

Board of Directors' Meeting 8 December 2020

Agenda item	197/20			
Report	Chief Executive's Report			
Executive Lead	Louise Barnett, Chief Executive			
	Link to strategic pillar:		Link to CQC domain:	
	Our patients and community	√	Safe	√
	Our people	√	Effective	√
	Our service delivery	√	Caring	√
	Our partners	√	Responsive	√
	Our governance	√	Well Led	√
	Report recommendations:		Link to BAF / risk:	
	For assurance	√	All BAF items	
	For decision / approval		Link to risk register:	
	For review / discussion			
	For noting	√		
	For information			
Executive summary:	This paper provides an update on a number of the key strategic and operational issues being led by the Executive Team.			
Appendices	None			

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of matters arising since the last report to Board on 5 November 2020.

2.0 The Independent Review into Maternity Care at SaTH ('Ockenden Review')

- 2.1 The Trust has been advised that, subject to the Parliamentary timetable, an interim report from the Ockenden Review is due to be published on 10 December 2020.
- 2.2 It has been confirmed that this will be an emerging findings report and will include 'Essential and Immediate Actions', as a result of the review of a selection of 250 cases of concern, which include the original 23 cases which initiated this independent maternity review.
- 2.3 In addition, the independent police investigation at the Trust continues, and the Trust is co-operating fully with the investigation.

3.0 Response to Covid-19 and winter pressures

- 3.1 The Trust, and regional partners, have experienced severe pressures due to both the onset of winter and the escalating numbers of Covid patients attending hospital, which at one stage during wave 2, stood at over 80 positive patients. The number of patients who are Covid positive has now reduced.
- 3.2 At the end of December, our new Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) unit will open on the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital site, this will mean that we will be able to better support patients who, where appropriate, will receive diagnostic tests and treatment on the same day, thus providing a more responsive service and avoiding an admission to hospital.
- 3.3 On the PRH site, a new 23 bedded unit will open at the end of December. This extra capacity will help reduce the number of patients waiting for beds in the A&E department and improve their patient experience.
- 3.4 We are working very hard to recover all clinical and diagnostic services to pre-Covid levels with additional support from our system partners. We are looking to extend our mobile MRI capacity to the end of July 2021, and to provide an additional static MRI and CT scanner from April 2021 which will help us to see more patients more quickly.
- 3.5 We are also working closely with our system partners to improve the experience for patients with mental health conditions, and to improve the environment for assessment.
- 3.6 Infection control and prevention measures remain central to our approach and we are now swabbing of all in-patients on day of admission (day 1) and day 5.
- 3.7 As part of our testing approach, to support our staff on the front line and protect our patients, we have deployed lateral flow kits to front line teams so that they can routinely test themselves.
- 3.8 More than 4,000 members of staff have so far had their flu vaccination as part of the Trust's DriveFlu campaign and we are working hard to achieve a greater take up.

- 3.9 It has recently been announced that a coronavirus (Covid 19) vaccine developed by Pfizer/BioNTech has been approved for use in the UK. The final decision on who will get the vaccine first will follow advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) and, at the time of writing, continues to be discussed at the highest level.

5.0 Quality Improvement Plan

- 5.1 Whilst a significant number of improvement actions have been completed, we have further to go both in terms of completing the remaining actions and to ensure that there is evidence of these being embedded. The Trust has now moved into Phase Two of its improvement programme. This places increased focus on themes of improvements, particularly in areas such as safe staffing, training, safeguarding, end of life care, governance, and the deteriorating patient

6.0 Hospital Transformation Programme

- 6.1 We welcome the announcement from the Department for Health and Social Care that £6m of funding has been approved in principle for the Hospitals Transformation Programme and we will be work with our partners, local MPs, staff, patients and other stakeholders to further develop our plans.

7.0 Staff Survey

- 7.1 The annual staff survey has now closed with over 40% of our colleagues taking part. Feedback will be shared once received and we will use this to inform actions that we will take together as part of our culture change and quality improvement programmes to improve experiences for patients and our colleagues.

**Louise Barnett,
Chief Executive
December 2020**