



<b>Paper No. SET/16/21</b>	
	<b>Tick One ✓</b>
For discussion	
For approval	
For information/noting	✓

**Date of Trust Board Meeting:** 24 March 2021

**Confidential or Public Agenda:** Public

**Agenda item:** Chair’s Report

Colleagues,

This month sees us exactly 12 months on from the first Covid-19 positive patients accessing the Trust for treatment. Who knew then what was to unfold and that 12 months on, some patients would still be depending on life giving care from our staff. Many words have been said about healthcare staff and the support staff they depend on over this time and a few sentences in my monthly report could never describe what they have achieved, the situations and experiences they have endured nor how grateful we are to them for what they have done. I personally, and on behalf on the Board, wish to say a massive thank you and incredibly well done. We are so proud of you.

It was with a great sense of pride I joined the Chief Executive earlier this month to welcome the First Minister, Deputy First Minister and Health Minister to the Ulster Hospital site as they viewed first-hand the vaccination centre and they met with staff deployed in the administration and implementation of the programme. It was also extremely rewarding to see them take significant time with our volunteers learning about their role in the support of the vaccination centre.

March saw the completion of an appointment process to fill two substantive Trust Board positions namely that of Director of Hospital Services as well as Director of Adult Services and Prison Healthcare with Dr David Robinson and Mrs Margaret O’Kane respectively have been successful. I am delighted to welcome them to Trust Board in these roles. Both have made an invaluable contribution to the work of the Trust to date and I look forward to what one candidate described as ‘More of the Same’!

Our delayed February Board Workshop took place earlier this month where we covered the areas of the draft Trust People Plan and undertook a review of our responsibilities as a Board for Corporate Parenting. Excellent presentations were considered and discussion with participation from all very encouraging. We are clearly shaping the way forward for the staff we are responsible for and the children we care for.

My Non-Executive colleagues and I who share the responsibility participating on Adoption Panels met on Zoom during the past month to discuss how we currently contribute and how we could improve our involvement going forward. I found the session extremely positive and we look forward to helping improve what already is one of the prized jewels of Children’s Services within South Eastern Trust.

My fundraising challenge for Kiwoko Hospital, the Chairman's Charity, is coming to a close. The month long challenge presented some personal hardships but the result was well worth every one of them. With £7500.00 raised I am incredibly appreciative of all who donated and humbled that I/we can be part of something so special and life-changing over 4000 miles away in Uganda.

The end of March 2021 marks 12 months for me in the post of Acting Chairman of South Eastern Trust. This is a Trust within whose boundaries I reside. My children were born in Lagan Valley Hospital and my family has, over the years, utilised emergency care facilities on all of our sites (on reflection I think it was me who did most of that!). It has also provided me with four amazing years as a Non-Executive Director. To have spent a year as your Chair has been a great privilege and I wish to publicly thank each one of you on the Board for your support, encouragement and loyalty. I take none of that for granted.

At the time of writing I am unaware of what the Department are minded to do with regard to the role of Chair going forward but irrespective of that the last year has been an amazing opportunity for me to serve you and one I will never forget.

Jonathan



Collective leadership creates the foundation of a strong, supportive organisational culture.  
HSC Collective Leadership Strategy