



Trust Board of Directors 28 November 2023

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, NHS Providers, the NHS Confederation, and the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Analysis of the Issue

National Developments

Winter pressures, Coronavirus COVID-19 and Influenza

The latest national data from the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) shows an increase in respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) on previous weeks, particularly in young children, the rates of flu remained stable, whilst the rates of COVID-19 and Norovirus decreased slightly. For further details please visit the government's website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/flu-and-covid-19-surveillance-report-published>.

The UKHSA is urging vulnerable groups to take up the flu vaccine as data shows last year's programme prevented around 25,000 hospitalisations in England. Effectiveness data from last year showed the flu vaccine reduced the risk of hospitalisations by two-thirds in children. Data from this year's Southern Hemisphere winter season suggests the current flu vaccines are well matched against circulating strains. All eligible groups are being encouraged to take up the flu vaccine, and at the same time book their COVID-19 autumn booster to protect themselves against the expected rise in cases as winter approaches. For more information on vaccines and how to access them, please visit NHS England's website: https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well/?wt.mc_id=eva1_222_Wintervaccination_lettersQR.

Terms of reference for Lucy Letby Inquiry agreed

On 19 October 2023, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, The Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP published the terms of reference for Statutory Inquiry (operate within the legal framework of the [Inquiries Act 2005](#)) following murders and attempted murders committed by former neonatal nurse Lucy Letby. It will examine experiences of the families of all the babies named in the indictment; conduct of staff at the Countess of Chester Hospital; effectiveness of NHS management and governance structures; and NHS culture. The inquiry has powers to compel witnesses to produced evidence and is chaired by Lady Justic Thirlwall, one of the country's most senior and experienced judges. The Inquiry will not review the jury's verdicts and will make no findings regarding liability in civil proceedings. The inquiry is currently setting up its infrastructure at pace so that it can begin its investigations. To access a copy of the Terms of Reference please visit the government's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/thirlwall-inquiry-terms-of-reference>.

Applications open to £30m NHS innovative medical technology fund

On 3 October 2023, the government launched a new £30m fund accessible to Integrated Care Systems (ICS) to support the roll out of innovative medical technology to help ease pressures on the NHS this winter. Funding could be used for innovations such as virtual wards, wearable medical devices or even digital 3D and other imaging technology. The new funding builds on the £21m artificial intelligence (AI) diagnostics fund, which aims to improve access to the latest AI technology to diagnose and treat patients more quickly. For more information, please visit the

government's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-invest-30-million-in-innovative-technology-for-nhs>.

Consultation launched on updating the NHS Constitution

On 3 October 2023, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care announced that the government will consult on proposed updates to the NHS constitution to ensure the privacy, dignity and safety of all patients is respected. Proposed changes will be brought forward later this year, ahead of the next routine update the NHS constitution and its handbook in summer 2024. The proposals take account of the latest advice from the Equality and Human Rights Commission on delicate issues of balancing the rights of different protected characteristics of patients in certain settings. In lieu of the launch of the consultation, the current NHS constitution is available on the government's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nhs-constitution-for-england>.

205 additional places at medical schools in 2024

Following the publication of the NHS Long Term Workforce Plan, the government has announced it will fund 205 additional places for students starting in 2024, accelerating a commitment it made in June by a year. These places will be offered to new medical schools at Worcester Three Counties, Brunel and Chester, which do not currently have any publicly funded medical places, as well as offering more places to the University of Central Lancashire and Edge Hill medical schools. As part of the Long Term Workforce Plan, the government and NHS England will also work closely with medical schools and the General Medical Council (GMC) to move from five- to four-year undergraduate degree programmes and will pilot a medical internship programme for newly qualified doctors, shortening the undergraduate training time and bringing newly qualified doctors into the NHS workforce better prepared to deliver patient care. To access a copy of the NHS Long Term Workforce Plan, please visit NHS England's website: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/nhs-long-term-workforce-plan/>.

