

SOUTH EASTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST

Minutes of a Public Meeting of the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust Board held on Wednesday 25 August 2021 at 2.15pm Meeting Platform/Zoom

PRESENT: Mr J Patton, Chairman (Acting)
Ms R Coulter, Chief Executive
Mr N Brady, Non-Executive Director
Dr M Briscoe, Non-Executive Director
Mrs B Campbell, Director of Children's Services & Executive Director of Social Work
Ms N Dunbar, Interim Director of Planning, Performance & Informatics
Mr C Martyn, Medical Director
Mr M Mawhinney, Non-Executive Director
Mrs H Minford, Non-Executive Director
Mrs J O'Hagan, Non-Executive Director
Mrs M O'Kane, Director of Adult Services & Prison Healthcare
Ms N Patterson, Director of Primary Care, Older People & Executive Director of Nursing
Dr D Robinson, Director of Hospital Services
Mrs C Smyth, Interim Director of Human Resources & Corporate Affairs
Ms W Thompson, Director of Finance and Estates

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr M Cadden, Executive Support Services Manager (Acting) (minutes)
Ms K Charis, Ward Sister (Medicine), Ulster Hospital (item 3.0)
Ms J English, Trust Board Apprentice
Ms E Hunter, Staff Midwife, Ulster Hospital (item 3.0)
Mr S Martin, Executive Support Services Manager
Ms J Patterson, Nursing Governance Lead, Safe and Effective Care (item 3.0)
Ms S Thompson, Trust Equality Manager (item 7.1)

APOLOGIES: Mrs M McNally, Assistant Director, Risk Management and Governance & Board Secretary

OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. **The Chairman** outlined a number of housekeeping items and asked that Members speak clearly to ensure their points are captured and responded to directly. **The Chairman** welcomed Ms J English, Trust Board Apprentice and Mr Mark Cadden, Executive Support Services Manager (Acting) to their first Trust board.

2.0 DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTERESTS WITH ANY BUSINESS ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declared potential conflicts of interests with any business items on the agenda.

3.0 CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

The Chairman tabled his Report for consideration at today's meeting and it was noted by members.

The Chairman invited Ms N Patterson to introduce Ms K Charis and Ms E Hunter to present on their experience of the Nightingale Challenge Northern Ireland Global Leadership Development Programme and reflection on Learning through the Covid-19

Pandemic. **The Chairman** thanked Ms K Charis and Ms E Hunter for their excellent and informative presentations and invited members for comments or questions.

Members thanked Ms E Hunter and Ms K Charis for their presentation and to Ms N Patterson and all nurses for all their hard work. **Mr N Brady** outlined he noted one clear message: the power of continued education and stated it must have been difficult to undertake continued education, working and juggling a family and personal life. **Mr N Brady** stated it was amazing to hear how Ms E Hunter and Ms K Charis had bought into the concept of leadership at an early stage and to see how the learning had positively impacted their role. **Mr N Brady** went on to say their learning would plant seeds for future generations and it was a credit to Ms E Hunter and Ms K Charis. **Mrs J O'Hagan** stated she was humbled by Ms E Hunter and Ms K Charis modesty and achievements, and she stated it was inspiring to see properly funded development opportunities to support and develop staff so they can better represent their client's treatment and outcomes.

Mr M Mawhinney asked Ms K Charis and Ms E Hunter what was the driver for them that kept them going and what was the one lesson they would take away from working during the pandemic? **Ms E Hunter** stated ensuring the patient and their family had a positive experience has always been the driver for her. **Ms E Hunter** went on to explain working during the pandemic has been challenging with additional pressures on staffing and services, but for her she always focused on her goal: the patient and their families. **Ms E Hunter** explained throughout the pandemic she found strong support from her team and her family which has kept her focused. **Ms K Charis** echoed Ms E Hunters statements and added the support she got from her team, family and friend's alongside the skills she acquired through the Global leadership programme has helped her focus on her goal: the patient. **Ms K Charis** went on to say it was the little thank yous that helped get her through.

Ms Coulter offered her thanks on behalf of the Trust and the Board to Ms E Hunter and Ms K Charis for all the work they have done and for coming to Trust Board and sharing their experience. **Ms Coulter** stated Ms E Hunter and Ms K Charis were nursing ambassadors and champions and she expressed the importance of the entire multidisciplinary team approach. **Ms Coulter** stated it was a privilege to work with people like Ms E Hunter and Ms K Charis and she was reassured by their feedback as it reflected the high quality patient focused care the Trust aspired to achieve. **Ms Coulter** pledged the Trust would continue to support our staff to achieve their maximise potential in order to continue to improve the quality of our patient focused care. **Ms N Patterson** echoed Ms Coulter's sentiments and offered an additional thanks to Ms J Patterson, Ms L Dullaghan and Ms C Marie Dickson for their team effort.

