

## Board of Directors' Meeting 14 November 2024

<b>Agenda item</b>	153/24		
<b>Report Title</b>	Chief Executive's Report		
<b>Executive Lead</b>	Jo Williams, Interim Chief Executive Officer		
<b>Report Author</b>	Jo Williams, Interim Chief Executive Officer		
<b>CQC Domain:</b>	<b>Link to Strategic Goal:</b>		<b>Link to BAF / risk:</b>
Safe	√	Our patients and community	-
Effective	√	Our people	
Caring	√	Our service delivery	<b>Trust Risk Register id:</b>
Responsive	√	Our governance	
Well Led	√	Our partners	
<b>Consultation Communication</b>	N/A		
<b>Executive summary:</b>	<p>The annual NHS Staff Survey was launched online last month and over 40% of colleagues have already completed their responses. The Survey is open to the end of November 2024.</p> <p>As the NHS moves forward into the early winter season, our new Chief Operating Officer, Ned Hobbs, has been busy familiarising himself with our sites and services, supporting the Trust's continued efforts in improving core healthcare standards, for the benefit of our patients.</p> <p>Whilst the Trust has delivered just under £11M of cost efficiencies during the first 6 months of the financial year, we continue to closely monitor the financial and operational status of our resources.</p> <p>A visit from the NHSE GIRFT (Getting it Right First Time) team, to review our progress since opening the Elective Hub at PRH in June 2024, was well received by our teams.</p> <p>The Department of Health and Social Care launched its NHS ten-year health plan engagement exercise on Monday 21 October 2024 to shape the government's plans to build an NHS fit for the future. (Online link appears in the body of this report.)</p>		
<b>Recommendations for the Board:</b>	The Board is asked to note the contents of the report and to take assurance where appropriate.		
<b>Appendices</b>	None		

## **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This paper provides an overview regarding some of the most noteworthy events and updates from the Chief Executive's position, since the last Board held on 10 October 2024. This includes an overall summary, SaTH news and wider NHS updates.

## **2.0 OVERALL SaTH UPDATE**

- 2.1 Work is ongoing as part of the 2024 national NHS staff survey, which went live from mid-October. The survey is one of the most important ways through which we gain feedback from colleagues about working at the Trust, how the culture feels, and whether we are enabling colleagues to thrive. Results are used to ensure we are listening and to help inform and develop actions to enable SaTH to better place to work, improve working conditions, and ultimately, to improve patient care. I would encourage all colleagues to take part in the survey and share their feedback anonymously.

- 2.2 We have welcomed a new colleague to the Board; Ned Hobbs joined us in October as Chief Operating Officer.

My sincere thanks go to Sara Biffen, former Acting Chief Operating Officer, for her support over the last two and a half years, and I wish her the absolute best of luck in her new role within the HTP team.

- 2.3 We remain committed to making further progress at pace against core standards in urgent and emergency care, cancer, and waiting times. In September 2024 we reported forty-nine patients who had been waiting more than 78 weeks for care, and at the same time, our teams firmly focussed on reducing wait times to below 65 weeks. We will end October with more patients having waited more than 78 and 65 weeks than we had hoped, particularly in ENT.

Our teams are developing plans to deliver improvements for our patients, including our cancer performance where we know that our patients are waiting too long, which is unacceptable. We know we have much to do at pace to improve our performance across a range of metrics - and we remain committed to delivering this.

- 2.4 We continue to face challenges with some areas of urgent and emergency care; our guiding principles for seasonal resilience planning continue to be maintaining patient safety and positive patient experiences, protecting and preserving elective care, maximising our core capacity, driving productivity and working with system partners and other stakeholders to offer appropriate services to our population, in the right place, at the right time and with an appropriate use of resources.

- 2.5 At Month 6, (September), the Trust has a deficit of £5.6m against a restated breakeven position which has moved from a £4m adverse variance at month five. The drivers of the variance continue to mainly largely consist of loss of income due to the non-consultant

industrial action in June and July (£1.7m), escalation costs being above plan in July (£0.4m), temporary staffing premiums (£2.1m), endoscopy income (£0.5m) and CIP (cost improvement plan) slippage (£0.4m).

The Trust has a total efficiency target for 2023/24 of £44.7m. This includes £41.0m of budget releasing savings and £3.7m of run rate reductions. As at the end of September (month 6), the Trust has delivered £10.9m of efficiency savings for 24/25 which is £0.8m deficit to planned delivery of £11.7m.

- 2.6 Following the opening of our £24m Elective Hub at PRH in June 2024, on 4 October we welcomed the GIRFT (Getting it Right First Time) team to review our progress. The team were able to see first-hand the new facilities funded through the TIF (Targeted Investment Fund) award. Currently, the Hub is being used for the most challenged specialties, including Gynaecology, ENT, Dental Max Fax and General Surgery. The team was pleased to hear the ambitious plans we have for the Hub including our trajectory for being an accredited hub in 2025.
- 2.7 Throughout the first week of November 2024 we celebrate recognition week across the Trust with several events taking place, including long service recognition awards, thanking our volunteers and celebrating the importance of belonging and inclusion. This is a key element of our NHS People Promise, which tells us what NHS people value most. One of the commitments we make to each other is, 'we are each recognised and rewarded.' We know it is vital because recognition positively affects staff behaviour and contributes to improvements in health and wellbeing. I hope to meet many of our colleagues over the week and to say 'thank you' to them all.

### **3.0 SHROPSHIRE TELFORD & WREKIN (STW) INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM (ICS) UPDATES**

- 3.1 The next Integrated Care Board (ICS) Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 27 November 2024.

### **4.0 NHSE**

- 4.1 On Monday 21 October 2024, the NHS ten-year health plan engagement exercise was launched by DHSC to shape the government's plans to build an NHS fit for the future. The engagement will run until Monday 2 December 2024 and will seek input from a wide range of stakeholders (e.g. staff, organisations and general public) on future plans for the NHS via an online platform, <https://change.nhs.uk/en-GB>

The consultation will focus on the "three shifts" that have been identified by the Labour government and some of their initial plans have been set out in the announcement:

- From hospital to community care e.g. neighbourhood health centre plans
- From analogue to digital care e.g. single patient record on NHS App
- From sickness to prevention e.g. plans for wearable tech to monitor health from home

The plan is provisionally expected to be delivered in April/ May 2025

**5.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

5.1 The Board is asked to discuss the contents of the report, and

5.2 to note the contents of the report.

Jo Williams  
Interim Chief Executive  
31 October 2024