TRANSFORMING THE WAY WE CARE FOR OLDER PEOPLE
I hope you managed to have some well-earned rest over the Christmas and New Year period as 2015 was certainly an exceptionally busy year right across the Trust. Despite this, on top of providing good quality care you also helped deliver some impressive changes to the way we work. Some of the amazing achievements were showcased at the Trust Thank You Awards and you can read more about that in this edition of the LINK.

We are currently awaiting the results of our Care Quality Commission inspection which involved a huge effort from everyone across the organisation. As soon as we have the outcome I will be letting you all know.

We have taken a huge step on our journey to transform the way we deliver care and operate by investing in new technology to support what we do on a daily basis. Generally the ‘go live’ went very well but given the scale of the change involved it was expected that we would have some issues and we are working through and ensuring we give our teams the support they need in these first months of change. Thank you to you all for your continued support and patience as we are seeing benefits in a number of areas already.

As the new financial year looms we are planning what we need to do to manage the challenges the 12 months and beyond will bring. As you know the whole of the NHS is under pressure to deliver even more care with reduced funding and to higher quality standards. At STH with your support we have done this through innovation, a commitment to put quality care at the top of our priorities and sheer hard work. Over the coming weeks I will be talking to you more about this and our future plans.

I hope you enjoy reading the great achievements and stories in this edition of LINK which feature so many of your colleagues,

Andrew Cash, Chief Executive

Innovative partnership begins to transform older people’s care in Sheffield

A successful partnership between health services and social care is enabling older patients to be discharged home from hospital in a more timely way and with real time support to enable them to continue living independently at home.

The innovative model means that elderly patients are assessed at home rather than in hospital, a service known as Discharge to Assess, and provided with the support they need to be able to live independently by an Active Recovery team.

It has led to 9,000 older patients being discharged home in an average of 1.1 days rather than 5.5 three years ago. It has benefitted patients by enabling them to recover in the comfort of their own homes and reducing the risk of hospital acquired infections, whilst freeing up 30,000 hospital bed days for patients who do require acute care.

The partnership is between our Trust, which integrated with community health services four years ago, and local authority social care services, GPs and NHS Commissioners.

Professor Tom Downes, Consultant Geriatrician, said: “Every day my patients tell me they don’t want to be in hospital any longer than absolutely necessary and research shows that patients have a better chance of retaining independent living if they are discharged home as soon as they no longer need hospital care.

“We are fortunate in Sheffield to have hospital and community services within one Trust and to have excellent relationships with Sheffield City Council’s social care services, GPs and commissioners which has enabled this step change in how we care for older people to occur.”

Under the care model, patients are assessed at home within a day of being deemed medically fit for discharge. Assessments showed that patients generally coped well in the familiar environment of their own homes, and required less support than staff may have expected from seeing them in hospital. The process and refined and the roll-out extended.

Beryl Shepherd was discharged under Discharge to Assess after spending two weeks in hospital. She said: “The care I had in hospital was fantastic but I really just wanted to get home. I was told by the ward nurse that I would go home at lunchtime and when I arrived home with my husband, the Active Recovery team were already waiting for me. It was so easy and I felt really well supported. I am looking forward to getting back on my feet once again. There is no place like home!”

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Trust to lead new technology drive to modernise care for patients with long term health conditions

The Sheffield City Region has been named as one of seven national ‘Test Bed’ innovation centres to take part in a major drive to modernise how the NHS delivers care.

Test Beds are new collaborations between the NHS and innovators which aim to harness technology to address some of the most complex issues facing patients and the health service. Successful innovations will then be available for other parts of the country to adopt.

The Sheffield City Region Test Bed will be known as The Perfect Patient Pathway. It is led by the Trust and involves more than 30 partners. It aims to bring substantial benefits for patients suffering from long term health conditions, such as diabetes, mental health problems, respiratory disease, hypertension and other chronic conditions.

By using new technology and new ways of delivering care, the aim is to keep patients with these conditions well and independent, and to avoid crisis points which often result in hospital admission, intensive rehabilitation and a high level of social care support.

A range of home-based monitoring devices and smart phone apps will mean patients can be supported to understand their condition and how they can manage it at home. It will include monitoring falls risk, tracking locations for people with dementia as well as sensors in the home (for example, on televisions, kettles and fridges) to monitor nutrition, mobility and general wellbeing.

Data received from these devices will then be collated and interpreted to assess individual patient wellbeing and anticipate changes to enable a timely and effective response.

Roz Davies, a patient who lives with Type 1 Diabetes added: “Many people in our region like me live with complex health conditions. We are all different but we all want to live as well and independently as possible.

“This is an opportunity to work together to unleash the potential of digital resources which could help us to feel more confident, informed, connected and in control of our health.”

Initially the Perfect Patient Pathway will focus on people with three or more long term conditions. The vision is to create a model that will support holistic care for people across the country, irrespective of age or condition.

Sir Andrew Cash, Chief Executive of Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust said: “The Test Bed is a fantastic way of bringing together the region’s health and social care providers with a number of technology and research organisations.

“By utilising this expertise we will be able to share data and plan, in partnership with patients, the best way to deliver care to people with long term conditions.”

