



Chair's Report - February 2023

I am pleased to provide a written report to the Board of Directors which covers some key updates for members' attention and assurance.

Chief People Officer

I am delighted that we have been able to announce the appointment of Claus Madsen as the Trust's new Chief People Officer.

Claus has more than two decades' experience as a senior people leader with a background in both the public and private sectors.

Claus joins us from Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust (YAS).

On behalf of all members of the Board I wish Claus a warm welcome to the Trust when he officially joins us in April 2023.

Council of Governors

The Council of Governors met on 24 January 2023 and a full report is provided in the Lead Governor Report. It was a constructive and informative meeting and provided the opportunity for members of the Board to meet with new governors.

The Trust shared key updates particularly in relation to the return of the Adult Social Care contract to the Local Authority and recent RCN industrial action.

The annual cycle of business for the Council of Governors and key subgroups was supported at the meeting and now provides a structured framework around which business will be conducted during 2023-24.

My thanks to governors who attended, Non-Executive Directors who provided important briefings and Trust officers who shared key updates and were available to answer any questions. We look forward to meeting with governor colleagues in an informal, development session in March 2023.

RCN industrial action

The RCN held two further days of industrial action on 18 & 19 January 2023 which involved RCN members from the Trust.

The planning and hard work that went into ensuring it could take place safely and ensure as many staff as possible could participate was phenomenal. My thanks and those of the Board are extended to Paula Simpson, Chief Nurse who led the planning for the two days and was determined to ensure that every member of staff felt supported and informed.

Staff right across the Trust demonstrated such dignity and respect for each other and I was impressed with the determination to maintain the integrity of the strike by keeping things safe for our patients.

I would like to acknowledge, in particular, colleagues who worked in derogated services and supported the strike by helping to maintain safe staffing levels in teams and the

administration teams who provided vital services, managing patient calls, providing reassurance and escalating concerns as needed.

Adult Social Care contract

The Trust has worked closely with Wirral Council over the last six years to develop stronger health and care integration for our communities. We have made significant advances and achievements during that time to integrate services and staff which we have been proud to showcase.

As reported to the Board in December 2022, Wirral Council has asserted its position to return to being the provider of Adult Social Care services as the statutory responsibility lies with the Director of Adult Social Services (DASS). We have respected the Council's wishes and are now working to ensure the timely and safe transfer of the contract.

We have made a joint commitment to safeguard the integrity of the improved integrated service and to support our staff through this process with compassion and respect.

Non-Executive Director service visits

As our committee and Board meetings have returned to face-to-face meetings at the Trust's headquarters, we are pleased that Non-Executive Director colleagues are having the opportunity for greater visibility with all staff groups through a programme of service visits.

These visits complement the programme of Executive Director visits which are completed in partnership with Service Directors.

We all look forward to attending as many services as possible over the coming weeks and months to recognise the hard work and contribution of our workforce.

National, regional, Wirral PLACE interactions

I have attended several meetings over the last week at a National, Regional and Place level, ensuring the Trust's continued understanding of, and active engagement in, all matters which might impact on the delivery of quality care for our patients and service users.

In particular and following the success of a recent 5-day Wirral Discharge Challenge, the Deputy Chief Executive and I participated in a meeting with Wirral System partners to review the key learnings from the Challenge and to agree next steps to ensure the safe and timely discharge of patients who no longer require acute hospital care.

Place Based governance arrangements

The work across the system on PLACE governance arrangements has continued with the Place-Based Partnership Board and the Wirral Provider Partnership (WPP) both established and having met on a number of occasions.

As the Deputy Chief Executive will confirm at item 14, the WPP has now agreed key governance arrangements which will be presented to the Place-Based Partnership Board in March 2023.

All members of the Executive Team also continue to support positive system working at both Place (Wirral, Cheshire East, St Helens and Knowsley) and system (C&M) level.

New Chair of East Cheshire NHS Trust

I would like to offer congratulations to Aislinn O'Dwyer who has been appointed the Chair of East Cheshire NHS Trust.

Aislinn will be taking over from Dr Andrew Smith, who is returning to his role as a Non-Executive Director after holding the position of Acting Chair of the Board on an interim basis since November 2022.

I invite the members of the Board of Directors to receive this report for information.

