

## Trust Board of Directors – 29 March 2022

### Chief Executive's report

#### Purpose of the report

This paper provides an update on current local issues and national policy developments since the last meeting. The details below are drawn from a variety of sources, including local meetings and information published by NHS England/Improvement (NHSEI), Health Education England, NHS Providers, the NHS Confederation and the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

#### Analysis of the issue

##### National Developments

###### Ukraine

Our LPT family is here to support each other and our colleagues, service users, families and friends who may be experiencing any distress or trauma resulting from the situation in Ukraine.

The government has confirmed that all Ukrainians arriving in England will be able to access NHS healthcare free of charge, including GP and nurse consultations, hospital services, and urgent care centres. The changes, which came into force on the 17 March 2022 will also cover any treatment that has taken place since the start of the Russian invasion.

As part of the UK's offer to those Ukrainians coming to the UK, the government has committed to providing full access to a range of public services, including doctors, schools and full local authority support. They will also be offered COVID-19 vaccines and medical screenings. The new legislative measures introduced will ensure Ukrainians who are in the UK lawfully can access the NHS on a similar basis as other UK residents.

###### Covid-19

The global pandemic is not yet over and the Government's Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) is clear there is considerable uncertainty about the path that the pandemic will now take in the UK. There has been a recent rise in COVID-19 admissions into hospitals following a period in which numbers were decreasing. With numbers reaching more than 10,000 for the first time in the last few months. The overall number of patients in hospitals with covid remains low compared to previous waves, a rise in admissions can have an impact on patient care.

The NHS continues to operate at incident level 4 and whilst this was expected to reduce, the latest figures may prevent this from any imminent change.

###### COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19

In February 2022, the Government published a plan for Living with COVID: this is a 60-page document on living with the virus, which includes removing the remaining legal restrictions while protecting people most vulnerable to COVID-19 and maintaining resilience. The plan sets out how it will continue to protect and support citizens by: enabling society and the economy to open up more quickly than many comparable countries; using vaccines; and supporting the National Health Service (NHS) and social care sector. It sets out how the Government will ensure resilience, maintaining contingency capabilities to deal with a range of possible scenarios.

[COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19)

### **Regulations making COVID-19 vaccination a condition of deployment to end**

On 31 January 2022, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care announced to the House of Commons that it was no longer proportionate to require COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of deployment for NHS workers. Following a public consultation in February 2022 the government published the response to the consultation. In light of the scientific evidence, alongside a strong preference for revocation, the response confirmed that the vaccination as a condition of deployment policy would be revoked. The legal requirement for health and social care staff to be double jabbed will therefore be removed from 15 March 2022.

### **Health Secretary statement on spring COVID-19 booster vaccinations**

On 21 February 2022 the Health Secretary Sajid Javid released a statement on spring covid-19 booster vaccinations following updated advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation. From spring, an additional COVID-19 booster jab to people aged 75 years and over, residents in care homes for older adults, and people aged 12 years and over who are immunosuppressed. Sajid Javid emphasised “we know immunity to COVID-19 begins to wane over time. That’s why we’re offering a spring booster to those people at higher risk of serious COVID-19 to make sure they maintain a high level of protection. It’s important that everyone gets their top-up jabs as soon as they’re eligible”.

### **Care Quality Commission**

It has been announced that Dr Sean O’Kelly will take on the role of Chief Inspector of Hospitals at CQC later in the Spring, taking over the position from Ted Baker, who announced his retirement in September 2021.

### **LPT Inspection**

Following the Trust’s core service and well led inspection in 2020, we have welcomed the CQC back into the Trust to re-inspect a number of key areas highlighted for improvement in our latest CQC report. We are awaiting the formal feedback from this visit and will update the Board when this is available.