CELEBRATING OUR HEROES

This year we had a record number of nominations for the Thank You Awards which is testament to the fantastic work of all our staff across clinical and non-clinical areas in our hospitals and in the community.

It is fantastic to be able to recognise people on the night, but I want everyone here to be recognised for what they do. Little acts of kindness, going above and beyond for patients or indeed supporting their colleagues.

I am pleased that we have now launched the Give a Little thanks e-thank you card system which gives any member of staff the opportunity to send a thank you card to a colleague.

Every member of staff should have received log-in details and already there are a number of thank yous being sent each day.

Tony Pedder, Trust Chairman

Nominees and winners

Quality Care Award:
ED Sepsis Team
Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) Project Team (winner!)
Transfer of Care Team

Improvement Award:
Cardiac Catheter Suite
Multidisciplinary Team
Ambulatory Heart Failure Team
The Change Room Project Team (winner!)

Customer Care Award
Alison Haigh, Community TB nurse (winner!)
Claire McGrail, Domestic, A&E Baslow Rd & Greenhill Community Nurses

Gift of Time (volunteer) Award
Sylvia Smith , Volunteer, Day case
Christine Redford, Volunteer, Robert Hadfield 6 (winner!)

Behind the Scenes Award
Dr Dan Trushell, Clinical Fellow to the T3 programme and Respiratory trainee Patient Services Team
The Switchboard Team (winner!)

Lifetime Achievement Award
Sabia Rehman, Muslim chaplain (winner!)
Matt Worthy, Occupational Therapist
Mr Amjid Ali, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon

Value for Money Award
The Active Recovery Team (winner!)
The Homecare Medicine Team
Single Point of Access

Leadership Award
Sue Cooper, Infant Feeding Coordinator (winner!)
Dr Ben Stone, Consultant Physician
Sarah Jenkins, Clinical Director

Getting Involved Award
Michelle Carroll, Clinical Team Leader (winner!)
Sarah Coates, Travel Plan Coordinator
Joanne Marsden, Deputy Nurse Director.
meet the AKI team

Dr Bisher Kawar (Clinical Lead)
Bisher Kawar is a consultant nephrologist at the Sheffield Kidney Institute. He is the AKI lead at the Trust.

Sarah Sampson and Louise Wild (AKI Nurse Educators)
Sarah and Louise are AKI nurse educators for the Trust. Louise has a nursing background in Renal, whilst Sarah has a nursing background in Critical Care.

Yvonne Bernes (Renal Advanced Nurse Practitioner):
Yvonne is a Renal Nurse Practitioner who has worked within the renal directorate for the past 20 years. Yvonne was involved in the development of the AKI NCG and Care Bundle.

Dr Helen Sims-Williams and Dr Haroon Naeem (AKI Doctor Educators)
Helen is a doctor working three days per week within Sheffield Kidney Institute, and Haroon is a Consultant in Acute Medicine at Northern General Hospital.

Alison Westley (Renal Clinical Pharmacist)
Alison has worked as a Renal Clinical Pharmacist within the Trust since 2014 and has a special interest in the diagnosis and management of AKI.

Andrea Watson
Andrea is the manager of the Clinical Coding department, where the data identifying the patients as having AKI is captured from the patient’s clinical record.

Gemma is a Clinical Scientist in Clinical Chemistry, and is the Department’s clinical liaison for renal medicine. Her role within the AKI project has been to facilitate implementation of the NHS England National Patient Safety Alert and clinically verify the AKI Laboratory alerts.

David has developed the localised version of the national AKI detection algorithm and is currently working on reporting all AKI alerts back to the Renal Registry.

Sarah Chown (Project Manager, Service Improvement)
Sarah helped secure support for the project, has coordinated the work of the team and reports progress and issues to our executive sponsors.
Kidney Injury (AKI)

The risks and improve patient outcomes. Laboratory reports use creatinine levels to identify and highlight possible cases of AKI. This is based on the nationally agreed algorithm. In more than 75% of cases the issue of a laboratory report has resulted in an AKI diagnosis. It has also generated more than £150k additional income for STH.

The team has developed an AKI Policy, Care Bundle and Nursing Care Guideline (NCG). These provide a standardised approach to the management of AKI to ensure that all patients receive treatment in a timely manner.

An education programme has been developed and is being delivered across the Trust. The programme highlights the importance of using the care bundle and NCG, and the Sheffield Hospitals’ Early Warning Score (SHEWS). It also gives medical advice on hydration, uroanalysis, medication, blood tests and weight.

An e-learning programme is also under development to support the programme. Collaboration with the University of Sheffield has resulted in:

- An AKI Study Day for nurses
- The identification of AKI Nurse Champions for specific ward areas
- The creation of a short animation on AKI

A medical engineering and technology journal has dedicated a full edition to the work of a team which develops innovative technology solutions to support people with long-term conditions.

Devices for Dignity Healthcare Technology Co-operative (D4D), which is hosted by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), has had 12 articles published in the Journal of Medical Engineering and Technology.

It features case studies and examples of D4D’s work and academic discussion of the projects. There is a focus on ‘empathic engineering,’ meaning technologies that have been designed to meet the needs of people with long-term conditions and enable them to live with dignity.

