

## Council of Governors

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|--|--|------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Subject:</b>  | Chair's Report                                 | 28 September 2020            |   |  |
| <b>Prepared By:</b>  | Robin Smith, Acting Head of Communications     |                              |   |  |
| <b>Approved By:</b>  | John MacDonald, Chair                          |                              |   |  |
| <b>Presented By:</b>   | John MacDonald, Chair                          |                              |   |  |
| <b>Purpose</b>   |  |                              |   |  |
| To update on key events and information from the last quarter.   |  |                              | <b>Approval</b>                           |  |
|  |  |                              | <b>Assurance</b>                          | X  |
|  |  |                              | <b>Update</b>                             |  |
|  |  |                              | <b>Consider</b>                           |  |
| <b>Strategic Objectives</b>  |  |                              |   |  |
| <b>To provide outstanding care to our patients</b>   | <b>To support each other to do a great job</b> | <b>To inspire excellence</b> | <b>To get the most from our resources</b> | <b>To play a leading role in transforming health and care services</b> |
| X  | X  | X                            | X   | X  |
| <b>Overall Level of Assurance</b>  |  |                              |   |  |
|  | <b>Significant</b>                             | <b>Sufficient</b>            | <b>Limited</b>                            | <b>None</b>  |
|  |  |                              | X   |  |
| <b>Risks/Issues</b>  |  |                              |   |  |
| <b>Financial</b>   |  |                              |   |  |
| <b>Patient Impact</b>  |  |                              |   |  |
| <b>Staff Impact</b>  |  |                              |   |  |
| <b>Services</b>  |  |                              |   |  |
| <b>Reputational</b>  |  |                              |   |  |
| <b>Committees/groups where this item has been presented before</b>   |  |                              |   |  |
|  |  |                              |   |  |
| <b>Executive Summary</b>   |  |                              |   |  |
| 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 reflections

I know what a busy time it has been for colleagues in SFH, and right across the system, and would like to reassure all of our colleagues that your wellbeing is of paramount importance to the Board, and we regularly have conversations to ensure that as an organisation that we are doing everything we can to support you as individuals.

Alongside this we know that more challenges lie ahead of us as we approach winter, continue to recover services from Covid-19, and move towards a clearer EU exit. I would personally encourage all colleagues to rest and recuperate where you can, and echo comments about making sure you are taking annual leave appropriately.

At the time of writing it is clear that infection rates are rising across the country, and that further restrictions locally or nationally look likely. At this point we don't know what that will look like for us, but we are making robust plans for a number of scenarios, and remain committed as far as we can to restoring and protecting services, particularly cancer. As this is a fast moving situation we will update further in the meeting.

As we continue to follow guidance on social distancing, I have not been on site as much as I would have liked in recent months, but am hoping to be more visible in the near future. I continue to be busy in my role as Chair though, and the below report highlights some of where my focus has been during the last month, including an update from our most recent full Council of Governors, and I am also having ongoing conversations with Chairs in partner organisations about how we can work better as a system for the benefit of our citizens and colleagues.

Looking forward, I am pleased to see the fantastic number of nominations for the annual Staff Excellence Awards, and am looking forward to judging the overall Chair's Award for Excellence.

On behalf of the Board and myself, thank you for your hard work and dedication to our patients and community.

### Sherwood Forest Hospitals AGM

As a reminder for your diary, the Sherwood Forest Hospitals AGM will take place on Monday 28 September at 5.30pm.

The AGM is open to all members of the public and is an opportunity for the Trust to reflect upon its activities, challenges and achievements over the past financial year. There will be a presentation of the Annual Report and Accounts from SFH's Chief Executive, Richard Mitchell and the Trust will outline its plans for the year ahead.

The meeting will be broadcast live via MS Teams and anyone wanting to tune in will be able to do so via the following link <https://bit.ly/3hMwoCG>. Members of the public who do not have access to the live broadcast but would like to attend the meeting will need to register either via email [sfh-tr.communications.nhs.net](mailto:sfh-tr.communications.nhs.net) or telephone the membership office on 01623 622515 extension 6911. In light of social distancing measures places are limited so early registration is advised.

### **Sherwood Forest Hospitals commended for continuing much needed service for mums during the pandemic**

Sherwood Forest Hospitals' Infant Feeding Team has been commended by the leading charity for children, UNICEF BFI, for their good practice throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

Following the pandemic and the clear need to still help new parents with breast feeding their new-borns, the team set to work and adapted their services to ensure they could still provide care to families in need.

Non-essential home visits were suspended locally on 17 March 2020, with many onsite clinics and face to face appointments being moved to telephone consultations and appointments. However, the Infant Feeding team at Sherwood Forest Hospitals did everything they could to ensure that breastfeeding infants who needed clinical assessments or treatment for tongue tie could be seen face to face either in the community or hospital setting.

