

**Meeting Assurance Report  
to the Council of Governors  
Held on 19 March 2024**

<b>Name of Committee / Group</b>	South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Acute Federation Board (SYBAF)
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 January 2024
<b>Chair</b>	Annette Laban, Chair
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Kirsten Major, Chief Executive
<b>Meeting Administrator</b>	Stephanie Marson, PA to Managing Director SYBAF

### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide in summary an update on the key discussions and outcomes of the above meeting.

### Agenda items covered at the meeting

The agenda included the following items:

- Chair's Update
- Lead Chief Executive's Update
- Managing Director's Update
- SYBAF Board Assurance Framework (BAF) – Deep dive on Strategic Risk: Quality
- Integrated Care Board Update
- System Efficiency Planning
- Digital Convergence Strategy
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service Approved Strategy
- Committees in Common Arrangements

### Matters to highlight

Specific areas to highlight are as follows:

- **Chair's Update** – In order to ensure there were robust lead Chair handover arrangements, it was agreed that I would continue to be lead Chair for a further six months until June 2024. It was also agreed to extend the lead Chief Executive arrangements for consistency, therefore Ruth Brown, Chief Executive of Sheffield Children's, would continue in this role until June 2025. Following the success of the last meeting with Governors, a further Governor event would be planned for 2024.
- **Lead Chief Executive's Update** – Key highlights reported that the new Acute Federation Clinical Director was now in post. An organisational development day was planned for February with attendance from all partners Chief Executives and all Professional Partnership Groups. The day will focus on the challenges and opportunities facing the provider collaborative and ways to collaborate successfully.
- **Managing Director's Update** – There was an update on progress against the five delivery priorities which drew out the key highlights. The Acute Federation was considering the priorities for the next financial year.

- **SYBAF Board Assurance Framework (BAF) – Deep dive on Strategic Risk: Quality** – The discussion focused on Quality with a snapshot of a range of quality metrics spanning clinical effectiveness, patient safety and patient experience considered; these would be developed for presenting through the Acute Federation’s Integrated Performance Report (IPR).

To mitigate against the variability in quality and fragility of some services across SYB a rapid review of clinical services across all five trusts was planned over the next few months, led by Medical Directors and Chief Operating Officers.

In recognition of the importance of health inequalities and healthcare inequalities, these would be embedded in all programmes of work within the Acute Federation.

The AF Board accepted the increase in risk score pre-mitigation from 9 to 12 and post-mitigation score of 6 to 9, due to the likelihood of variation in care quality across SYB.

- **Integrated Care Board Update** – The ICB Chief Executive provided updates on; work to understand the significant increase in patient demand for Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) at the beginning of January, the expectation (from public health colleagues) that ‘flu and Covid would peak in the second / third week of January and therefore that system pressures would continue during January, the discussions with Directors of Finance around current costs and affordability, a request for provider collaboratives to use Quality Service Improvement and Redesign (QSIR) methodology to track transformation plans, that the ICB organisational change process would be completed by 1 April 2024, the proposals to reduce ICB estate costs and relocate Place teams, that the performance and delivery function will transfer from NHS England locality team to the ICB with effect from 1 April 2024, and the ICB was therefore currently recruiting a new Director of Performance and Delivery.
- **System Efficiency Planning** – An update on the work to address system efficiency challenges was presented including how the Acute Federation could contribute to financial improvement over the next few years. Further workshops and meetings were planned, and the Managing Director would work with Directors of Finance to populate the Acute Federation’s efficiency action plan for 2024/25.
- **Digital Convergence Strategy** – An update was provided on the digital convergence strategy which will bring together the single electronic patient record (EPR) and other digital projects underway. The AF Board supported the way the work was developing. Strategic leadership, financial support and advice which could be expected from the ICB and Place partners would be clarified in relation to progressing the business case for a partner trust that was currently without an EPR, and the financial implications of EPR convergence also needed to be fully understood for the next trust in the EPR sequence.
- **Yorkshire Ambulance Service Approved Strategy** – Colleagues from Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) attended to present their strategy, this would be a key shift for the organisation over the next five years. The Acute Federation discussed how it could support and work more closely with YAS to realise their strategy to evolve into an organisation which provides healthcare services in partnership with acute providers.
- **Committees in Common Arrangements** – Sandi Carman joined the meeting to seek Chairs and Chief Executives support to a request that each trust formally readopts the Committees in Common arrangements. It was expected that individual Boards will have approved these arrangements by the end of January. STH Board of Directors approved these arrangements at our December 2023 Board meeting.

**New significant issues / concerns escalated including proposals on the next steps to address this**

No items highlighted for escalation.

## Implications

Aim of the STHFT Corporate Strategy		✓ Tick as appropriate
1	Deliver the Best Clinical Outcomes	✓
2	Provide Patient Centred Services	✓
3	Employ Caring and Cared for Staff	✓
4	Spend Public Money Wisely	✓
5	Create a Sustainable Organisation	✓
6	Deliver Excellent Research, Education and Innovation	✓

## Recommendations

The Council of Governors is asked to **NOTE** the update provided and respond to any specific points raised within the report.