Dr Nicola Heron, Programme Manager for D4D, said: "The editor contacted us because they were very interested in what we do and thought our work would be valuable to a wider audience. "To be approached is recognition that we are doing something unique and interesting. It was a great opportunity for us to be able to collaborate with our partners to pull together our work and present it in depth.”

The ‘Head Up’ project is among those highlighted in the journal. D4D worked collaboratively with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) patients and others to develop a revolutionary collar that supports the patient’s head and neck, which helps with everyday tasks such as eating and communicating.

Dr Heron said: “We are particularly proud of this because it shows what Devices for Dignity is all about. It has taken years of hard work to address an unmet need for patients, and it is now almost ready to go on the market.”

Other articles cover topics such as technological innovations for patients with kidney disease, electrical stimulation for tetraplegic patients, communication aids and robot assisted rehabilitation.

D4D brings together inventors, clinical and healthcare staff, industry, academics, charities, the public, patients and carers to develop solutions to areas of unmet clinical and patient need. You can find out more about its work at www.devicesfordignity.org.uk.

Online panel influences cutting-edge health research

The Clinical Research Office, a joint office between Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and the University of Sheffield have developed a new online lay advisory panel to gain valuable views to influence the latest health research.

The virtual panel, made up of patients and members of the public from across the region, gives researchers access to the patient voice when developing and submitting research proposals. Covering all areas of research, where disease specific patient advisory panels are not already in place, it will ensure that all researchers at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and the University of Sheffield will be able to engage with patients, no matter what their research interest.

Panel members are asked to give their views and share any relevant experiences on a range of research topics and documents. This information is then used to see if research topics are worth pursuing, and if they will benefit patients and members of the public.

Sally Fowler-Davis, a researcher at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and Sheffield Hallam University said: “The panel gives researchers like me access to patients with a range of conditions and user experiences. It has been clear from the responses I have already received that a great deal of thought has gone into them and they have also provided some very relevant examples."

Linda Pert, a member of the panel said: “It has been fascinating reading the papers I have been sent as it gives you an insight into how practitioners are trying to drive their particular area forward. It is a bit like being a fly on the wall of a room full of doctors and nurses as they discuss how to do things better. Most reviews don’t take more than an hour, so fitting it in isn’t an issue for me and I am a working mum with four kids. To think that you may have a tiny bit of influence in improving future healthcare, by being on the panel, is quite amazing”.

You don’t need any qualifications to join the panel, you just need to be interested in clinical research and have an email account. To find out more contact 0114 2265911 or email getinvolved@sth.nhs.uk.
Head of podiatry services, Professor Wesley Vernon OBE, has retired from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust after 35 years’ service to the NHS.

Professor Vernon’s career first started in Derbyshire in 1980 before moving to Sheffield in 1985 where his outstanding national and international reputation as a leader in podiatry grew.

Under his leadership, Sheffield’s expert team of Podiatrists have won the prestigious Customer Service Excellence Standard for the last 18 years consecutively.

Sir Andrew Cash, Chief Executive, said: “Thanks to Professor Vernon’s hard work, commitment and expertise, the Sheffield Podiatry Service is a nationally recognised service which we are proud to offer to patients across the city and beyond.”

Alongside leading a renowned local service, Professor Vernon has achieved national and international acclaim for his pioneering work in forensic podiatry – co-authoring the first textbook on forensic podiatry and developing and leading a unique forensic podiatry unit which undertakes both national and international case work.

Professor Vernon said: “Since I qualified in 1980, I have seen many changes in the role and practice of the care professions and throughout my career, I have been fortunate to have been able to contribute to a number of developments in my own field.

“Any success I may have achieved in these endeavours would not have been possible without the tremendous support that I have always received from friends, colleagues and senior managers.”

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals is hosting a new Faculty that will provide training for a new generation of Advanced Clinical Practitioners (ACPs) as part of efforts to build a multi-skilled workforce.

The Faculty covers South Yorkshire and will bring a consistent and coordinated approach to the training of ACPs, with improved education and support.

The role combines traditional nursing and allied health professional roles with a higher level of clinical knowledge, with ACPs able to carry out physical examinations, diagnostic tests and prescriptions. Sheffield currently has 54 ACPs in training, which will increase to 60 in 2015/16.

The latest ACP recruits have commenced a new supernumerary two-year training course, which includes working in different areas of the hospital such as surgery, medicine and palliative care, with an academic programme at Sheffield Hallam University. Trainees will work towards a Masters qualification in Advancing Professional Practice.

STH has received £3.5m of funding for the project from Health Education Yorkshire and the Humber.

Catherine Bailey, the Nurse Director Lead on the Faculty for Advanced Practice, said: “We are very excited about this programme. It is a great opportunity for nursing, allied health professionals, the Trust and most importantly patients.

“It will provide truly holistic care and is proving to be very successful in the acute medical and surgical assessment areas. Patients can come in, be seen and assessed more quickly and treatment can start. It will enhance training for staff and care for patients.”

The programme is supported by senior nurses at the Trust and each trainee has a consultant supervisor and receives educational support.

Shane Lawson, previously a Charge Nurse, was one of the trainee ACPs.