Beverley Jordan
Deputy Chair

6 February 2023

Lead Governor Report

Council of Governor elections

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors, we were able to (verbally) announce the declaration of results from the recent Council of Governor elections.

Three seats were filled as follows;

- Staff governor - Jenna Brassington, Physiotherapist
- Wirral South - Kevin Sharkey
- Wirral West - Ronnie Morris

A number of vacancies remain in the Council of Governors and at a recent formal meeting, members of the CoG considered options to co-opt governors and to review the election timetable.

These options will require a review of the Trust's FT constitution which a small group of governors is now supporting with the Director of Corporate Affairs.

Any subsequent recommendations will be presented to the full CoG and the Board of Directors for approval.

Council of Governor meeting - 24 January 2023

The CoG met in person, formally, in January 2023 and considered a busy agenda involving both updates from the Trust and questions from governor colleagues.

The Chief Executive was in attendance to provide an update to all governors on the decision by the Local Authority to transfer the Adult Social Care contract back to the Local Authority. All governors were interested to understand the process and noted in particular the assurance provided by the Local Authority and the DASS that the decision was not driven by any performance concerns and also the commitment by the Local Authority to work with the Trust to maintain the best of integration as developed over the last six years.

The governors were pleased to receive a briefing on the approach to staff engagement and consultation through the process recognising the importance of supporting this professional and highly skilled workforce for the people of Wirral. Additionally, and following a number of questions from governors, it was noted that communication to service users will be a priority ensuring clarity in the continuation of service provision before, during and after contract transfer.

The Chief Operating Officer provided a briefing following the recent RCN industrial action which involved staff from the Trust. It was noted that the process had been well managed with staff well supported. The governors particularly recognised the quality and clarity of communication shared in the preparations and on the days of action with staff right across the Trust.

The CoG received and approved the cycle of business for formal meetings, development sessions and sub-groups during 2023-24.



Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust

Gary Kelly-Hartley, public governor for Wallasey provided an update on the work he is supporting to promote and embed the Armed Forces Covenant. Gary is working with the Trust's Head of Inclusion and linking with governors in neighbouring organisations to identify best practice in ensuring the Trust fulfils its obligations through the covenant.

Finally, each of the Non-Executive Directors (with the exception of Prof. Chris Bentley who was unable to attend) presented an update on the work and areas of focus of their respective committees.

Your Voice Group

The Your Voice Group meeting scheduled for 19 January 2023 was cancelled due to RCN industrial action taking place at the Trust.

However, all members of the group have been invited to participate in a focus group on 8th February 2023, to support and contribute to the Trust's programme to implement a new Electronic Health Record.

The next meeting of the Your Voice group will take place on 21 March 2023 at 10.00am.

Anybody interested in joining the group or learning more about what is involved is encouraged to visit the following link on the Trust's public website - [Engagement Groups - Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust \(wchc.nhs.uk\)](https://www.wchc.nhs.uk/engagement-groups)

Patient Safety Partner (PSP)

At a recent Your Voice group, members were introduced to the role of the PSP and invited to apply to be appointed as the Trust's first two PSPs.

I am delighted to confirm that a member of the Your Voice group, Lottie Shaw has been successful and will shortly be commencing in post and actively working with colleagues across the Trust.

This appointment supports the NHS Patient Safety Strategy (2019) and recognises the importance of involving patients, their families and carers and other lay people in improving the safety of NHS care, as well as the role that patients and carers can have as partners in their own safety.

Forthcoming Council of Governor activity and meetings

The next formal meeting of the Council of Governors will take place on 23 May 2023.

We will have a development session on 16 March 2023 and in the next few months we will reconvene the CoG Remuneration & Nomination subgroup to start the process for the Chair and one Non-Executive Director reappointment. This process will follow the new Code of Governance which will come into effect from 1 April 2023.

I provide this report to the Board of Directors for noting and assurance on the work of the Council of Governors.

Lynn Collins
Lead Governor (public governor, Wirral West)
6 February 2023

Chief Executive's Report - February 2023

1. This report provides an update on regional and local news and developments including important updates from across the Trust. In addition, it advises on the work considered by the Executive Leadership Team. I have also highlighted some key national updates for information.
2. I present this report to the Board as the Deputy Chief Executive.

