



Paper No. SET/22/20	
	Tick One ✓
For discussion	
For approval	
For information/noting	✓

Date of Trust Board Meeting: 24 June 2020

Confidential or Public Agenda: Public

Agenda item: Chair’s Report

Dear Colleagues

Since our last Board Meeting, elements of the lockdown caused by Covid-19 have been lifted and more freedom of movement has been made available to the public.

I have taken the decision not to use any of those changes to influence my behaviours in travelling to or visiting Trust facilities or staff. I would seek to lead by example and encourage minimal interaction by avoiding contact with others where it is not essential to do so.

That said, I did have the opportunity to speak to staff in Kelly House and meet with some members of the Contracts team who are progressing at speed to commission our Acute Services Block. I also took great pleasure in meeting with the team distributing PPE out to our staff and to our community partners.

To see and listen to each member of staff being so resilient and enthusiastic about their contribution throughout the Trust’s Covid-19 response was uplifting for me and allowed me to appreciate more fully the lengths to which they have gone to ensure patient, client as well as staff care and safety.

I have been utilising our membership of NICON extensively in attending online meetings and webinars. From the 6 Health Trust Chairs and the wider NI Public Sector Chairs Forum to the NHS Confederation meetings with 150+ participants, I have been listening to the voices of organisations large and small across all four Jurisdictions to glean what other Chairs are implementing or setting aside in this rapidly changing environment.

Governance is at the forefront and all organisations are looking towards lean governance and community engagement whilst re-setting the health and social care system.

I joined HSC Chair colleagues on 17th June 2020 for an online meeting with the Health Minister Robin Swann MLA. The subject of our first meeting with the Minister since his appointment was on securing regular engagement with him so that we can engage and learn how each Trust can best align with the vision the Minister has for health and social care and begin to deliver on the plans he seeks to implement.

Jonathan