He said: “It has definitely given me a new challenge, because we learn new things every single day.

“We are still clinical and working directly with patients, which is what I want, but combined with the education at university.

“The feedback from patients has been really positive. Having been a nurse for a few years, I have that hands-on, practical experience of interacting with patients and we this is an opportunity to build on that with more advanced skills.”
A trainee doctor has won a national award for work she has presented on improving the management of patients with stab wounds.

Vascular trainee Dr Rachel Stansfield, who currently works in the Accident and Emergency Department at the Northern General Hospital, has presented work developed by the Sheffield Vascular Institute using a new pathway for assessing stab wound patients which means that more can be treated using minimally-invasive procedures.

Her presentation was recognised with the award of the prestigious Royal Society of Medicine Harvey Prize, presented for innovations in vascular medicine.

Dr Stansfield has also been shortlisted for a Royal Society Trainee of the Year Prize, and will present her work at the British Society of Interventional Radiology and internationally in Germany.

The standard pathway for patients who attend A&E with stab wounds is for them to be taken straight to theatre, where surgeons will assess, clean and operate on the wound.

Under the new pathway, patients will have a Trauma CT scan and this is immediately assessed by a consultant vascular radiologist to see if the wound can be treated using a minimally invasive procedure such as stenting. Generally, these procedures are quicker and require a shorter stay in hospital.

Similar techniques were already used for patients with chronic conditions, but not in acute settings where patients require urgent treatment.

Dr Stansfield said: “Usually, stab wound patients are young men who are actively bleeding. We had one patient who had been glassed in the neck and, previously, we would have had to open his chest and neck and it would have required a long inpatient stay.

“But after the stent-grafting, he was able to step-down to the ward and was only in hospital for a couple of days.

“It is a change and that can take some getting used to, but ultimately it should benefit patients because the treatment is less invasive, takes less time and stops the bleeding faster.

A smartphone app that enables consultants and doctors-in-training to give day-to-day feedback on medical training has won an innovation award.

The Healthcare Supervision Logbook Smartphone App was named as a joint winner in the digital health category of the NHS Medipex Innovation Awards at a ceremony in Leeds.

The app was developed by a team at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, with support from Health Education Yorkshire and the Humber. It allows both supervisors and trainees to give regular feedback on training from their perspective, keeping a continuing record of medical training occurring in each department and helping to make training more responsive.

The concept and content was developed by Dr Thomas Gray, a Speciality Registrar in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Clinical Education and Leadership Fellow, Professor Tom Farrell, a Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, and Dr Gill Hood, Director of Medical Education at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, before being professionally built.

Traditionally feedback was provided by trainees on an annual feedback form, but the app enables it to be recorded on a daily basis, which means it is more accurate and enables areas for improvement to be identified more quickly.

It took 2 1/2 years to develop and is already in use in the obstetrics and gynaecology departments and is currently being prepared for use in a number of different departments.
Final treatment in sight for pensioner who has had 100 radiotherapy sessions

A determined pensioner who has been undergoing cancer treatment since 2005 has racked up more than 100 radiotherapy sessions in his fight against the illness.

Jack Young, 80, of Heage, Derbyshire, has cared for at Weston Park Hospital since 2005 after he was diagnosed with skin cancer and subsequently non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

Resolute Jack is one of very few patients to undergo so many radiotherapy treatments.

He said he has coped thanks to the support of his family, an active lifestyle and the care he has received at Weston Park Hospital.

“The hospital is excellent in all departments, and you are always greeted with a smile and a ‘how are you?’ That helps to give you the motivation you need.

“Cancer treatment has come on so much and is very different to how it used to be. I have got some resolve and if you fight and hang in there it can be overcome. I have tried not to let it interfere with my life more than I have to. I have carried on playing golf and watching Chesterfield play football, and in 2009 I raised £560 for Weston Park by doing a charity walk.”

Superintendent Radiographer Paula Rusby said: “Jack is a shining example of the positive effects of radiotherapy combined with an active life style and an optimistic outlook.”

Jack said he was proud to have made his own contribution to the hospital, when he suggested extra room could be freed up in the car park by removing a tree stump. His suggestion was picked up by a matron and the stump removed to create some extra space.

“It gives me a real buzz to see that space being used and how it has made a small difference,” he said.

Sheffield Professor scoops lifetime achievement award for work into breast cancer

A Sheffield professor of Medical Oncology and Consultant at Weston Park Hospital has been awarded a lifetime achievement award for his contributions to the research and treatment of breast cancer.

Professor Robert Coleman, who is Director of the Sheffield Cancer Research Centre and has been instrumental in developing cancer clinical research in Sheffield for the benefit of patients worldwide, was given the award as recognition of his work into metastatic breast cancer.

The Advanced Breast Cancer (ABC) Award was presented to Professor Coleman in recognition of more than 20 years of dedication in improving the management of cancers which spread to the bones.

Professor Coleman said: “I would like to acknowledge the support over the years from many colleagues, both in Sheffield and across the world, who have also contributed to this area of research and the many thousands of patients who have helped establish this new treatment approach.

World Champion Heptathlete Jessica Ennis-Hill and the stars of Strictly Come Dancing delighted patients and staff during visits to Weston Park Hospital.

