge Road next to Newark Hospital.

This is really good news as it will bring to an end long-standing parking issues for patients, staff and visitors. The development is also a welcome boost for everyone who comes into contact with Newark Hospital at a time when we are doing all we can to bring Newark Hospital back to its full potential.

Work is expected to start on the car park in July. We will keep you posted on the progress of the project.

Partnerships update: Quarterly meeting with Ashfield District Council

The Trust Chair, Chief Executive and Director of Strategy and Partnerships met the Chief Executive Officer of Ashfield District Council during the month, as part of quarterly meetings with each of the district councils.

The meeting was a positive exploration of value-adding partnership activities and it is clear we have aspects of our work where we can work together positively, including around employment opportunities, skills, digital improvement, violence and aggression, and the direct support we will provide into the recruitment of a key strategic role of the Council's senior team. The Council is also supporting with raising awareness of governor nominations.

Further partnership working will continue as a result of those meetings and the positive relationships we continue to build together.

Partnerships update: Violence and aggression discussed at a Mid Nottinghamshire Place Based Partnership (MNPBP) level

This year's *National NHS Staff Survey* demonstrated that our Trust colleagues are continuing to face incidents of violence and aggression. It is clear that the majority of these experiences are being targeted at hard-working staff by members of the public, rather than their colleagues.

With this in mind, we took a discussion piece to the MNPBP Executive Group where all partners agreed to support the Trust with a shared approach to tackling this across the mid-Nottinghamshire area, as it is clear that these experiences are not being experienced by NHS staff alone. The local crime and safety partnerships will open an invitation to explore opportunities for joint solutions.

As part of this, Nottinghamshire County Council introduced the concept of Trauma Informed Practice which is training to ensure people who are severely disadvantaged (such as the homeless community) receive the same levels of care, irrespective of the risk for exclusion caused by violence and aggression.

Risk ratings reviewed

The Board Assurance Framework (BAF) risks have been scrutinised by the Trust's Risk Committee. The Committee has confirmed that there are no changes to the risk scores affecting the following areas:

- Principal Risk 6: Working more closely with local health and care partners does not fully deliver the required benefits
- Principal Risk 7: A major disruptive incident

A fond farewell to our outgoing Director of Corporate Affairs, Shirley Higginbotham

I will wrap-up my update for this month by placing on-record my thanks to our outgoing Director of Corporate Affairs, Shirley Higginbotham, as Thursday's meeting will be her final Public Board meeting with the Trust.

Shirley has been a valued member of the Trust since joining in April 2013 and has played a vital role in helping to oversee the Trust's journey from special measures to now being rated as 'Good' and King's Mill Hospital as 'Outstanding' by the CQC.

On a personal note, I have worked with Shirley throughout my time here at SFH and she has played an incredible part in the journey we have all been on together, particularly in building trust and confidence among the communities we serve that their local hospitals are in safe hands. I am grateful for all that Shirley has done for this Trust and our patients and we wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement.

We are also delighted to share the news that Sally Brook Shanahan will be joining the Trust as our new Director of Corporate Affairs in May, allowing for a short handover period between Shirley and herself.