Local news and developments

3. As we approach the end of the financial year 2022-23, I would like to reflect on a few highlights from the last 12 months and the exceptional services we have provided for hundreds of thousands of people across Wirral, Cheshire East, St Helens and Knowsley.
4. In February 2022 we were delighted to welcome our Knowsley 0-25 colleagues to the Trust expanding our fantastic service offer to children, young people and their families across the region (see para 36)
5. We were thrilled to mark the start of the construction of the Marine Lake Medical Centre in West Kirby in March 2022. The development is an important investment in local, community-based healthcare and will bring many benefits for patients, residents and the wider community and is due to open in Spring/early Summer 2023.
6. In the summer months, it was wonderful to officially open the Bee Well Garden at St Catherine's Health Centre with our Chairman Professor Michael Brown. It was also a chance to showcase the 10 trees planted as part of the Queens Green Canopy to mark the Platinum Jubilee. Benches and planters popped up across our sites as we encouraged colleagues to feel the benefits of being outdoors.
7. In October, after a three-year gap due to Covid-19, we welcomed nearly 300 colleagues, partners, and sponsors to Chester Racecourse to celebrate and recognise the amazing work of the teams across the Trust at the Team WCHC Awards 2022. It was a magnificent evening celebrating the amazing work that goes on at Team WCHC and thanking those who achieved Long Service Awards for 25 years or more dedication to the NHS.
8. And in December, we hosted both the Art Exhibition and Christmas light switch-on and the Christmas Jumper Day events at St Catherine's Health Centre. These events are wonderful opportunities to engage and work with our local communities bringing people together.
9. Throughout all of this, and much more, our staff ensured that outstanding health and care services were delivered to the one million contacts we have had. Whilst we continue to face economic challenges and increased demand across all NHS services, the passion, enthusiasm and dedication of our staff never falters.

Service Delivery

10. It has been well documented that the pressure on NHS services has been significant over recent weeks, and we have felt it across Merseyside and Cheshire with local hospitals under immense pressure and our own Urgent Care Services, Community Intermediate Care Centre (CICC), discharge teams, community urgent response and nursing teams working tirelessly to support our communities.

11. On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to extend sincere thanks to all staff who continue to work tirelessly; we do not underestimate the on-going challenges of a difficult winter.

Adult Social Care contract transfer

12. As shared in December 2022, it is now confirmed that the Adult Social Care contract will be returning to Wirral Council. This follows difficult discussions with Wirral Council following a recommendation made by their Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee to return the contract back to the local authority.
13. The Council has been clear that this was no reflection on the services provided or indeed the quality of care delivered, but a political decision to be a provider of services.
14. The main concern of this Board of Directors is to protect the integrity of service provision and look after our social care workforce as we now begin the process to transition Adult Social Care services back to Wirral Council.
15. To this end, we have established a Project Team that is working with the Council to ensure a smooth and effective contract transfer. We have had a series of briefings with staff to answer any immediate questions and we have a process in place for staff to pose further questions at any time.
16. Our commitment to provide regular, clear and honest communication to staff throughout this process is also shared by the Council.

Adult Social Care Discharge Fund

17. As previously reported, on 22nd September 2022, His Majesty's Government announced its Plan for Patients. This plan committed £500 million for the rest of the financial year 2022/23, to support timely and safe discharge from hospital into the community by reducing the number of people delayed in hospital awaiting social care.
18. The intention of this fund was to focus on, but not be limited to, a 'home first' approach and discharge to assess (D2A)
19. The deadline for submission of the Wirral plan for the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund was 16th December 2022.
20. The Joint Strategic Commissioning Board sub-committee delegated the approval of the Wirral plan for the Fund to the Director of Adult Social Care and Health, Wirral Council in consultation with the Place Director and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside.
21. The total allocation to Wirral Council was £1.5m, the allocation to NHS Cheshire and Merseyside was £19.2m. Wirral has received an increased allocation, compared with an expected "fair share" distribution, of £2.8m.
22. The Wirral submission for the Fund was presented to the Place-Based Partnership Board on 9th February 2023 and can be accessed via the following link - [20230209WPBPBAgendaV02.pdf](https://www.wirralnhs.uk/20230209WPBPBAgendaV02.pdf)
23. A further update report on the application of and outcomes from the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund will be presented to a future meeting of the Joint Strategic Commissioning



Board sub-committee and Wirral Place-Based Partnership Board. The Trust has membership of the Place-Based Partnership Board.