Ms Jane Patterson, Ms E Hunter and Ms K Charis left the Trust Board meeting at this time.

4.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS

No items were noted.

5.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 23 June 2021

Members were content for the minutes of the Public Meeting held on 23 June 2021, having been previously circulated, to be taken as read and signed as a true and accurate record.

6.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Chairman noted there were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

For Discussion and / or Approval

7.1 SEHSCT Annual Equality Report 2020/21

Mrs C Smyth introduced Ms S Thompson to present the SEHSCT Annual Equality Report 2020/21 which had been circulated with the papers for today's meeting. **Ms S Thompson** informed members the SEHSCT Annual Equality report 2020/21 had been approved by the Executive Management Team (EMT) and was now seeking Board approval prior to submission to the Quality Commission. **Ms S Thompson** informed members the Trust was required to produce an Annual progress report which details the Trust progress in fulfilling statutory Equality and Good relations duties. **The Chairman** thanked Ms S Thompson for her presentation and invited members for comments or questions.

Dr M Briscoe thanked Ms Thompson for her presentation and her great report. **Dr M Briscoe** stated she found the multicultural forum to be of particular interest and she would like to get involved. **Dr M Briscoe** went on to say she would be keen to get feedback from the human rights and goods relation forum and advised Ms S Thompson she would be happy to discuss this with her at another time. **Mr N Brady** and **Mr M Mawhinney** echoed Dr M Briscoe sentiments and outlined they found Ms S Thompson report to be comprehensive and well written.

Mr M Mawhinney asked if there was any overlap between Section 75 and Rural Assessment **Ms S Thompson** informed members Rural Assessment sits with the Planning Department, however the Equality Department work closely with them during the equality screening process to ensure continuity for Trust and Rural Assessment requirements. **Ms S Thompson** advised the HSC Making Communication Accessible to All document is available on the Trust's intranet (Iconnect) and has been promoted to staff in a number of ways including desktop backgrounds, leaflets etc. with the assistance of the Trust Corporate Communication Team. Nevertheless, **Ms S Thompson** highlighted the Equality team would be keen to improve staff awareness of the document. **Mr M Mawhinney** advised he would welcome an increased promotion of the HSC Making Communication Accessible to All document.

Mrs J O'Hagan asked if the Minister was now going to focus on Equality and asked Ms S Thompson did she feel equality was a part of the Minister's agenda? **Ms S Thompson** outlined she felt equality was a part of the Minister's agenda and highlighted the importance of working in partnership to rebuilt and optimise services, for example as part the Ministers elective care framework or the cancer strategy pathway. **Mrs J O'Hagan** concluded she felt new ways of working was necessary but cautioned that they must be properly consulted on in order to ensure they meet the Public and Equality requirements. **The Chairman** sought and obtained approval from members.

Ms S Thompson left the Trust Board meeting at this time.

7.2 Financial Report for the period ending 30 June 2021

Ms W Thompson presented the Financial Report for the period ending 30 June 2021 and advised the Trust is reporting an in-year deficit of £8.4million, and forecasting a deficit for the financial year of approximately £33million. **Ms W Thompson** outlined the movement from the opening recurrent deficit position to this in-year forecast position. Members were informed, the Trust had in year saving opportunities of approximately £11 million. However. **Ms W Thompson**

highlighted that the assumption was that all Covid-19 costs are fully funded. **Ms W Thompson** advised members the Trust continues to work closely with the HSCB and the DoH to secure additional funding to address both the underlying recurrent deficit and any increases as a result of increased Covid-19 inpatient numbers

Ms W Thompson outlined within acute services both staffing and goods and services were starting to show signs of increased pressures and there are similar impact of increased activity in expenditure trends within acute mental health services and a number of new local pressures as a result of high cost cases within both children's and adult services.

Revenue Resource Limit (RRL)

Members were made aware of the DoH intention to bid for in-year monitoring funding with an outcome expected end of October 2021. **Ms W Thompson** advised members the Trust's breakeven risk rating remained Red as in the event the DoH was unable to secure the bid funding, the Trust would need to achieve additional £33million cash releasing savings in 5 months, which would be challenging. **Ms W Thompson** reassured members that this position was consistent across all Trusts.

Capital Resource Limit (CRL)

Members were made aware of the Trust latest CRL funding is £48.31million. **Ms W Thompson** outlined that £20.59million was allocated to cover the Ulster Hospital Phase B expenditure. Members were advised that the Trust is aware there may be slippage regarding the Phase B redevelopment and the amount is currently being calculated regarding construction and equipment costs.