Help shape future use of health data by the NHS

On 29 September 2023, the government invited members of the public to help shape how the NHS uses their health data to improve patient care, as part of a series of major events between 2024 and March 2025. Among the programmes and topics to be discussed will be the Federated Data Platform – a key software platform that joins up existing NHS data to help speed up diagnosis, reduced waiting times and hospital stays. The planned, large-scale engagement events will provide the public with a genuine means of informing and shaping policy around the use of their health data. Further information on the timing and location of these events will be published by the government in due course.

New warning system launched to spot deterioration in children's health more quickly

On 3 November 2023, NHS England announced that it is rolling out a new Paediatric Early Warning Score (PEWS) for use by doctors and nurses treating children to quickly identify deterioration, escalate care and act on parental concerns. PEWS involves doctors and nurses tracking things like blood pressure, heart rate, oxygen levels and levels of consciousness on a chart that helps highlight the level of concern. The new system, developed in partnership between the Royal College of Paediatric and Child Health, Royal College of Nursing and NHS England, has been tested in 15 pilot sites across the country. A leaflet and video content for parents, letting them know how to communicate concerns to healthcare staff and encouraging them to escalate, will be launched in conjunction with the PEWS. A similar system is already in place for adults. For more information please visit NHS England's website: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2023/11/new-nhs-warning-system-to-spot-deterioration-in-childrens-health-faster/>.

NHSE expands virtual wards across the country

In October 2023, NHS England asked local health systems to expand their use of virtual wards to include heart failure patients who often spend a lot of time in hospital and can now get specialist care from the comfort of their own homes. The new service offer builds on the existing service for the treatment of respiratory issues and frailty, which

has been shown to reduce recovery times, as well as easing pressure on hospital beds. For more information please see NHS England's website: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2023/10/nhs-virtual-wards-to-treat-thousands-of-patients-with-heart-failure-at-home/>.

Expanded support available for patients in GP practices

On 20 October 2023, NHS England launched a campaign to promote the range of services that are now available in GP surgeries across the country. Such services include pharmacists, mental health practitioners, paramedics, physios and social prescribing link workers. The campaign comes as figures shows records numbers of people are seeking support from their GP for non-medical reasons such as loneliness or seeking advice on things such as housing or debts. By promoting the range of services available alongside GPs in the community, the campaign aims to ensure people are able to access the right help for their particular needs. For more information, please visit NHS England's website: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2023/10/expanded-nhs-support-available-for-patients-in-gp-practices-across-the-country/>.

CQC Publishes its Annual State of Care Report

On 20 October 2023, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) published its annual report on the state of care in 2022/23. This year's report assesses access to care, the quality of care, inequalities, deprivation of liberty safeguards, the health and care workforce and 'systems'.

On access to care, the report concludes that problems with people's access to care in England is an enduring issues, particularly for people with protected equality characteristics. Record numbers of people are waiting for planned care and treatment, people are facing ongoing struggles with getting GP and dental appointments, once in hospital people are facing longer delays in getting the care they need and insufficient capacity in adult social care is continuing to contribute to delays in discharging people from hospital.

On the quality of care, the report notes that the quality of care people experience is affected by many different factors. Increasing demand and pressure on staff are taking a toll on their mental health and wellbeing; without appropriate support, staff have told the CQC that this can affect the quality of care they deliver. Many people are not receiving the safety, good quality maternity care they deserve. The quality of mental health services is an ongoing area of concern. Positively, the report highlights the potential that the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in health care has to deliver improvements for people.

On inequalities, the report highlights certain people who are more likely to face inequalities in access and experience when using health and care services. People from ethnic minority groups who have a long-term condition were one such group of people.

On the deprivation of liberty safeguards (DoLS), the report notes that there are ongoing problems with the DoLS system that have left many people who are in vulnerable circumstances without legal protection for extended periods.

On the health and care workforce, the report highlights how staff regularly fed back to the CQC of being overworked, exhausted and stressed – sometimes to the point of becoming ill, injured or leaving their job altogether. This situation can affect the ability of staff to provide safe and effective care to people.

