

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS (PUBLIC)

REPORT TITLE	Chair's Review of the Month
AUTHOR	Professor Steve Barnett, Chair
EXECUTIVE SPONSOR	Caroline Walker, Chief Executive
DATE OF MEETING	17 May 2022
PRESENTED FOR	Information
ITEM PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED BY	n/a

Presented For: Definitions

Information	For information only. Not to be discussed at meeting unless members have specific questions.
Discussion	For discussion and possibly future decision. This includes items presented for assurance.
Decision	For approval and/or when any other decision is required

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide update to the Board from the Chair

RISKS RELEVANT TO THE PAPER

Risk ID	Risk Description
N/a	N/a

RISK APPETITE RELEVANT TO THE PAPER (insert relevant section from Risk Appetite Statement from Risk Management Policy)

DOMAIN	TRUST RISK APPETITE LEVEL	DESCRIPTION OF RISK APPETITE
N/a	N/a	N/a

THE BOARD IS ASKED TO:

Note the contents of this report



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

Delivering outstanding care and experience	X
Recruiting developing and retaining our workforce	X
Improving and developing our services and infrastructure	X
Working together with local health and social care providers	X
Delivering financial sustainability	X

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 *(Check all that apply)*

Age	Gender	Ethnicity	Disability	Pregnancy/ Maternity	Marriage/ Civil Partnership	Religion/ Belief	Sexual Orientation	Gender Reassignment
x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	X
<i>Additional comments</i>								

1. Getting to know TeamNWAngliaFT

I am delighted and very proud to have taken up the position of Chair at North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust – and I have been looking forward to this, my first public meeting of the Trust Council of Governors.

It has been a long-held ambition for me to Chair this wonderful organisation. I believe passionately in delivering excellent services for the patients and communities we serve and creating the right culture and environment within which our staff can thrive.

My first six weeks in post have been busy, but rewarding. I've taken great pleasure in meeting so many of our staff and taking on board their feedback about the pressures we continue to experience. It has also been fantastic to hear about their achievements and the things that they rightly feel proud about from working at NWAngliaFT.

The courtesy and friendliness shown to me I know is reflected in the care that staff show to our patients, often in very trying circumstances. I've been equally impressed by the commitment and professionalism of my colleagues on the Trust Board and on the Council of Governors, and the shared ambition to make our Trust an outstanding institution in all that we do.

I am working to a planned induction programme that spans the next few months, and has already included tours of our three main hospital sites. I will also be visiting our other community-based hospitals where NWAngliaFT staff deliver patient care.

Staff have invited me to visit their departments so I can see, at first-hand, how they are delivering care to our patients, or supporting others to do so. I have already visited a range of clinical and administration service areas including Radiotherapy, the Faith Centre, Ultrasound, Occupational Health, the Emergency, Medicine and Surgical management teams, our volunteers and a number of patient reception areas.

As my diary fills with meetings, events and visits, I look forward to learning as much as possible about what makes NWAngliaFT tick in the next few months.

2. Understanding our challenges

The major part of my executive and non-executive career has been dedicated to the National Health Service, and in that time I have never seen such challenges as those we are experiencing both locally and nationally at present.

Like all acute healthcare trusts, we are working hard to recover services impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, whilst still managing high numbers of Covid-positive

inpatients in our hospitals. This, coupled with higher levels of demand on urgent and emergency care from non-Covid patients, and increased staff sickness rates, has meant that continuing to deliver high standards of patient care has been particularly challenging. In the face of these quite unprecedented pressures, staff at the Trust continue to do an amazing job on behalf of our patients and I would like to thank everyone for their continuing care and commitment.

I know our Board members are focused upon how we can resolve our operational challenges to improve patient – and staff – experience. I will do all I can to support this work.

I have been pleased to see initiatives in place as part of our Good To Outstanding programme to support the Health and Wellbeing of our staff members. Caring for our staff and creating the right culture is crucial for the smooth running of our hospitals and directly impacts on the care our patients receive. I am looking forward to seeing how we continue to support staff as we move into this next phase of recovery from the pandemic.

3. Members' Meeting – 11 May 2022

I was pleased to host my first meeting for our Foundation Trust members on Wednesday 11 May at 6.30pm. It was good to welcome our members to the meeting which highlighted the fantastic work of the Huntingdonshire Community Cancer Nurses. We heard from Community Cancer Nurse Specialists Andrea Cliff and Sandra Langstaff about how the team provides clinical care plus vital support to boost the health and wellbeing of our patients – often in the patients' homes. I look forward to sharing more information about our great services with Trust members' as part of our programme of meetings throughout the year.

4. Looking to the future

This is a significant time for our Trust as we implement the actions set out in the Trust strategy for the next three years.

In July 2022 we will become part of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care System and I am looking forward to working alongside our Chief Executive Caroline Walker and the rest of the executive team to ensure NWAngliaFT is a key partner in the new system as it develops.

There are real benefits for us to realise from closer collaborative working in a system-based approach to planning and delivering genuinely integrated care.

Professor Steve Barnett
Chair