Jessica was shown around the new Clinical Research Unit and the Day Case Unit, both of which have been recently refurbished and expanded thanks to funding from Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity.

Jessica said: “As Patron of Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity, the visit was not only a chance for me to see the ongoing need for the charity’s support, but also an opportunity for me to meet some of those who are fighting cancer in our region.”

In 2014, the cancer charity, together with partners Westfield Health and Yorkshire Cancer Research collectively raised the £1m needed to establish the new clinical research unit at Weston Park Hospital through the Do-Your-Bit campaign. The new unit aims to increase the number of people recruited to clinical trials by 20% in the first two years alone.

The stars of the Strictly Come Dancing tour also surprised patients when they dropped in for a visit. Len Goodman, Ainsley Harriott and Mel Giedroyc turned up to show their support for Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity during a tour of the hospital where they met staff and patients.

Charity Director, Samantha Kennedy said: “We are incredibly grateful to Jessica and the stars of Strictly for taking time out of their busy schedule to visit the hospital and support the charity.”

Stars visit region’s cancer hospital and lend support for future plans

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Major Trauma Team complete epic bike ride to raise helipad funds

When Dr Stuart Reid decided to support Sheffield Hospitals Charity, he never thought that he would take on the challenge of a lifetime by cycling 200 miles around the region to raise funds.

Stuart, along with four other Sheffield Teaching Hospital staff showed their commitment to helping to build a new helipad at the Northern General Hospital by completing a mammoth bike ride.

Members of the team rode through South Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Stafford – the areas where over 1.8 million local people will benefit from the new helipad, should they require life-saving medical treatment. The team tackled tough terrain, unforgiving weather and fatigue, but managed to complete the ride within 18 hours, finishing at the Northern General Hospital’s Accident and Emergency Department.

The group successfully raised over £3,000 to support the construction of the helipad site. The intrepid cyclists were Stuart Reid, Emergency Department Consultant and Major Trauma Lead; Neil Strawbridge, Major Trauma Lead; Amy Webster, Advanced Nurse Practitioner; Mike Cole, Trauma Nurse Coordinator; and Francis Morris, Emergency Department Consultant and Clinical Director.

Dr Stuart Reid said: “It was a magical feeling to finish and to see everyone, when they realised what they had accomplished. I want to thank them all for helping to raise money for the Helipad Appeal.”

Sheffield Hospitals Charity launched the ‘Saving time, Saving Lives’ Appeal and set out to raise £2 million to build a primary helipad at the Northern General Hospital. In that time, a lot has happened. The building site has flown up and the fundraising total is steadily mounting. We expect the helipad to be completed by spring 2016.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity received from local people and businesses of Sheffield, but especially from hospital staff.

The charity have just £250,000 left to raise and are calling upon more staff to get involved and help raise these vital last funds.

Please support the Appeal by fundraising or making a donation. Visit: sheffieldhelipad.com to find out more or call Sheffield Hospitals Charity on 0114 2711351. Donate £5 by texting HELIPAD to 70660 *

* Text costs £5 plus network charge. Sheffield Hospitals Charity receives 100% of your donation. Obtain bill payer’s permission. Customer care 0114 2711351. Registered Charity No. 1059043

Help provide families with a place to stay when their baby is in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Can you imagine how you would feel to see your baby in an incubator? What if you had to travel every day to be by their side, leaving your family and support network at home? This is what lots of parents whose babies are born too early or with a serious illness have to face.

Sheffield Hospitals Charity are raising £120,000 to carry out a refurbishment of four flats next to the hospital to be used as accommodation for those families with babies receiving treatment in the Neonatal Unit. This will enable families travelling to the hospital to stay close to their baby and support each other in what can be the toughest time of their lives.

Can you make a difference to Sheffield’s tiniest patients and their families by making a donation? Please visit sheffieldhospitalscharity.org.uk/jessops

Help save time and save lives – will you support the Helipad Appeal?

It has been just over a year since

Essence of Care applications

Sheffield Hospitals Charity is keen to support projects that help to make life better for both patients and staff across our Trust.

This year we have earmarked £100,000 to be used to fund items of up to £5000. Grant applications are easy to complete and can be submitted by any member of staff. The purpose of the grant is to support small developments that are not covered by Trust capital or revenue funding, but that will enhance patient care.

Applications are assessed quarterly by a small panel of Trust and Charity members and are open to all. For more information on deadline dates or to submit a completed applications please e-mail essenceofcarebids@sth.nhs.uk
A specialist stoma care nurse has won a £500 research award for her department thanks to work she has done on removing stents more quickly following bladder surgery.

Nurse specialist Diane Leach, who works in the urology department at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, was awarded the prize by the Association of Stoma Care Nurses UK (ASCN), supported by the Urostomy Association.

It recognises her research into removing ureteric stents from patients following a urostomy (an operation to create a stoma following bladder surgery).

Typically the stents are removed ten days after surgery, with patients returning to hospital as a day case for the procedure. But Diane’s research has shown that in many cases the stents could be removed more quickly, which would negate patients having to return as a day case and mean they could be assessed on the ward rather than by a community nurse follow-up.

