

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS (Public Meeting)

TITLE	Chairman Update
AUTHOR	Rob Hughes, Chairman
EXECUTIVE SPONSOR	Caroline Walker, Chief Executive
DATE OF MEETING	9 December 2020
PRESENTED FOR	Information

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To update the Council Governors on key topics

COMMITTEES/SUBGROUP WHERE THIS ITEM HAS BEEN CONSIDERED

N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Governors are asked to note the contents of this report

STRATEGIC GOALS THIS REPORT SUPPORTS *(Check all that apply)*

Delivering outstanding care and experience	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recruiting developing and retaining our workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improving and developing our services and infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Working together with local health and social care providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Delivering financial sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

RISKS RELEVANT TO THE PAPER

Risk ID	Risk Description
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Outstanding Health and Wellbeing



Outstanding People



Outstanding Patient Care



Outstanding Leadership



Outstanding Communications

	n/a
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OTHER IMPLICATIONS OF THE PAPER

Legal/ Regulatory Relevance:	CQC Regulation 17: Good governance
NHS Constitution Delivery	N/A
Freedom of Information Release	This report can be released under the Freedom of information Act 2000

Equality and Diversity Implications <i>(Check all that apply)</i>								
Age	Gender	Ethnicity	Disability	Pregnancy/ Maternity	Marriage/ Civil Partnership	Religion/ Belief	Sexual Orientation	Gender Reassignment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Additional comments</i>								

1 Challenging time ahead for the Trust and our Staff

As Winter approaches I wish to acknowledge the challenges ahead for the Trust which are significant and complex. As your Chair for almost 7 years, this is the most challenging time I have observed and the Board and I are both proud and concerned for our Staff who are committed and professional whilst at the same time tired and anxious. At Public Board last week we recognised that Staff Wellbeing is a priority for Leadership Teams and were assured that support and mitigations were in place but the Board also encouraged everyone to keep communicating and working together. Some of the challenges we are facing are,

1. Treating Covid-19 Patients safely whilst providing care to non-Covid patients in all our hospitals.
2. Bringing back Elective and planned care and increasing Outpatient appointments.
3. Preparing for Winter health pressures
4. Supporting Weekly Staff Covid-19 testing
5. Workforce pressures as a result of additional Staff sickness due to Covid-19
6. Flu vaccination of our staff
7. Providing resource to give Covid-19 Vaccination to Health Care workers at Peterborough City Hospital
8. Being prepared for Brexit.

2 Maintaining Assurance

The majority of Board assurance continues to be done through 'virtual' meetings including all Public Board meetings and Board Sub-Committee meetings. The additional Non-Executive Directors virtual meetings with the CEO and myself have continued to be held at least fortnightly to maintain assurance and update on the continually changing situation with additional National and Regional direction.

Recently the NEDs and I along with the Executive Directors have been able to visit wards at Hinchingbrooke and Peterborough Hospitals to meet and listen to staff first hand. On both visits we were pleased to observe the positivity and resilience from our staff at both hospitals as well as hearing their concerns.

3 The Transformation of our Estates continues

Despite all the challenges mentioned above it is really encouraging that real progress is being made to the development at our Hinchingbrooke, Stamford and Peterborough Hospitals.

Last week I visited the **A&E department at Hinchingbrooke** to see the improvements made. The project finished on time and to budget and will improve the patient and staff environment in A&E and the Ambulatory Care Unit. The Outline Business case for the second major phase of Hinchingbrooke development with the replacement of the Theatres was approved at last week's Board meeting and will progress through the next stages of approval with the aim of commencing work in early 2021 with completion in mid 2022.

At Stamford Hospital Following the sale of land on the hospital site, initial plans for the development of a Medical Centre supporting integrated care with the local neighbourhoods are being progressed . Stamford Governors will be updated with further details and engagement with local residents will also take place (dates to be advised)

At Peterborough Hospital

Following consultation with the local population by the CCG it has been decided to delay the transfer of the Urgent Treatment Centre from the Peterborough City Care Centre to Peterborough City Hospital until 1st April 2021. This delay recognises public concerns about COVID -19 and car parking. These concerns will be addressed whilst planned investment to improve the Urgent and Emergency Care Centre at Peterborough City Hospital commences at the end of November 2020. Investment will support additional capacity to manage Covid and Non-Covid patient segregated Care (especially through the winter activity peak). There will be a new Surgical assessment unit, reconfiguration of the Paediatric assessment unit, a new extended Discharge Lounge and upgrade of ED Resuscitation. These improvements will then support the transfer of the Urgent Treatment Centre and GP Out of Hours service from the Peterborough City Care Centre on 1 April 2021.

4 Changes to our Board and Board Sub-Committee Structure and timings

As part of our review of governance led by the Company secretary, the Board agreed the following changes which will improve effectiveness , focus and quality of Board reporting.

- a) Board meetings in Public will continue to be bi-monthly but move to the Tuesday of the 2nd Week in the month. The next Board meeting in Public (by MS Teams Live) will take place on **9 Feb 2021 at 1400**.

b) From January 2021 Board Sub-Committees will be

Finance including Investment , Information Governance and IT
Performance including Estates
Quality and Assurance
People and Culture
Audit
Strategy and Transformation
Charitable Funds Committee
Remuneration
Executive Appointments

Apart from Remuneration and Executive Appointments Committees, Governors will continue to be able to Observe these meetings. Some of the changes may require review of Governor attendance and a communication will follow shortly by the Company Secretary so that Governors can be allocated and confirmed in advance of the meetings in January 2021.

Please note dates of Council of Governor meetings for 2021 will be communicated after today's meeting

5 Goodbye and Thank you to Sarah Dunnett

After 9 years of service as a Non- Executive Director Sarah Dunnett will leave the Trust on 31 Dec 2020. She has given great service above and beyond on many occasions. She will be missed not only by the Board but also by many of the staff. On behalf of the Board and the Council of Governors I want to give a huge thank you to Sarah and wish her every success in the future.

Rob Hughes
Chairman