The Team - which comprises of two Specialist Midwives and six Healthcare Support Workers ensured that the tongue tie clinic continued with adaptations including communicating with women before the appointment, hygiene measures and use of PPE. They also managed to run the clinic by undertaking assessments prior to the appointment in the clinic. The team's Health Care Support Workers are trained to assess for tongue tie, so they were able to assess some babies at their midwife postnatal clinic appointment in the community or at home, which helped avoid unnecessarily bringing babies into the hospital.

### **Sherwood Forest Hospitals awarded government funding to improve A&E services ahead of winter**

I was pleased to learn we have been awarded £2m of government funding to upgrade our Accident and Emergency facilities ahead of winter 2020/21. This will enable us to increase capacity and reduce crowding. The extra funding will also support us to maintain segregation, reducing the risk of Covid-19 infections and will be spent on appropriate levels of staffing to ensure patient safety. The increase in funding will help us manage the expected increase in patients over the winter months, whilst allowing us to continue to deliver outstanding, personalised and safe care to patients.

We are finalising the specific details of how the funding is going to be used and we are confident we will improve the physical capacity of the Emergency Department (ED). This will help with infection control, will ensure internal processes are robust and will support patient flow to reduce the time patients spend in the ED. Providing safe and timely care for patients remains a top priority for us and I am confident we will be able to retain our high standards of care over the winter months of 2020/21. We are very grateful for the £2m government funding.

## **First DAISY Awards given out at Sherwood Forest Hospitals to celebrate the amazing work of nurses and midwives**

The very first Nurses and Midwives at Sherwood Forest Hospitals to be awarded for a very special **DAISY Award** have been announced this month.

The Trust works in partnership with the DAISY Foundation program to recognise the amazing efforts nurses and midwives perform every day. Each month, patients, staff, visitors and volunteers get to nominate nurses and midwives for the award, which recognises their amazing care and help. The DAISY Award has been adopted by healthcare facilities around the world to celebrate nurses for their extraordinary care and compassion.

The DAISY Award is for nurses and nurse-led teams of two or more who come together to solve a specific situation by going above and beyond. Nursing and midwifery teams may be nominated by patients, families, and colleagues, and they are chosen by a committee of nurses at Sherwood Forest Hospitals to receive The DAISY Award. The DAISY Award is presented throughout the year at a surprise presentation on the ward or area that the nurses and midwives work in. Each member of the Nursing and/or Midwifery Team receives a certificate commending them for being an "Extraordinary Nurse or Midwife."

DAISY Award honorees' for this month were; Deputy Chief Nurse, Phil Bolton, Trauma Co-Ordinator and Fracture Liaison Nurse, Rachael Parker and Midwife Stevie Merryweather.

Phil was nominated for his strong influential leadership and his calmness whilst doing so, his nomination read: "During the Covid-19 pandemic period, Phil has led the clinical response operationally demonstrating calmness, compassion and courage. This approach has resulted in rapid innovation to our services led by front line staff and influenced by our patients. His professional approach has enabled us to care for our most vulnerable patients whilst protecting and supporting our teams."

Rachael was nominated for being able to quickly adapt to new environments whilst having a positive impact on both patients and staff. Her nomination read: "Rachael is absolutely incredible! Rachael supported ITU during Covid -19 and is usually the trauma coordinator. Rachael adapted very quickly to her new environment. The positive impact she had on her patients was significant despite the ongoing stress of working in a completely different way. Rachael is an absolute god-send to her patients and is one of the most caring nurses I have ever met. Rachael is always 100% committed to giving the best care for patients and their families."

Stevie was nominated for keeping one of our patient's calm when she needed it the most during her 36 hour labour. Stevie's nomination read: "Stevie is an absolute credit to the team and I know I would have struggled to get through my birth without her. I was in labour for 36 hours and she was the one who kept me sane and calm. I was terrified because of the horrific pain I was in. "I have never known such a lovely and professional women, she made me feel so comfortable when I was at my most vulnerable and went above and beyond the call of duty for both me, my baby, my mum and my partner."

Chief Nurse, Julie Hogg said: “We are so proud of our staff and the DAISY Awards are such a brilliant way of recognising outstanding care and dedication from our nursing and midwifery teams. To be among the healthcare organisations participating internationally in the DAISY Award program is fantastic. It’s important that our nurses and midwives know their work is highly valued, and the DAISY Foundation provides a way for us to recognise their work and show our appreciation.”

### **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 to Sherwood Forest Hospitals.

- Dr Rebecca Foster, Consultant Paediatrician – newly qualified trainee
- Dr Salma Ali, Consultant Paediatrician – newly qualified trainee

### **Visits to Trust Teams and External Meetings**

I am continuing to meet internally and externally, wherever possible virtually and have attended a number of meetings including:

- Meeting with Chairs of partner organisations
- NED 121s
- Meetings with ICS colleagues
- Senior interviews and meetings
- Council of Governors meeting

### **Membership summary**

The Forum for Public Involvement group meeting was held virtually on Monday 3 August, and we have plans for further virtual meetings in the future. We have also paused the Meet your Governor sessions at this time, and are working with our governors to help restore how we reconnect with our members and the wider public.

### **Membership numbers**

Number of public members: 15,314

Number of staff members: 6,289

Total: 21,603