On systems, the report highlights the importance of local systems implementing plans to address unwarranted variations in population health and disparities in people's access, outcomes, and experience of health and social care. It also notes that assessing carers' needs is vital and that they are not always getting the support they need. It describes people's experience in urgent and emergency care and concludes that it continues to be poor and the problems are pointing to issues that require a local system level response.

To access a copy of the full report, please visit the CQC's website: <https://www.cqc.org.uk/publications/major-report/state-care/2022-2023>.

Local Developments

DoN Fellowships for Nurses & AHPs

The 3rd cohort of the Director of Nursing and Allied Health Professions Fellowship launched on the 1st of November 2023. Following the success of the 1st multi-professional cohort of 8 fellows (cohort 2), the programme was upscaled to increase the programme capacity to 14 fellows. Cohort 3 welcomes 7 allied health professionals, 6 nurses and/midwives and the first substance misuse worker to the programme. The current cohort represents a spread of fellows across the 3 clinical directorates (CHS: 3 fellows; DMH: 2 fellows; FYPCLDA: 9 fellows). The programme evaluation and feedback from cohort 2 informed a strengthened fellowship offer to enhance the experience of fellows, mentors, patient partners and other collaborators. To accommodate the enhanced cohort, senior nursing and AHP clinical leaders from LPT and across the Group stepped up to offer clinical mentoring support to the fellows for the duration of the 1 year programme. Our academic mentor pool was expanded to include both LPT doctoral trained staff or those on a clinical academic trajectory, and academic colleagues from the University of Leicester (School of Healthcare) and University of Nottingham (Midwifery), creating a strengthened collaboration between LPT and local higher education institutions. All fellows will now develop their initial QI project idea into a focussed QI project with anticipated benefit to their clinical services and the wider organisation.

LPT Trust Visits

Since the last Trust Board there have been 2 significant visits to LPT to note:

- On the 19th October 2023 NHS England visited to look at our new starters course for Healthcare Support Workers as part of the Healthcare Support Workers celebration week. They met with the training team and had the opportunity to spend some time with the new cohort of staff. We received outstanding feedback following the visit.
- 30th October 2023 the CQC carried out an inspection of Everdale care Home and Sovereign House including the therapy input provided by LPT. We didn't receive any initial feedback from the CQC as we were only a small part of the inspection, and the draft inspection report has not been released as yet.

People invited to have their say on proposals to improve health services in Lutterworth

The NHS in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) is inviting people to have their say on proposals to improve healthcare services in Lutterworth. The public consultation, which runs to 14 January 2024, responds to the changing needs of people in Lutterworth by significantly expanding the number of health services available in Feilding Palmer Hospital on Gilmorton Road.

The increase in services would be achieved by using the space in the existing hospital in a different way. The proposals include:

- changing the use of the current space in Feilding Palmer Hospital to provide outpatient and diagnostic services, replacing the current 10 inpatient beds
- increasing the number of outpatient services (where people visit a hospital for a diagnosis or treatment, but do not need to stay overnight) to approximately 17,000 appointments per year, covering more than 25 branches of medicine
- reducing travelling times and the miles people travel to receive health care, by approximately 200,000 miles per year in time, creating a Lutterworth Health Campus on Gilmorton Road, Lutterworth to provide additional health and care services, including mental health, optometry, dentistry, GP practices and local authority services

To share your views and see more details go online at www.haveyoursaylutterworth.co.uk.

Face masks – current LPT guidance

We continue to regularly review data and different levels of risk across our diverse services to provide guidance on the need to wear fluid resistant face masks (FRSM) for patient and staff safety. From 1 November, face masks are required to be worn for all clinical contacts in the following areas/services:

- Community hospital wards, CHS, due to increased incidences, outbreaks and flow of patients from University Hospitals Leicester (UHL).
- Staff working in and based at UHL sites.
- Areas where outbreaks have been identified and in some areas adjacent to or in the same building where an outbreak has been declared.
- If a patient presents or develops respiratory symptoms, please follow IPC/PPE guidance.
- If you would prefer to continue to wear a mask.