### **Monitoring the Mental Health Act in 2020/21**

In February 2022 the CQC issued a report ‘Monitoring the Mental Health Act in 2020/21’ which focuses on how providers are caring for patients, and whether patients’ rights are being protected. The report highlights concerns that reduced access to community mental health services during the pandemic may have been a contributing factor in the increased number of people being detained under the MHA. The report found that the workforce is under extreme pressure, and Community Services are key to reducing levels of detention in hospital. There is also urgent action needed to address longstanding inequalities in mental health care.

### **2021 Maternity Survey findings**

The 2021 Maternity survey results have also been published. Women who gave birth between 1 and 28 February 2021 were invited to take part in the survey. This was during the third national lockdown for the COVID-19 pandemic. This means that respondents will have gone through their antenatal, labour and birth, and postnatal stages under pandemic conditions. Therefore, results of this survey reflect experiences of care throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Results have declined in many areas. This is likely reflecting the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on services and staff. Results show that areas particularly affected were involvement of partners, choice, information provision and staff availability.

### **Mental Health Units (use of force) Act 2018**

The CQC expects that registered persons (providers and managers) comply with the Act and its statutory guidance when it comes into force on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. The Act aims to reduce the use of force and ensure accountability and transparency about its use in mental health units. The Act applies to all patients being assessed or treated for a mental health disorder in a mental health unit. This applies equally to both NHS and independent hospitals providing NHS-funded care.

Mental Health Units must appoint a ‘responsible person’ who is accountable for ensuring the requirements in the act are carried out. The Responsible Person must:

- publish a policy regarding the use of force by staff who work in that unit
- publish information for patients about their rights in relation to the use of force by staff who work in that unit

- ensure staff receive appropriate training in the use of force
- keep records of any use of force on a patient by staff who work in that unit unless the use of force is negligible.

The role of the responsible person does not require a new appointment, but it must be a permanent member of staff within the organisation and be a member of the organisation or trust board with the relevant skills and experience to undertake the responsibility of this role. The Responsible Person identified at LPT is Anne Scott, our Executive Director of Nursing, Allied Health Professionals and Quality.

## **The Department of Health and Social Care**

### **Protections for people deprived of their liberty**

The Department of Health and Social Care and Ministry of Justice have launched a consultation to update the Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice to better support those with dementia, acquired brain injuries, learning disabilities and autism who may need assistance with their everyday decision-making but lack mental capacity thereby requiring others to make decisions in their best interests.

These decisions could include where a person should live, whether assistive technology like sensors or keypad entry should be installed, setting times for refreshments or activities, whether they can leave the accommodation or restraint in certain circumstances among others.

The Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice sets out how carers and practitioners can make these decisions for others on a day-to-day basis while ensuring the individual is both protected and empowered.

This is part of the government's promise to ensure everyone receives the right care in the right place at the right time, as part of its reforms of the health and social care system.

The proposed changes will speed up processes and increase fairness, ensuring the balance between a person's human rights and freedoms and their need to receive the right care in the right place at the right time.

The new system will replace Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, which have been in place since 2009, with the consultation starting on 17 March 2022

For further information please see follow the link [Government to improve protections for people deprived of their liberty - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/government-to-improve-protections-for-people-deprived-of-their-liberty)

### **Levelling Up White Paper**

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has published a White Paper, [Levelling Up the United Kingdom](#), which sets out how the government intends to spread opportunity more equally across the UK. It provides an economic analysis of the drivers of geographical disparities across the UK and sets out the policy reforms intended to level up 'left behind' regions of the UK. It sets out medium-term 'missions' to be achieved collaboratively across government and key stakeholders at a national and local level.

### **Provider Selection Regime: consultation on the detail of proposals for regulations**

The proposed Provider Selection Regime will be a new set of rules replacing the existing procurement rules for arranging healthcare services in England. The proposed rules will be introduced by regulations made under the Health and Care Bill.

This consultation builds on the engagement and consultation activity which NHS England has undertaken over the past 3 years, and seeks views from respondents to help develop the regulations for the Provider Selection Regime.