Mr M Mawhinney asked, with reference to the Trust's forecasted £33 million deficit, if the October bid is not successful has the risk register been updated to reflect this risk? **Ms W Thompson** advised members the Trust's risk has already been highlighted to the Board and reflected on the Trusts risk register as a high risk. **Mr M Mawhinney** asked about the Trust's spending on agency and locum targets and where this sits with recruitment? **Mr M Mawhinney** advised members he was aware of the recent media coverage of nurses leaving healthcare Trusts and questioned whether in light of this staff shortages, the locum saving object is realistic? **Ms W Thompson** advised members that agency staff are not always employed to fill a vacancy but often they are required to supplement and support services to meet increasing demand and capacity pressures. **Ms W Thompson** outlined an increase in recurrent funding was important to allow the Trust to recruit more permanent staff but that it is more important how the Trust plans to manage its increasing capacity demands.

Dr M Briscoe asked about the assumption surrounding funding for running of the new ASB and questioned what the impact would be if this assumption was not correct. **Ms W Thompson** advised members the Trust had no anticipated concerns regarding securing funding as this has been discussed with the Commissioner. **Ms W Thompson** highlighted however the concern is on how much funding the Trust will secure. Nevertheless, **Ms W Thompson** reassured members the Trust is continuing to work closely with the Commissioner.

Members discussed the impact of winter pressures on finance. **Dr M Briscoe** asked what the impact winter pressures will likely have on funding requirements and will the effect be significant? Similarly **Ms H Minford** asked was the

increasing volume of ED activity was taken into consideration when securing funding. **Ms W Thompson** added in-year pressures, increasing volume and activity demands and deficits are used by the Trust to support bids for additional non-recurrent funding. **Ms H Minford** thanked Dr D Robinson and Ms W Thompson for their update.

Ms J O'Hagan also advised that the Report demonstrated consistent control over staffing costing, which for her suggested good operational management which should be congratulated. **Ms J O'Hagan** went on to ask regarding the reports Pharmacy saving recommendations, if this was a realistic expectations? **Ms W Thompson** advised members the MORE target was a regionally set target. Members were told savings were recommended through switching High cost pharmaceuticals to generic brand, however **Ms W Thompson** advised the difficulty for our Trust was the proposed list for 2020/21 are pharmaceuticals which we do not currently use, thus making the recommended MORE savings difficult to achieve.

7.3 Performance Management Report

Ms N Dunbar provided an update on the July 21 Performance Management Report, and the Scorecard. Members were informed over the last 18 months Covid-19 had a detrimental impact on HSC services across the Trust with services suspended or reduced and this has had an impact on waiting lists.

Dr D Robinson advised members the Trust was experiencing more pressures than at the worse stage of Surge 2 with Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at double capacity. He outlined staffing for ICU was through buddies coming from Theatres and Recovery and it was becoming challenging to sustain staffing for both areas.

Ms B Campbell provided an update on the impact of Covid-19 on Children's Services. She informed Regional Services were experiencing recurrent pressures and that a decrease of 31 professional social workers presents a challenge, particularly with increasing referrals. **Ms B Campbell** informed members the DoH have been made aware of the Regional shared pressures.

Dr M Briscoe asked for clarification around slide 10 of the report: Hospital Statistics: Emergency Care. **Dr M Briscoe** enquired how the total attendance differed from the previous 2 slides: Daily and Monthly ED attendances and 12 Hour Breaches. **Ms Coulter** advised Dr M Briscoe slide 10 of the report referred to all South Eastern Trust Sites with a ED while the previous 2 slides referred solely to Ulster Hospital's ED.

Mrs J O'Hagan referenced the previous Trust Board meeting on 26 May 2021 and enquired whether enough efforts had been made regarding the regional approach around Primary and Unscheduled Care? **Mr C Martyn** advised G.P's deliver services including trying to deliver healthcare services at home. **Mr C Martyn** informed ED's, are busier than normal and patients are likely attending that would normally have gone down the Primary Care route. **Ms N Dunbar** quantified this data with reference to the reports daily and monthly ED attendances (slide 8) outlining a noted 64% increase in treatment of category 5 patients i.e. stable patients compared to 2019.

Mrs J O'Hagan stated the DoH asked Trusts to do more with G.P's, however the

Trusts have outlined this is not within their current remit. **Mrs J O'Hagan** went on to ask whether there has been enough effort from the DoH to engage directly with the G.P's. **Ms N Dunbar** responded there has been a lot of work around No More Silos in an attempt to link Primary and Secondary care. **Ms N Dunbar** outlined the submission of a business case for the addition of more ambulatory hubs; however she advised funding was not yet available to support this. **Dr D Robinson** also advised there is concern regarding NIAS volume of patients requiring admission and having to wait for beds availability. **Dr D Robinson** advised members they are working closely with colleagues to look at the control of ambulance to reduce waiting times at ED. **The Chairman** thanked the hard work of staff and acknowledging the difficulties they face due to limited funds.

Dr D Robinson left the meeting with an apology to members as he was required to attend another meeting.

