

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BRIEFING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 21 SEPTEMBER 2016

1. Integrated Performance Report

The Integrated Performance Report for July and August 2016 is attached at Appendix 1. Each Director will highlight the key issues for the Board of Directors to note/consider.

2. South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP)

The Trust continues to play an active part in the development of the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Sustainability and Transformation plan and a verbal update will be given outlining progress to date at the Board of Directors meeting.

3. Step into Health Programme

The Step into Health programme originated at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in partnership with Walking with the Wounded, and the Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry. In 2015, with financial support from Health Education England, the programme was expanded to include Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Hampshire Hospitals NHS foundation Trust, and Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

The programme has been created because the quality of the services that the NHS provides relies heavily on attracting and retaining the very best individuals, who embody its values. The programme is the NHS's recognition of the inherent skills which former armed forces personnel possess, alongside an acknowledgment of its responsibility to support the long term health and wellbeing of the entire armed forces community. Consequently, the programme is open to all service leavers, veterans, and their spouses/partners.

At STH, the programme involves an initial introduction to the NHS via a careers information session; this is followed by an opportunity for participants to undertake a bespoke work experience placement of up to four weeks. Upon positive completion of a work experience placement, participants are supported to apply for appropriate roles and are guided through the application and interview process by the programme lead.

To date, 48 individuals have attended the four careers information sessions STH has held; five of these individuals have now completed work experience placements at STH and a further eleven placements at STH are currently being planned. The programme has already led to the appointment of a former participant in a senior management role at STH, whilst others are now planning on completing further education before seeking to take up work in the NHS.

STH is now working with the programme stakeholders to promote the programme nationally and explore its long-term funding and sustainability.

4. Research

In terms of research performance for recruitment to trials in 2015/16 in the Yorkshire and Humber Local Clinical Research Network, STH was one of the Network's top performers and met its target.

Researchers from the Trust have successfully secured several major grants from the National Institute for Health Research:

- Professor Solomon Tesfaye will be leading a £3m study looking at the effectiveness of pain control in patients with chronic pain caused by diabetic neuropathy. The grant is one of the biggest awards ever given to a Sheffield Teaching Hospitals research team.
- Mr Mostafa Metwally is part of a £1,264,780 multi-centre national study looking to see if a technique called “endometrial scratch” can improve pregnancy rates, and reduce multi-births, in first-time IVF attempters.
- Professor Dilly Anumba from the Academic Unit of Reproductive and Developmental Medicine and colleagues have been awarded £792,753 from the NIHR i4i scheme to develop and test a clinical grade magnetic impedance spectroscopy device for assessment of the cervix in pregnant women to predict pre-term birth.

5. NIHR Biomedical Research Centre

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals has been awarded over £4m of Government funding to pioneer medical breakthroughs in the treatment, diagnosis and prevention of progressive illnesses such as dementia, Parkinson’s disease, motor neurone disease, stroke and multiple sclerosis.

The Trust in partnership with the University of Sheffield will now be designated as one of twenty NIHR Biomedical Research Centres.

The NIHR Biomedical Research Centre in Sheffield will focus on translational neuroscience and will host the development of new, ground-breaking treatments, diagnostics, prevention and care for patients suffering from debilitating diseases such as dementia, motor neurone disease, stroke, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer’s and Parkinson disease.

The investment is part of a record £816 million package of national research funding announced by Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt.

Twenty NHS and University partnerships across England, including Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, have each been awarded funding, through the National Institute for Health Research, boosting growth in clinical research in cities across the country.

Pioneering medical breakthroughs in neurosciences currently being developed by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust include:

- New neuroprotective and symptomatic treatments for motor neurone disease including gene therapy studies.
- Innovative treatment using bone marrow stem cell transplantation to halt disease progression in patients with severe multiple sclerosis as featured on BBC Panorama.
- Improving the acute care of patients with cerebrovascular disease, linking with research to improve long-term disability following stroke.
- Using new technologies including advanced neuroimaging, genomics and predictive medicine measurement and modelling to better sub classify neurological disorders and to allow us to find the right treatment for the right patient on a more rapid timescale than is currently possible.

Funding will commence in April 2017.

6. Awards and events

The Trust continues to receive wide recognition and acclaim for its innovation and quality of care. In particular the work of teams and specialists across acute and community services have been reflected in national awards and recognition:

- Dotty Watkins, our former Head of Midwifery/Nurse Director, was recently given a prestigious honorary fellowship from the Royal College of Midwives for her outstanding contribution to midwifery and maternity services.
- A record number of Occupational Therapists from the Trust showcased innovative projects at the College of Occupational Therapists' national conference in June 2016, with Natalie Jones, Clinical Services Manager in Therapy Services based at Royal Hallamshire, winning the 'UK OT Research Foundation Award' for her pioneering research with stroke survivors. Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne, presented Natalie with her award, and it was noted that Sheffield had a big presence at the conference.
- Once again, the Trust has been successfully shortlisted for a Health Service Journal (HSJ) award, the health sector's most influential awards. The Estates Team's replacement of steam distribution network at the Northern General Hospital project has been shortlisted in the 'Improving Environmental and Social Sustainability' category.
- Val Jones, Upper Limb Specialist Physiotherapist, was one of only two members of the British Elbow and Shoulder Society (BESS) to receive the esteemed Copeland Fellowship. The Fellowship will enable her to travel to South Africa to observe clinical practice with BESS President Mike Thomas.
- Surgeons from Sheffield have received two of the four major awards from an annual scientific meeting. Consultant Maxillofacial Surgeon, Austen Smith, and Specialty Registrar, Alastair Fry, were presented with the President's Prize and Paul Toller Award respectively by the British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (BAOMS). The President's Prize is for the best scientific paper presentation from a Fellow of the Association, and the Paul Toller Prize for the best presentation on a research topic.

Ensuring all staff across the organisation are encouraged and supported to get involved with making change for the better is a priority and the Listening into Action approach, adopted 18 months ago, is now integrated into the Trust's Making it Better programme. This month saw another 20 plus teams showcase the work they have been doing to make improvements in all sorts of ways for our patients and their colleagues. The Pass it On event was well attended by staff from across the Trust and provided an excellent opportunity to share good practice.

The Listening into Action teams will also be attending the Trust's Annual Members' Meeting which this year takes place on Thursday 22 September at the Medical Education Centre, Northern General Hospital. As well as staff from across the Trust coming together to showcase their wide-ranging work, members of the public will have an exciting opportunity to take a first-hand tour of the fantastic new £2m helipad. All Foundation Trust Members and members of the public are welcome to attend and registration is from 11am with the event starting at 12 noon.

Sir Andrew Cash OBE
Chief Executive
21 September 2016