For more information on this consultation please visit the Department of Health and Social Care website [Provider Selection Regime: supplementary consultation on the detail of proposals for regulations - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/provider-selection-regime-supplementary-consultation-on-the-detail-of-proposals-for-regulations)

## Local Developments

### Urgent and Emergency Care

LLR currently carries a system risk arising from ambulance handover delays which are a result of wider system performance particularly that of flow and not just a result of ambulance and ED performance. This is being managed collectively with all partners contributing to daily tactical command meetings and wider service transformational programmes. LPT recognises this as a priority due to the impact it has on patients and is supporting the system to enable improvements.

LPT focus has been on:

- Decreasing ED attendance
- Keeping people well at home
- Safe rapid transfer from UHL to Community beds
- Decreasing the number of Medically optimised for discharge patients in beds to enable constant flow
- Enabling a home first approach to ensure limited resource is used smartly

We have made positive impact in many areas including:

- Increased community bed occupancy from 80% to 90+%
- Streamlining referral processes from UHL to the community to ensure safe and effective processes
- 2 hr Urgent Community Response has seen significant improvement from 26% to 73% ensuring patients are seen quickly in the community and avoiding hospital admission
- Reduction in emergency care home admissions by circa 100 per month
- Clear alternative routes are in place for those in a mental health crisis that can be used by EMAS and other system partners to avoid the need for ED attendances
- We have increased the responsiveness of the Mental Health Liaison Team to ensure that patients in ED are seen within an hour.
- Advice and guidance to EMAS via the Mental Health Urgent Care Hub provides greater understanding of the patient needs and often negates the need for any further input.

### Quality Improvement Support for St Andrew's Healthcare

We are pleased to be using our alliance with five community and mental health NHS Trusts across the East Midlands to provide quality improvement support to St Andrews Healthcare following its CQC inspection. The mental health charity, based in Northamptonshire, have buddied up with NHFT who is coordinating other trusts from Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire to receive targeted support following their recent CQC report. The alliance will provide quality improvement support which aims to improve the quality of care at St Andrew's.

Nine workstreams have been set up to focus on patients, staff and culture. Each workstream has an NHS lead and a St Andrew's lead, meeting regularly to drive forward actions using the expertise and learning from the alliance trusts. LPT is providing specific workstream leadership support for the culture workstream and communications workstream.

### Re-signing Armed Forces Covenant

LPT re-committed to the new Armed Forces Covenant, demonstrating our support of the armed forces community, by re-signing the Armed Forces Covenant in the company of MoD officials at County Hall on 16 March.

The trust received the Armed Forces Covenant Gold Award in 2019 and the re-resigning will maintain that gold award status. LPT is currently one of eight organisations in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland to hold the Gold Award, which is held with a high level of respect within the military for the support it provides as a civilian organisation.

The covenant is a pledge that local communities, business and public organisations acknowledge and understand that those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, and their families, should be treated with fairness and respect in the communities, economy and society they serve with their lives. We are committed to continuing our

support with the employment of veterans and spouses and partners and also support for staff who are members of the reserve forces and volunteers in military cadet organisations.

### **Move it Boom success**

Move it Boom, the physical activity competition for primary school children across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland pioneered by LPT, broke all records in 2021. The latest edition of the competition, which has been running for six years, saw more primary schools involved and more physical activities logged than ever before.

Pupils from 152 primary schools took part in the competition which ran from Monday 4 October until Friday 17 December, with over 155,000 physical activities, ranging from ball games and dancing to playing at the park, yoga and running, being logged during this time.

With a variety of prizes on offer for the best performing schools from partners Leicester City in the Community, All Play Solutions, ME Sports in the Community, Leicester Riders, Loughborough Sport, Leicestershire County Cricket Club and Fox Soccer Academy, pupils were encouraged to get active and log their activities via the Move it Boom website to earn points for their school and new parts for their virtual robot avatars. Well done to all involved, particularly Latimer Primary School in Anstey who finished top of the leader board and won Move it Boom 2021!

