

Board of Directors (In Public)
Item 1.9

Subject: Chief Executive's Report
Date of Meeting: 9th April 2024
Presented by: Liz Bishop, Chief Executive
Purpose of Report: To Note

BAF Reference	Impact on BAF
All	The report updates on a range of issues.

Level of assurance (<i>please tick one</i>)					
<i>To be used when the content of the report provides evidence of assurance</i>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Acceptable assurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partial assurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low assurance
	Controls are suitably designed, with evidence of them being consistently applied and effective in practice		Controls are still maturing – evidence shows that further action is required to improve their effectiveness		Evidence indicates poor effectiveness of controls

1. System Updates (ICS / CMAST / PLACE / LTJC / Spec Com / National CVD Board)

National CVD Board:

Last meeting on the Board was on 12th February and was attended by Manoj Kuduvalli. Headlines as below:

- The overall national target of the LTP by 2023-24 for cumulative number of heart attacks, strokes and dementia cases prevented by effective management of blood pressure, atrial fibrillation and use of statins as primary prevention was 150k. This is likely to be exceeded.
- High number of calls continue to 999 via NHS Pathways, peaking in December 2023, almost 7% more than in Dec 2022.
- Median call to balloon time in providing PPCI for patients with STEMI has increased each year since 2011. This seems to be driven mainly by delayed ambulance response times and delayed inter-hospital transfer.

2. Board Leadership Competency Framework

NHS England (NHSE) released the NHS Leadership Competency Framework for Board members, alongside a new Framework for conducting annual appraisals of NHS Chairs on the 28th February 2024. The Council of Governors approved the adoption of the new Chairs appraisal process for 2023/24 at its meeting on the 5th March 2024. The Directors appraisal process isn't due to be published until September 2024, therefore as an interim measure the leadership competency framework self-assessment will be completed by Non-Executive Directors and Executive Directors as part of the 2023/24 appraisal in preparation for the new approach to be implemented for 2024/25.

3. Martha's Law

Implementation of Martha's rule will take a phased approach, beginning in at least 100 adult and paediatric acute providers. LHCH already have a 24-hour Critical Care Outreach team and so would be keen to be a pilot site. The first phase will take place during 24/25 and focuses on supporting participating provider sites to devise and agree a standardised approach to all 3 Components. In line with the 3 proposed components LHCH is compliant with proposal one as we run a 24-hour service. In line with component 2 we are currently scoping out introducing call 4 concern (C4C) where patients and families can contact outreach 24/7. Once scoped out will be piloted aiming for May 24.

Component 3 will be more challenging to implement but will be an agenda item within Critical Care Delivery Group with regards to scoping out how to implement which will feed into QSEC.

4. CQC Engagement Meeting

The Trust had a positive CQC engagement meeting with the Operations Manager and Regulatory Coordinator. This included an update on the new CQC assessment framework and the approach the team would take in terms of intelligence gathering, monitoring and communication with the Trust. The LHCH Executive Team provided an update on current performance, risk and assurances including the highlights from the National Staff Survey. An update was provided on Board changes, and the CQC confirmed that whilst they often receive more direct communication from staff when significant Board changes occur this hadn't been the case for LHCH and there hadn't been any issues raised.

5. The Fuller Report

Update from LUFT service manager whilst we await their assurance report. I can provide written assurance today that there are no gaps relating to the recommendations from the Fuller Enquiry.

6. EPRR ICB Visit

The Trust received a visit from the Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB) Emergency Preparedness Resilience and Response Team on the 12th March. Discussion included the challenges of core standards assurance process, and the work the ICB team are focussing on to improve the training offer and further opportunities to be involved in system wide exercises. Providers are working hard to deliver their action plans, but there is an acknowledgement that it will take time to fully implement and embed the core standards across the region.

7. COVID Inquiry Update

The Chair of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry, Baroness Hallett, has set out plans for the public hearings in three further investigations from autumn 2024 until spring 2025.

Public hearings for the Inquiry's investigations into Healthcare (module 3), Vaccines and Therapeutics (module 4) and Procurement (module 5) will take place over the next 14 months.

- Module 3 will investigate the impact of the pandemic on healthcare systems. Its public hearings will run for 10 weeks in London split by a two-week break:
 - Mon 9 Sep – Thur 10 Oct 2024
 - Break: Mon 14 – Fri 25 Oct
 - Mon 28 Oct – Thu 28 Nov
- Module 4 will examine vaccines, therapeutics and anti-viral treatment across the UK. The Inquiry plans to hear evidence for this investigation from Tuesday 14 January 2025.

- Module 5 will explore Government Procurement across the UK. The Inquiry plans to hear evidence for this investigation from Monday 3 March 2025.

The Trust continues to track the progress of the Inquiry.

8. Industrial Action Update

During February the Junior Doctors staged another 5 days of strike action between 7am on Saturday 24th February until 11:59pm on Wednesday 28th February in support of national pay disputes. As a Trust we delivered a robust plan to manage any potential gaps and safety as a priority. The strikes impacted our ability to deliver planned activity leading to a number of cancellations and reduction of activity during this period. Financial and Activity impact is continuously reviewed as a Trust and System and mitigation put in place where possible to look at delivery against our statutory targets.

On the 20th March 2024 the British Medical Association announced that following a re-ballot, the junior doctors in England had voted in favour of extending the mandate for industrial action, and also to provide a mandate for action short of strike (ASOS) to mid September 2024. ASOS encompasses industrial action taken in order to put pressure on the employer in a trade dispute, but which does not amount to strike action.

9. Local Elections

There are a number of considerations for NHS foundation trusts and trusts in the period of time known as the pre-election period (often referred to as purdah) leading up to the 2024 local government elections. The local election pre-election period begins on the 26th March 2024 and the local election timetable is set out below.



NHS Providers have set out the following key information for NHS Foundation Trusts and Trust Board of Directors.

Board meetings and normal regulation

Normal business and regulation need to continue during the pre-election period. NHS England, for example, is not expected to alter the dates on which it expects information from providers. Where a board discussion or sign off is required, there is no problem with holding a board meeting.

Where a board meeting needs to take place, the agenda should be confined to those matters that need a board decision or require board oversight. Matters of future strategy or the future deployment of resources may be construed as favouring one party over another and should be avoided.

Use of the confidential part or part 2 of the agenda to discuss matters that may be politically controversial is not recommended. Such matters should be deferred until after the pre-election periods.

The NHS Providers briefing has been shared with all Board members and considerations will be made for the April 2024 meetings of the Board of Directors.

10. Consultant Appointments

The following Consultants have recently been appointed:

Grade	Name	Recruitment Stage
Substantive Consultant Cardiac Surgeon	Haytham Sabry	Started in post, 1st March 2024
Locum Consultant Radiologist - Cardiovascular Imaging	Abdulrahman Emameldeen Sayed Hamdan	Pre-employment checks
Locum Consultant Anaesthetist	Cheng Whye Yeo	Pre-employment checks

11. Recommendations

The Board of Directors is asked to review the content of this report.