Chief People Officer

24. We are delighted to announce the appointment of Claus Madsen as the Trust's new Chief People Officer.
25. Claus has more than two decades' experience as a senior people leader with a background in both the public and private sectors.
26. Claus joins us from Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust (YAS) where he is currently the Associate Director of Education and Organisational Development. At YAS he has led on the development and implementation of their People Strategy and its alignment to the NHS People Plan and Promise, and he is the Senior Responsible Officer for the Trust's People and Culture business priorities.
27. Nationally, Claus is involved in the '*Future of HR & OD in the NHS*' programme as a member of NHS England's People Professional Development Board and he is involved with the NHS workforce supply agenda as a member of NHS England's Apprentice Growth Strategy Implementation Oversight Group.
28. Claus holds a BA (Hons) in Teaching, an MA in Educational Sociology, and an MSc in Leadership and Management from Henley Business School, UK. In 2020 Claus achieved Chartered Fellowship status of the CIPD.
29. We are delighted to welcome Claus to the Trust. He brings a wealth of knowledge and a breadth of experience in many areas. I am sure everyone will join me in giving him a very warm welcome when he officially joins us, but we look forward to him visiting us occasionally before his formal start date in April 2023.

RCN industrial action

30. In mid-January 2023, RCN colleagues from across the Trust took part in two days of industrial action.
31. As a Trust we respect the right of trade union members to take part in planned industrial action. NHS pay is a matter for the Government and trade unions, and we were committed to work with all staff, our staff side colleagues and trade union representatives to recognise and respect the right to take action.
32. A key part of our commitment was working together as NHS colleagues in the preparations for industrial action, to enable the strike to take place whilst ensuring vital services were maintained and patient safety was not compromised.
33. The planning and hard work that went into ensuring it could take place safely and ensure as many staff as possible could participate was phenomenal. Our staff right across the Trust demonstrated such dignity and respect for each other and were determined to maintain the integrity of the strike by keeping things safe for our patients.
34. My thanks to all those who supported the meticulous preparations for the two days including our Chief Nurse, Paula Simpson, our EPRR Lead Mick Blease, colleagues from HR and operations, all staff who were working in derogated services, administrative staff

who were supporting both staff and service users and our RCN colleagues both locally and regionally who worked alongside the Trust to ensure a safe strike.

35. As the national strike action continues between a number of unions and the Government, we will continue to support our colleagues and work with our local trade union representatives to ensure safe action can be taken.

Celebrating one year with our 0-25 Service in Knowsley

36. In February 2022, our 0-19+ footprint grew, and we launched the 0-25 Service in Knowsley and over the last 12 months the service has gone from strength to strength. The skills and expertise colleagues brought to the Trust continue to help us shape and deliver a seamless service for local children, young people, and families. Our partnership working has strengthened, and teams are working together with local stakeholders to provide the best possible support and care for people.

37. The team has achieved so much since joining the Trust including;

- a 500% increase with 6–8-week baby visits
- a successful stakeholder engagement event with over 60 people coming together to network and engage
- the launch of the antenatal online hub in quarter 3 (Oct-Dec) with over 800 parents and carers having accessed support and guidance
- 3 monthly Team WCHC standout winners
 - May - integrated children's team
 - July - school nursing team
 - August - height and weight screening team
- ...and the Enhancing Families Programme was the runner up in 'Excellence in Care' category at the Team WCHC Awards

Annual flu campaign

38. Our annual staff flu campaign continues with staff across the Trust having the opportunity to access their seasonal flu vaccine to protect themselves, their families and those in their care.

39. In parallel and thanks to our partners at Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS FT, our staff are also able to access the COVID-19 booster vaccine.

40. Our dedicated team of immunisers are working tirelessly to support our staff and make sure the flu vaccine is as accessible as possible. To date, almost half of all reportable staff have protected themselves, their families and their patients.

Your Experience - the importance of feedback

41. In December 2022 we received over 1,895 responses to our patient experience survey with 90.4% of people recommending our services.

42. The top 10 themes from the feedback included staff attitude, the implementation of care, the environment and communication. This is so important to not only ensure we continue to deliver and improve our services for those accessing them, but also for our staff who continue to work incredibly hard and to know that they are appreciated and doing a good job!