Transformation Through Technology team has raised about £12,000 for the Helipad Appeal, beating their initial target of £10,000.

Activities included a sky dive, sponsored runs and swims, a T3 barbecue and dress down Fridays.
Trust first in the country to adopt pioneering 3D heart surgery which halves patient’s recovery time

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is the first hospital in the UK to offer less invasive keyhole heart valve and atrial cardio fibrillation surgery using a new ground-breaking 3D camera system.

The Chesterman Cardiac Centre is already recognised as a leader in heart surgery, but the revolutionary 3D “Einstein System” will allow surgeons to perform minimally invasive heart surgery which often results in patients having improved surgical outcomes, a shorter recovery time and a reduced hospital stay.

The Trust started using 2D minimal invasive cameras over two years ago, and implementing 3D technology is the next development. The development has been made possible thanks to the generous support of Sheffield Hospitals Charity. The camera is ten times more accurate than the human eye and with specially designed instruments. The surgeon can perform complex surgery through small incisions with precision. This means that bleeding is minimised and patients often go home after two days as opposed to an average of seven days.

The operation takes less time than the traditional surgery and therefore the risk of infection is also lower. There is also a reduction in scarring and potentially less post-surgery complications. The equipment will predominantly be used for patients who need mitral valve repair but it can also be used for other procedures.

Traditionally surgeons have carried out the procedure by making a large chest incision to reach and operate on the heart.

Patients across Yorkshire and Humber region, including Doncaster, Rotherham, Barnsley, Chesterfield and Sheffield are expected to be among the first to benefit from the new procedure.

Dr David Throssell, Medical Director at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, said: “This is fantastic news for patients in South Yorkshire as we can now offer 3D surgery to treat a number of cardiac conditions. We are very grateful to Sheffield Hospitals Charity and their supporters who have enabled this major development in patient care to happen. It will ensure that Sheffield remains as a leading centre of clinical care within the UK.”

She received mitral valve replacement surgery and is well on her way to recovery after a matter of weeks.

She said: “I am awe struck by the treatment I’ve had and the jaw dropping speed of my recovery.

“Before the surgery I struggled to get up the stairs but already I can climb stairs easily. I can’t believe I’m already returning to work just a couple of weeks after the surgery.”

Trust nurseries can help you with your child care

Did you know that Sheffield Teaching Hospitals has a full day care setting at each side of the city?

The Sunshine Day Nurseries operate extended opening times, from 6.30am until 6pm with the option of further extending this to 7pm if booked in advance. They open Monday to Friday all year round excluding Bank Holidays, and take children from four months of age up to school age. There is a School Holiday Club for children aged up to 11.

The Northern General based nursery is inside the hospital grounds whilst the Central Campus has a nursery based on Beech Hill Roadd, close to the Hallamshire Hospital.

Both nurseries have been rated as good by OFSTED, which enables us to be a Free Early Learning Provider for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

Each site has its own Early Years Professional (EYP). These staff members are university graduates who have been specifically trained to give children opportunities to develop through play, and ensure the rooms meet all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

There are outdoor areas, with both nurseries developing spaces where children can investigate bugs and mini-beasts and build things using natural materials, and interactive touch screen monitors in the nurseries which children can use to develop their technology skills and awareness.

All the staff are qualified to a minimum of Level 2 in Early Years with the majority being level 3 or above. There is a trained Special Educational Needs Coordinator at both sites and a fully trained Designated Safeguarding Lead, who oversees safeguarding and ensures that all staff are trained up to level 3 in Safeguarding Children. There is also a Parent Support Advisor and a Behaviour Coordinator who are there to support parents with a range of common behaviour problems, potty training, dietary issues and any other concerns parents might have. You can call the Sunshine Day Nursery on 0114 226 6066 (Northern General site) or 0114 226 8847 (Royal Hallamshire site) for more information.

A variety of Corporate Childcare Vouchers are accepted.

Outdoor play area with mini-beasts

Introducing a new dress code policy

We are proud to launch our new Dress Code Policy for all staff who work here at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals.

Why is dress code important?

There are a number of reasons why a dress code is important. Not only does a dress code ensure that we present a smart and professional image this is in turn increases patient and public confidence in the professionals they see and are treated by.

A dress code also supports infection prevention and control requirements as well as health and safety requirements.

What is different in the new policy?

The policy now includes both staff based in the community and in hospital settings. It also adheres to guidance from the Royal College of Nursing on work wear (2014).

What do I need to do?

Please familiarise yourself with the new Dress Code policy and its specific guidance for your role.

The policy has individual sections covering dress code requirements for various staff groups, eg, staff who do not wear Trust uniform, clinical staff who are required to wear specific uniforms alongside guidance on make-up, jewellery and nail varnish etc.

The updated policy can be found on the Trust intranet and if you have any further questions, please speak to your line manager.
Changing how we do things around here

It is now Phase 2 of Listening into Action. The second phase started in September with a cohort of 24 teams and culminated in the Pass It On event in January when the teams shared their progress.

The changes made by the Phase 1 teams through their high impact engagement strategies and the effect of this on their outcomes has truly inspired the 24 Phase 2 teams with their schemes, which focus on making a measurable difference to patients and staff.