### **Launch of mental health in schools service**

A total of 48 primary and secondary schools across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland now have a dedicated educational mental health practitioner (EMHP) working with them to support their students' mental wellbeing and emotional resilience, as part of the new Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) in Schools programme.

In February's Children's Mental Health Week, LPT celebrated our newly qualified practitioners, who have completed their training following an initiation phase of the programme last year. They will now continue to provide early intervention support, helping children and young people with their mental health before problems start to build up or become severe, with struggles such as low mood, mild anxiety and worry. The programme, which includes individual and group work, is also expanding and looking to work with additional schools in the next school year.

EMHPs offer a number of focussed face-to-face or virtual sessions with children and young people at a time which suits them. They also work during the school holidays. Through the use of techniques such as cognitive behavioural therapy, support strategies, breathing techniques, problem solving and personal plans – covering things like practical steps to help with better sleep – schools are noticing big improvements in their students getting this early support, at the right time.

### **Expansion of Crisis Cafes**

In January, LPT partnered with Voluntary Action LeicesterShire (VAL) to deliver the first expansion of its Crisis Cafes. Under the partnership, VAL will oversee a grant programme that will invite voluntary and community organisations to bid to run a café or a number of cafes on behalf of their community. This will see grants awarded to local organisations to increase the number of cafes from an initial three (the pilot projects) to 15 by the end of 2022. The final number of cafes will be in the region of 25 by the end of March 2023.

### **New Mental Health and Wellbeing fund launched**

We have launched a new grant scheme as part of plans to transform mental health across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland through our Step up to Great Mental Health programme.

This innovative scheme will see circa £3M spent over the next three years by local voluntary and community sector organisations on their own projects, new or existing, in their own communities to support people's mental health and wellbeing. This scheme marks a step change in our delivery of mental health services. It is a true collaboration between the NHS, local authorities and the voluntary community sector that will see money being spent by the voluntary community organisations in their local area.

### **International Women's Day**

To celebrate International Women's Day (Tuesday 8 March) our Women's Network ran a series of virtual sessions throughout the week to mark the occasion. The theme for this year was #BreakTheBias. We had a wide range of speakers who shared what this means to them through MS Teams sessions, alongside two evening twitter chats.

The sessions were well attended by men and women across LPT. Thank you to everyone for being so open and honest with your contributions, we have had so much positive feedback from everyone involved.

The network members will spend some time going through all the comments and suggestions from the week and turn this into some key actions to take forward this year.

### **LGBTQ+ history month**

On Monday 21 February, colleagues from LPT and our Group partner NHFT came together for a virtual celebration of LGBTQ+ history month for the second year running. The theme of the event was 'Politics in Art' and this year was a special celebration, as we marked the 50th anniversary of the very first Pride March in the UK in 1972.

The event was opened by David Maher, NHFT deputy chief executive, who spoke about his personal experience and we also welcomed guest speaker Tara Hewitt from the Northern Care Alliance who spoke about trans talent and the importance of professional and personal allyship. Our outreach team lead in the LLR Mental Health & Wellbeing Hub delivered an energising boost with her health and wellbeing session and the event was brought to a close by Scott Adams, non-executive director at NHFT.

### **Awards**

#### **HSJ shortlist for remote monitoring**

A joint remote monitoring scheme which has helped hundreds of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland patients be cared for in their own homes instead of hospital has been shortlisted for a national HSJ Partnership Award in the HealthTech category. The winner will be announced on March 24, 2022.

More than 1,000 patients have benefitted since the project was launched in April 2020, as a reaction to the newly emerging pandemic. The patients have experienced better health outcomes for their long-term conditions and reduced risks of catching Covid-19, while the NHS has seen reduced pressure on hospital beds.

The project is a joint initiative between Leicester-based Spirit Health University Hospitals of Leicester and LPT.

The patients involved had a variety of heart or lung conditions or had been in hospital with Covid-19. They were given medical devices so they could measure vital indicators such as blood pressure, temperature, and oxygen levels at home. This was fed into digital technology platform CliniTouch Vie, supplied by Spirit, and then passed to clinicians. They could see which patients were doing well, and which needed advice or further support including contact with hospital specialists for an expert opinion if required.