Patient Safety Incident Response Framework



43. We are pleased to be introducing this new framework to the Trust which aims to contribute to better patient safety and effective learning.

44. In summary, PSIRF:

- Promotes compassionate involvement
- Ensures proportionate response
- Has a system improvement approach
- Provides supportive oversight

Patient Safety Partners

45. As we recognise the importance and value of hearing feedback from those that use our services, we are delighted to have recently appointed our first two Patient Safety Partners (PSP) to the Trust.

46. The role of the PSP is key in the NHS Patient Safety Strategy and relates to the role that patients, carers and other lay people can play in supporting and contributing to a healthcare organisation's governance and management processes for patient safety.

47. We look forward to hearing more from our PSPs as they work with colleagues across the Trust.

LGBT+ History Month



48. February is LGBT+ History Month, celebrating LGBTQ+ people in all their diversity by raising awareness, combating prejudice and promoting education.

49. The annual event began in 2005 and is celebrated across the NHS to increase the visibility of the entire LGBTQ+ community, as well as their history and experiences. This year we want to focus LGBT History Month on a time to celebrate and educate across the Trust and shine a light on some of the great work we have achieved

50. We regularly engage with staff on inclusion and diversity, and the ongoing work with LGBTQ+ communities, including PRIDE events and wider LGBT+ awareness. Last year

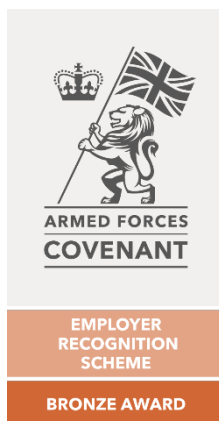
our 'LGBTQ+ – what does it all mean' staff workshops were really well attended and our awareness about pronouns, unconscious bias and microaggression encourages us all to think wider and differently and helps us build a more inclusive future, both as an employer and a care provider.

51. During February 2023, we will be sharing lots of opportunities for learning and wider discussions with staff and we will be hearing more about our LGBTQ+ Staff Network.
52. In time to celebrate during LGBTQ+ History Month we are delighted to have been awarded Bronze Status in the NHS Rainbow Pin Badge accreditation scheme. During 2022 the Trust has worked hard gathering feedback and evidence from staff, patients and service users and undertaking audits of policies and procedures to demonstrate how we are working to make the Trust an inclusive, welcoming and safe environment for both LGBTQ+ staff and service users. We will be celebrating this achievement during the month and developing our action plan from the feedback we received from the assessment process, pointing us in the direction of silver accreditation, something we strive to achieve together.

Careers in health and social care open day (*in collaboration with Wirral University Teaching Hospital and Wirral Council*)

53. On 4th March 2023, we will be holding a third collaborative recruitment event with partners across the Wirral health and care system.
54. This event, taking place at the Education Centre in Arrowe Park Hospital will provide an opportunity for local people to find out more about current vacancies in the system with options for fast-track recruitment processes.
55. The opportunity to collaborate with local partners is invaluable as we seek to ensure a resilient and highly skilled workforce across Wirral.

Armed Forces Covenant - bronze accreditation



56. In December 2022, we received a bronze award in the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme in recognition of our commitment to the Armed Forces.

57. By signing the Armed Forces Covenant (AFC) we demonstrate our intention to support the Armed Forces community and have the opportunity to be recognised by the Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) award.

58. This ERS award at bronze level shows that we are delivering tangible support for the Armed Forces community.

Place Governance

59. I will provide a separate verbal report at item 12 on the arrangements in Place to ensure effective governance and reporting mechanisms are established.