The work of our pioneering Phase 1 teams definitely made a difference. Here are a few examples of their achievements:

- An evening telephone trial to patients awaiting surgery within plastics to reduce on the day cancellations
- A video to promote respect for our Hotel Services staff
- New signage on the Renal unit
- Three Octopus machines networked in ophthalmology
- A best practice day to promote the Patient Safety Zone
- Standing desks in Switchboard
- A celebration of our culture with a World Food Day
- The Bladder Cancer Pathway team have trialled a one-stop clinic to provide patients with the best care possible

The following pages will introduce you to the Phase 2 teams.

“I have been impressed by the enthusiasm of our LiA ambassadors for adopting LiA as a new way of working. Their high impact engagement strategies have been a creative and fun way to galvanise staff and stakeholders from all areas and roles to come together to make a difference for patients and staff.”

Andrew Cash
Chief Executive

Proud to make a difference
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
What matters to staff

The following themes were identified as priorities for staff at the Big Conversations, when 1,000 staff shared their ideas and thoughts with Chief Executive Andrew Cash.

Making it better for our patients

Right Staff, Right Place, Right Time

Being able to do our jobs to the best of our ability

 Feeling valued

 Being better connected

Being efficient

Be Proud

The schemes below aim to put these key values into practice:

Respect us

The mission is to ensure all Hotel Services staff feel valued and respected by colleagues throughout the Trust. The team worked on embedding the Trust’s PROUD Values, in particular ‘Respect’. A video was produced identifying what ‘Respect’ means to hotel services colleagues, new business cards were produced and Getting to Know Us Week was held to highlight the work of the Hotel Services staff. More PROUD posters featuring Hotel Services staff were produced. The team are continuing this work in Phase 2 with ‘Let’s Talk’ staff engagement work and the newly qualified staff nurse induction.

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<th>Team Leader</th>
<th>Medical Lead</th>
<th>Nurse Lead</th>
<th>Management Lead</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhian Bishop</td>
<td>Frank Edenborough</td>
<td>Una Cunningham</td>
<td>Kevin O’Regan</td>
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Patient Safety Zone

The team’s mission is to bring about a cultural and behavioural change by embedding The Patient Safety Zone (PSZ) care bundle within the Trust. The Renal unit is the first inpatient area to pilot PSZ and the team have devised a ‘ward charter’. The PSZ team have also developed a short informative video to be used across the Trust and with the university as a teaching aid re-enforcing their message.

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<th>Medical Lead</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sandi Carman</td>
<td>David Oskeira</td>
<td>Julia Hanvere/Helen Miller</td>
<td>Andy Ward</td>
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Patient Transport

Ensuring patients are able to leave our services in a timely and safe manner was identified as a key priority in the Big Conversations. The team are working in partnership with the Clinical Commissioning Group to meet patient transport needs. The scheme has delivered some fantastic benefits to patients and staff. A Transport A to Z has been produced to help staff choose the best transport option, supported by training and education sessions. Extended booking times for pre-planned discharges, referring direct GP admissions to Geriatric and Stroke Medicine in 90 minutes and a centralised booking centre for inpatient discharges have been piloted.

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<tr>
<td>Michelle Veitch</td>
<td>Tom Downes</td>
<td>Helen Brown</td>
<td>Fozia Akhtar/Janet Milnes</td>
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Improving flow in Surgical Outpatient Department (NGH)

There has been work on improving several aspects of the service, under the strapline All for One and One for All, three directorate teams use the service and the work has brought them all together, along with patient governors. Achievements include improving internal access to the endoscopy department, piloting single reception working with improved cover, recruiting volunteers to help with providing refreshments and being a visible contact for help and improving the environment (removing paper notices, decorating, replacing broken TVs). In this phase we will focus on improving signage.

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<tr>
<td>Joanne Ferraby</td>
<td>Fionuala Creagh</td>
<td>Jo Marsden</td>
<td>Paulette Anderson</td>
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Reducing cancelled operations

The scheme aims to reduce the number of day case operations that get cancelled on the morning they are due to take place. General surgery and plastics introduced a telephone screening call to ensure patients are fit for surgery, and this has now been extended to ophthalmology with a view to a Trust-wide roll out in 2016/17. A text reminder service has started and will also be rolled out as part of the Phase 2 scheme. Staff are being involved to make sure that the correct details are entered in Lorenzo to ensure as much success as possible in contacting patients.

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<tr>
<td>Lisa Walton</td>
<td>Simon Boyes</td>
<td>Rachel Cooper</td>
<td>Paul Griffiths</td>
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Metabolic Bone

The team’s mission is to prevent tomorrow’s fracture today and they want every patient in Sheffield at high risk of fragility fracture to be identified, assessed and treated effectively and efficiently. The team are working with numerous stakeholders across primary and secondary care to identify ways to improve the fracture prevention pathways across the city.

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<tr>
<td>Dr Nicky Peel</td>
<td>Marion Sloan</td>
<td>Sarah Burnand</td>
<td>Sally Care</td>
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Sexual Health

The Sexual Health Services are continuing to go through big changes. The team are continuing with their mission from phase 1 and are focusing on embedding quality staff engagement into their day to day business, listening to staff and enabling all the team to support each other through the changes ahead.