In some cases, this remote monitoring meant patients never needed a hospital appointment, in others it meant they could be discharged back to their own home early.

#### **Digital Health Partnership Award – supporting people at home**

LPT's Community Health Services have secured over £85,000 of funding to develop a virtual falls prevention programme following a successful bid to NHS Transformation. This 12-month project brings together Leicestershire Partnership Trust, Physitrack, a health technology company, and Channel 3 Consulting, a digital health and care consultancy to develop a new digital care pathway for Falls Prevention patients across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

By providing a virtual Falls Prevention offer, patients can benefit from evidence-based education and exercise, and a means of communication with other patients via a patient portal to improve mental health and support. The introduction of a virtual service delivery also gives patients greater choice in how they can access services and flexibility for the clinicians on how they support patients. The [Digital Health Partnership Award](#) helps NHS organisations in England to bid for funding to accelerate the adoption of digital health technologies that support patients at home.

Relevant External Meetings attended since last Trust Board meeting

February 2022	March 2022
Cllr Vi Dempster	Leicestershire Academic Health Partners Board
Mental Health Trusts CEO National Meeting	ICS Place Development Programme
NHS Providers Board Check In Meeting	LLR LHRP Meeting
Leicester City Board	Joint LLR HOSC
NHS System Leaders Webinar	LLR Prevention Board
Strategic Gold	NHS System Leaders Webinar
(Urgent & Emergency Care) UEC System Meetings	Strategic Gold
Midlands (Strategic Transformation & Recovery Board) STaR Board	(Urgent & Emergency Care) UEC System Meetings
Monthly BAME (Black & Minority Ethnic) Leaders Network Meeting with NHFT	Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland NHS Integrated Care Systems Board
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland NHS Integrated Care Systems Board	Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Executive Group
Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Executive Group	East Midlands Alliance Chief Executives Meeting
East Midlands Alliance Chief Executives Meeting	Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Quarterly System Review Meeting
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Joint Health Scrutiny Committee	Chair/CEO of UHL
LGBTQ+ History Month Event	NHS CEO catch ups
NHS CEO catch ups	Strategic Gold with NHFT
NHS Providers Finance & General Purpose – Business Planning Meeting	
NHS Midland Leaders Update	
Strategic Gold with NHFT	
Together Against Racism Group Meeting with NHFT	

**Proposal**

It is proposed that the Board considers this report and seeks any clarification or further information pertaining to it as required.

**Decision required**

None.

## Governance table

<b>For Board and Board Committees:</b>	Trust Board 29 March 2022	
<b>Paper sponsored by:</b>	Angela Hillery, Chief Executive	
<b>Paper authored by:</b>	Kate Dyer, Deputy Director of Governance and Risk	
<b>Date submitted:</b>	22 March 2022	
<b>State which Board Committee or other forum within the Trust's governance structure, if any, have previously considered the report/this issue and the date of the relevant meeting(s):</b>	None	
<b>If considered elsewhere, state the level of assurance gained by the Board Committee or other forum i.e. assured/ partially assured / not assured:</b>	n/a	
<b>State whether this is a 'one off' report or, if not, when an update report will be provided for the purposes of corporate Agenda planning</b>	Routine board report	
<b>STEP up to GREAT strategic alignment*:</b>	High Standards	
	Transformation	
	Environments	
	Patient Involvement	
	Well Governed	Yes
	Reaching Out	
	Equality, Leadership, Culture	
	Access to Services	
	Trust wide Quality Improvement	
	List risk number and title of risk	none
<b>Organisational Risk Register considerations:</b>	Yes	
<b>Is the decision required consistent with LPT's risk appetite:</b>	Yes	
<b>False and misleading information (FOMI) considerations:</b>	None	
<b>Positive confirmation that the content does not risk the safety of patients or the public</b>	Confirmed	
<b>Equality considerations:</b>	None	