Masks will no longer be required in the following areas/services:

- Outpatients (including clinic rooms and patient waiting areas).
- Community hubs.
- Family hubs.
- Staff visiting patients in their own homes.
- DMH/FYPC/LDA in-patient wards.

In non-clinical areas, mask-wearing is not essential but we support staff who choose to wear a mask in all settings. Currently wearing of a face mask is **not required in LPT non-clinical areas** – these include offices, LPT training buildings unless advised to wear one following assessment, staffrooms, staff toilets, corridors that are not on inpatient wards.

Our new social value charter

I was pleased to see our new social value charter presented to the Trust's Board at its meeting in September 2023, the culmination of significant work between LPT and our Group Model partners – Northamptonshire Healthcare Foundation NHS Trust. The charter confirms our commitments to social, environmental and economic

improvements in the communities we serve across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and Northamptonshire. It sets out the five priorities to which we are committed:

- Organisational Resilience
- Economic Inequality
- Climate Change
- Equality of opportunity
- Volunteering

I would encourage you visit our website to learn more about our commitment to social value and to access a copy of our social value charter: <https://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/news/new-social-value-charter-published/>.

New health visitor and school nurse helpline launches to support parents, carers and young people

We are pleased to have launched the Healthy Together Helpline – led by our Healthy Together health visiting and school nursing service to enable parents, carers and eligible young people easy and swift access to support.

The helpline is open to all parents and carers of babies up to primary school aged children in Leicestershire and Rutland and babies, children and young people aged 0-19 in Leicester city, providing easy to access, safe, free and confidential advice, support and signposting on a range of health, developmental and mental and emotional wellbeing topics affecting families. The Healthy Together Helpline can be reached by calling 0300 300 3001. Visit our website to find out more about more about the helpline and how it complements ChatHealth and our Health For websites. <https://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/news/new-health-visitor-and-school-nurse-helpline-launches-to-support-parents-carers-and-young-people/>

LPT consultant receives top accolade from Royal College of Psychiatrists

I am very pleased to announce Professor Mohammed Al-Uzri, who is an associate medical director with LPT, has been awarded a prestigious Honorary Fellowship by the [Royal College of Psychiatrists](#) for his outstanding contributions to the study, prevention and treatment of mental illness.

The Honorary Fellowship award is the highest accolade that the college can give members and is presented to individuals who have demonstrated a distinguished service to psychiatry throughout their careers. Mohammed has been the Presidential Lead for International Affairs for the college since 2020 and subsequently led the implementation of the first international strategy of the college. This recognition reflects an outstanding career in psychiatry including the success in enhancing the international work of the college and collaboration with international organisations.

We are very proud to support him with his ongoing work with the Royal College of Psychiatrists

A Royal College of Psychiatrists prestigious psychiatry award has been received by a foundation doctor who worked at one of Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust's inpatient units. Dr Jess Speller, who completed a four-month rotation at LPT's Bradgate Mental Health Unit, has been named as Foundation Doctor of the Year at the Royal College of Psychiatrists RC Psych Awards, after being nominated by LPT's consultant psychiatrist and honorary associate professor, Dr Mohammed Abbas.

Please support our Raising Health Christmas appeal

I am so pleased that our charity, Raising Health, has once again launched their Christmas appeal to ensure we help cheer up patients who will be in our hospitals over Christmas. It is estimated that our community and mental health

hospitals will look after around 650 inpatients across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland on Christmas Day, comprising children, young people and adults of all ages.