National news and developments

'Hospitals at home' plan

60. At the end of January 2023, the NHS and the government published a new blueprint to help recover urgent and emergency care services, reduce waiting times, and improve patient experience.
61. Frontline capacity will be boosted further thanks to 800 new ambulances, including 100 specialist mental health vehicles, and 5,000 more sustainable hospital beds backed by a £1 billion dedicated fund.
62. The [two-year delivery plan](#) for recovery comes amid record demand for NHS services, with the latest data showing more A&E attendances than ever before, growing numbers of the most serious ambulance call outs, and millions of NHS 111 calls a month over winter.
63. Urgent care provided in the community will be expanded to ensure people can get the care they need at home, without the need for a hospital admission.
64. These services will run for at least 12 hours a day - responding to calls normally requiring an ambulance crew - and will mean people who have fallen or are injured can get care and treatment at home within two hours.
65. Same day emergency care units, staffed by consultants and nurses, will be open in every hospital with a major A&E, helping to transform patients' experiences and allowing thousands of people each week to avoid an overnight hospital stay.
66. Freeing up space in hospitals and speeding up discharge for those who are medically fit to leave are key parts of the blueprint, which will see pilots of a new approach to NHS step down care across the country - where patients will receive rehabilitation and physiotherapy including at home.
67. This scheme will ensure people have a smooth transition out of hospital, reducing the chances of re-admission while also potentially reducing long term demand on social care.
68. The success of 'virtual wards', where patients receive high-tech care in their own home is set to grow, with 7,000 virtual ward beds already in the community and up to 50,000 patients a month expected to benefit by the end of 2023/24.

NHS operational planning guidance 2023-24

69. The 2023-24 priorities and operational planning guidance reconfirms the on-going need to recover core services and improve productivity, making progress in delivering the key NHS Long Term Plan ambitions and continuing to transform the NHS for the future.
70. In reviewing the guidance, the NHS Providers interim Chief Executive reflected,

"This year, the planning guidance serves as a stark reminder of the challenges facing the health service. Against a backdrop of severe operational pressures exacerbated by ongoing workforce shortages, care backlogs and soaring demand, trust leaders are bracing themselves for another tough year.

Trusts will welcome NHS England's efforts to streamline priorities, clarify core aims for the service as it seeks to recover operational performance, deliver existing aspects of the

long-term plan, and retain an eye to the future given the need to transform services over the longer term.

It is also vital that mental health and community services remain central priorities both for local systems and NHS England given the key role these services play for patients and service users, and as part of the solution to alleviate pressures on urgent and emergency care and other pathways.”

71. The planning guidance and associated documents can be accessed via the following link - [NHS England » NHS operational planning and contracting guidance](#)

2023/24 NHS Standard Contract

72. The NHS Standard Contract is mandated by NHS England for use by commissioners for all contracts for healthcare services other than primary care.
73. The consultation on the draft 2023/24 NHS Standard Contract was open until late January 2023.

NHS England and NHS Digital complete merger

74. On 1 February 2023, NHS England and NHS Digital legally merged in the first step towards creating a new, single organisation to lead the NHS in England to deliver high-quality services for all.
75. The move brings the NHS' national data and technology expertise into one organisation, creating a closer link between the collection and analysis of data to help drive improvement to patient outcomes.
76. The transfer sees NHS England become the custodian of national health and social care datasets and the single executive non-departmental public body with responsibility for digital technology, data and health service delivery in the NHS.
77. The merger of NHS Digital and NHS England comes ahead of the incorporation of the body responsible for the education and training of the health workforce - Health Education England - into the new NHS England on 1 April 2023.
78. The integration of NHS Digital, Health Education England and NHS England will put workforce, data, digital and technology at the heart of plans to transform the NHS, enabling better, more joined-up decision-making at system, regional and national levels, and a more effective and efficient use of collective resources.
79. As a single, streamlined organisation, the new NHS England will build on the strengths and expertise of its legacy organisations, while avoiding duplicate activities - enabling it to be even more responsive to changing demand and the biggest challenges, priorities and opportunities of the health system.
80. It is expected that, by the end of 2023/24, the new organisation will be between 30-40% smaller than the current combined size of NHS England, Health Education England and NHS Digital.
81. The new, more integrated organisation will also support and accelerate the move to greater partnership working through integrated care systems (placed on statutory footing from 1 July 2022), by speaking with a single national voice and modelling effective joint working.

82. As integration activities continue, to enable the new NHS England to work efficiently as one single new organisation, almost all systems, processes and job roles are due to remain the same until at least April 2023.