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<tr>
<td>Deanne Driscoll</td>
<td>Claire Dewsonap</td>
<td>Kirsty Ellis</td>
<td>Steve Slack</td>
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Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT)

The team’s mission is to use the Electronic Personal Assessment Questionnaire (EPAQ) to speed up the pre-operative assessment process for ENT patients requiring surgery. The team have already had two successful conversations with a cross section of staff including admin and clerical, nursing, secretarial, pre-assessment, management and medical. Within these sessions staff training needs were identified and we are planning to provide this training. EPAQ has been piloted within the ENT clinics.

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Plastics

The mission is to improve and integrate the post-operative follow-up pathway for breast/plastics/sarcoma patients. The team are looking at current pathways for patients. The current process mapped out for patients identified three different possible pathways for patients. The team are aiming for one streamlined pathway for all patients, creating equity of care.

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<tr>
<td>Gill Meek</td>
<td>David Ralston</td>
<td>Nikki Gaubert</td>
<td>Nicola Fields</td>
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Clothing for Patients on Discharge

Sometimes patients don’t have their own outdoor clothes to travel home in. This scheme is exploring whether a clothes store could be established, with good quality second hand clothing which staff could provide to patients who need it. The clothing store would be managed by volunteers to ensure the clothes were clearly labelled, laundered and available for staff to access easily.

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<tr>
<th>Team Leader</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jane Hopkins</td>
<td>Marie Ronan</td>
<td>Moira Walker</td>
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Diversity and Inclusion

The team’s mission is to develop an ambassador role for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) staff within the Trust, promoting inclusion, involvement and unity of staff. The team have raised awareness of the diversity of our staff by organising visits to different places of worship and celebrating Black History Month.

Understanding Sterile Services

The team’s mission is to develop a closer working relationship between STH and Synergy (the Trust’s off-site provider of sterile and decontamination services) to optimise productivity and minimise cost and inconvenience within theatres. The team are working closely with Synergy to help theatres staff gain a better understanding of best practice and identify areas for service improvement. Good progress has already been made and colleagues from Synergy have been helpful, enthusiastic and supportive.

Medical Imaging and Medical Physics: Gastro Patient Pathway

The team’s mission is to provide an effective service for patients who have had a displacement of an internal feeding tube in a timely manner. It will reduce the need for hospital and A & E admissions by providing a direct service through the radiological department and back to the community with one hour’s turn around. The team are having conversations with Yorkshire Ambulance Service, nursing home staff, A&E patients, ward staff and private medical equipment companies.

OSCCA: Improving Patient Experience

The aim is to provide an eXtra eXceptional eXperience for patients as well as creating an environment in which staff feel truly engaged and listened to. The team had Big Conversations with our staff and asked them to share their thoughts and ideas, and had some fantastic suggestions. Patient focus groups are planned for 2016. The team are having conversations with Yorkshire Ambulance Service, nursing home staff, A&E patients, ward staff and private medical equipment companies.
Improving communication in OSCCA

The OSCCA team is utilising their new communication methods, including Half-Hour Huddle, team meeting, newsletters and a central email address to engage staff in service development and to become an efficient and effective team. Digital signage is to be installed in the near future.

A survey showed 62% of respondents felt that communication has improved since starting the scheme. The team are continuing with this work in Phase 2.

Specialised Cancer

The team’s mission is to reduce waiting times in outpatient clinics in Weston Park Hospital and improve patient and staff experience. The team have reviewed data to get a baseline for waiting times in outpatients and understand where delays are occurring. Processes that have been reviewed include:

- Roles and responsibilities of the nurse in charge and establishment of a clinic coordinator post
- Identifying a central point of storage for Dynamap to reduce time spent trying to locate equipment
- Improving methods of communication with patients (both in person and via a TV screen funded by Weston Park Cancer Charity)
- Giving staff defined time to read emails

Trust Me I'm a Support Worker

The team’s mission is to empower Band 2 staff (Clinical Support Workers/Rehabilitation Assistants/Support Workers) within the Combined Community and Acute Care Group to proactively respond to patients’ needs and to promote the role of the Band 2 staff as a resource to support nurses, therapists and pharmacy team colleagues. We aim to promote the value of the band 2 support worker across STH.

Muscular Skeletal (MSK)

The team’s mission is to achieve a cultural transformation in a newly formed Care Group, where staff from previous backgrounds including orthopaedic, podiatric surgery, Physioplus, Physioworks, The Hand Centre, hospital based MSK services, metabolic bone, rheumatology and chronic pain find common purpose and vision. The aim of is to develop an understanding of staff concerns and for this information to inform a plan to support the transformational change.

Human Resources

The HR mission is to develop HR into a better service for our customers and a better workplace for staff. The team have led conversations across all of the HR Directorate, including Childcare Services, Learning and Development, Medical Personnel, Occupational Health and General HR. They are planning to develop scheme plans to move forward staff suggestions from the conversations.
Over the next few weeks we will provide updates from each of the schemes and let you know how you can get involved.

We have a vacancy! If you are interested in joining the LiA team please contact Jaki Lowe, Head of Staff Engagement, or any of the LiA team, on 0114 3052464.
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