We know that it can be very hard for our patients to have to spend Christmas Day in our care, especially those who may feel lonely or may not get a visit from a loved one. We want to offer all our inpatients a little gift to show that we – and the local community – are thinking about each and every one of them. In order to do this, we are looking to raise around £5,000 and are asking anyone who can afford to, including local businesses and the local community, to donate if they can. You can donate here: <https://www.raisinghealth.org.uk/appeals/raising-a-smile-for-christmas>

Relevant External Meetings attended, and Service Visits undertaken since last Trust Board meeting

Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive external meetings

October	November
CEO-Chairs CFOs - LLR ICB Meeting	CQC Engagement
Together Against Racism with NHFT	Joint Governance with NHFT
CEO Tees, ESK & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	CEO Working Group Session (Mental Health)
Interview Panel – LLR ICB CEO	Patient & Carer Race Equality Framework National Launch
CEO NHS North East & North Cumbria ICB	NHS Executive Strategy Summit / Proud2bOps
LLR MH Shadow Collaborative Meeting	NHS CEO Leadership Event
East Midlands Alliance Board	NHS LLR Integrated Care Board Development Session
Chair/CEO of ICB (LLR/Northants)	National Mental Health Programme Board & Independent Advisory & Oversight Group
Proud2beOps Leads Meeting	LLR ICB System Executive Committee Development Session
UEC Partnership Workshop	NHS Briefing for MPs
LLR Sustainable Workforce Thinktank	Provers Forum Discussion (LLR/Northants)
LLR QSRM	Joint Working Group with NHFT
LRF Executive Board Meeting	CFO & CEO NHS Finance Meeting
LPT/NHFT EPRR Working Group	LLR NHS CEO Meeting
LLR Integrated Care Board	NHS CEO Meeting
LLR ICB System Executive Committee Meeting	NHS Providers Conference
	DAL Celebration Event
	UEC Collaborative Development
	*Governance Review Meeting with NHFT
	*Midlands and East CEO Meeting
	*NHS England Midlands CEO Monthly Update
	*NHS Providers & NHS England CEO Advisory Group
	*Providers & ICB CEOs
	*LLR ICB System Executive Committee Meeting
	*REACH Network Leads with NHFT
	*National NHSE COO Visit
	*LLR LHRP Meeting
	*Right Care, Right Person Strategic Meeting (Leicestershire Police)

Service Visits by Directors

October / November
Community Paediatrics Audio Typist
Community Paeds, SEND, Phlebotomy Admin
Agnes ward
The Beacon ward
Langley ward
Bradgate Wards
Herschel Prinz Reception Team
Urgent Care Hub
Crisis Team
MHSOP West Leicestershire
CMHT
CJLD – Keyham Lane Police Station
ADHD
Palliative Care
Loros
Agnes Unit
Coalville Hospital
Rutland Hospital both inpatient and community
Charnwood Mill
The Willows
Hinckley Hub Health Visitors team
Lutterworth OPD and Therapy team
Merlyn Vaz Centre Pier team
Swithland House Research Team
Recruitment/Employee Services

Proposal

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

Decision Required

The Board is asked to consider this report and to decide whether it requires any clarification or further information on the content.

Governance Table

For Board and Board Committees:	Trust Board 28 November 2023	
Paper sponsored by:	Angela Hillery, Chief Executive	
Paper authored by:	Kate Dyer, Acting Director of Corporate Governance (LPT) Richard Smith, Director of Corporate Governance (NHFT)	
Date submitted:	23 November 2023	
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):	None	
If considered elsewhere, state the level of assurance gained by the Board Committee or other forum i.e. assured/ partially assured / not assured:	n/a	
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	Routine board report	
STEP up to GREAT strategic alignment*:	High Standards	
	Transformation	
	Environments	
	Patient Involvement	
	Well Governed	Yes
	Reaching Out	
	Equality, Leadership, Culture	
	Access to Services	
	Trust wide Quality Improvement	
Organisational Risk Register considerations:	List risk number and title of risk	none
Is the decision required consistent with LPT's risk appetite:	Yes	
False and misleading information (FOMI) considerations:	None	
Positive confirmation that the content does not risk the safety of patients or the public	Confirmed	
Equality considerations:	None	