Communications and Engagement

Get Together - Team WCHC Briefing



83. The monthly on-line Get Together meetings continue to be well attended by staff and we continue to use this important engagement forum to share news and updates but also to seek feedback from our staff.
84. I look forward to these sessions every month and the opportunity to engage with so many members of Team WCHC.
85. I have also continued to represent the Trust at regular system meetings including Northwest Leaders, Cheshire & Merseyside Providers Chief Executives, and Cheshire & Merseyside Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Community Provider Collaborative (MHLDC).
86. In December 2022, we were pleased to welcome Cllr Jason Walsh to our Sexual Health Service to meet with staff and learn about the services we provided. Cllr Walsh appreciated the opportunity to hear about staff and service user experiences and confirmed his support as an advocate for the services delivered to the Wirral population.

Congratulations!

87. Paul Evans, one of our community nurses, has been successful in obtaining a place on the NHS Clinical Entrepreneur Programme (CEP) following a competitive process.
88. The CEP is an initiative, delivered by Anglia Ruskin University. It is the biggest entrepreneurial workforce development programme of its kind.
89. The aims of the programme are to:
- Allow entrepreneurs and creative thinkers to pursue their innovation without having to leave the health service.
 - Support the healthcare workforce to develop and scale their most innovative ideas for the benefit of patients, staff and the wider NHS.
 - Develop the skills, knowledge and experience needed to successfully develop and spread innovative solutions to the challenges facing the NHS.
 - Provide a wider benefit to economic growth through inward investment in the health, social care and life science sectors.
90. Many congratulations to Paul on securing a place and we look forward to hearing more over the coming months.

The Monthly
StandOut!
TeamWCHC

91. Our monthly Stand Out winners for December 2022 were the **Estates Team** nominated by Ann-Marie Johns. In nominating the team, Marie said,

"I am nominating the Estates maintenance team because of what they do. Whatever is needed they are at hand to help sort the problem from a blocked sink, gritting, PAT testing, putting up notice boards to most recently bringing the Christmas magic to St Caths and VCHC. A huge thank you for all your efforts as usual the decs look amazing!

Nothing is too much trouble for these guys they do so much behind the scenes, especially this week gritting our premises in freezing temperatures from before 6am to make sure our staff and visitors are safe.

They deserve a monthly shout out. I know I am a pain with my 'bright' ideas but a personal thanks from me for the help they have given me with the tasks I have been working on - their help makes my job a lot easier."

92. Our monthly Stand Out winners for January 2023 were **Heart Support and the Estates Team** for their collective support and encouragement to a colleague with a potential health issue.

"The support and care I was shown makes me realise how lucky I am but more importantly how lucky our patients are."

93. Congratulations to both teams for this recognition from colleagues right across the Trust.

Summary of Executive Leadership Team (ELT) business in December 2022 and January 2023

94. ELT has continued to receive regular updates on the following:

- A Wirral system sitrep including measures introduced to address system winter pressures including Virtual Wards and Home First
- Developments across the national, ICB and Place health and care systems
- The work of the various UECUP (Urgent & Emergency Care Upgrade Programme) committees and workstreams
- Financial performance and progress towards achieving the 2022/23 Productivity & Efficiency target and planning for the 2023/24 efficiency programme
- Preparedness for and feedback from industrial action by NHS staff organisations
- The transfer of the Adult Social Care contract back to Wirral Council

95. During December 2022 and January 2023, the following were approved by ELT:

- An amendment to the MIAA Internal Audit Plan for 2022/23 (*subject to Audit Committee approval*)
- The draft Internal Audit Plan for 2023/24, for recommendation to the Audit Committee for final approval
- An enhanced process for approval of internal audit and anti-fraud reviews and recommendations
- Terms of Reference for an internal review of the Trust's Safeguarding Service

- The appointment of an Executive Sponsor for the Staff Menopause Network
- An enhanced process for executive monitoring of trust-wide policies
- A business case for a revised staffing model in the Medicines Management Service
- A proposal for the Trust to develop a pre-hospital Urgent Care Hub in partnership with one of Wirral's Primary Care Networks

96. Additional items were also presented to ELT for assurance or discussion including:

- A review of the Trust's People Function
- An action plan to address the financial position and workforce issues in the Community Intermediate Care Centre.
- High level outcomes from the internal review of the Trust's Safeguarding Service.
- An overview of the NHS Standard Contract and Planning Guidance for 2023/24.

Conclusion

97. I hope you find this report interesting and helpful, and it provides a clear description of the current priorities for the Trust and the key activities underway to address them.

Mark Greatrex
Deputy Chief Executive

Alison Hughes
Director of Corporate Affairs

6 February 2023