7.4 Addendum to the Corporate Plan 2017/21

Members received, for consideration, SET/47/21 Addendum to the Corporate Plan 2017/21 for approval which had been circulated with the papers for today's meeting. **Ms N Dunbar** advised members in March 2021 the DoH directed Arm's Length Bodies conduct a light touch review and roll forward current 2020/21 Business Plans and Corporate plans 2017/2021. **Ms N Dunbar** informed members the Trust is presenting an addendum to the Trust Corporate Plan for approval following targeted engagement workshops with a small number of staff and service users this addendum provides the priorities for the Trust in 2021/22. Members approved the addendum to the Corporate Plan 2017/21 subject to some minor adjustments.

For Information/Noting

7.5 Covid-19 Update

Ms Coulter provided an update on the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme and informed members of the closure of the SSE Vaccination Centre on Sunday 23rd August 2021. **Ms. Coulter** formally recognised all individuals who worked as a part of the team, the military, retirees, medical and the nursing staff (including international) who took part. **Ms Coulter** advised vaccinations are still being provided by SET staff at the SSE in tents and the mobile vaccination bus and the Trust will continue to support the Vaccination Programme. **Ms Coulter** outlined, if asked SET response will always be yes and outlined plans were underway for SET to staff temporary Covid-19 Vaccination Centres for a number of days at the Balmoral Show and during student fresher's week. **Ms Coulter** conveyed her thank you to everyone for all the hard work they've done and outline the vaccine programme had reached over 510,000 uptake with 370,000 of these done at the SSE arena.

Mr C Martyn provided an update on Covid-19 pressures on Services. He informed members pressures continued as we entered another peak that appears to have stayed at a plateau for two to three weeks with no sign of changing presently. **Mr C Martyn** highlighted SET currently have 70 lab Covid-19 positive inpatients with 64 of these at the Ulster hospital site and two at LVH and 4 at DH site respectively. He advised pressures remain in ICU which is currently at capacity with 6 Covid-19 patients in addition to other ICU patients and advised

ICU operates a shared bed structure model which is the same across Trusts and had been agreed regionally.

Mr C Martyn advised members pressures remain high in ED with an increase in attendance and admission is higher than the first wave. He stated this increase is likely due to an increase in non Covid-19 activity that we did not have in the first wave. He informed ED is seeing an increase in trolley waits and delay in admission due to this increased in activity and referenced currently ED has 70 Covid-19 patients. **Mr C Martyn** informed members he met with front line clinicians who outlined a significant increase in the number of patients who test positive for Covid-19 are not vaccinated and estimated 40 to 50% where under 65 years. Additionally, **Mr C Martyn** advised we are seeing an increased number of patients now presenting with long Covid-19 effects including staff and the message remains clear to promote Vaccinated against Covid-19.

Ms N Patterson updated members on the impact of Covid-19 in our Community and advised SET currently had 22 Community Care homes with confirmed Covid-19 cases and regionally 103 care homes have been affected. 40% of those who had tested positive were asymptomatic and she stated two SET Community Care homes had been significantly impacted with Covid-19 with a large number of staff and residents testing positive. **Ms N Patterson** advised Community Care homes have restricted visiting as a precaution. **Ms N Patterson** outlined it has been suggested Covid-19 vaccinated antibody levels may be beginning to wane for those individuals who were vaccinated early and stated the level of illness symptoms did not appear to be as significant as the first wave which is encouraging.

Ms M O'Kane advised that Mental Health Services is seeing an increase in pressures on acute beds and staffing. Regionally there has been an increased number of people presenting with psychosis and the cases were more significant than ever.

Ms H Minford asked with regards to the recent media evidence emerging concerning the Covid-19 vaccines waning off after six months, what is the impact of this and will there be a booster Covid-19 vaccine coming? **Mr C**

Martyn responded to Ms H Minford outlining it would appear antibodies might be reducing after the 6 month period. However **Mr C Martyn** advised although the vaccine may be waning off, individuals should still have some residual defences.

Ms Coulter outlined the DoH suggested flu vaccines will go ahead, with the Covid-19 boosters vaccines likely occur later on in the year. **Ms Coulter** outlined individuals should be encouraged to get the flu vaccine and that it is thought immunocompromised and vulnerable individuals will be offered a third dose Covid-19 vaccine, however **Ms Coulter** advised the Trusts are awaiting Regional guidance on this.

Mr N Brady asked did it appear the Covid-19 vaccines were making an impact on Covid-19 symptoms in contrast to previous surges? **Ms N Patterson** outlined it appeared to be making an impact, with 60% of Covid-19 positive patients being asymptomatic which was less than with previous surges. **Mr N Brady** went on to ask of the current Covid-19 inpatients, how many of these were non-vaccinated. **Mr C Martyn** advised members 70% were non-vaccinated with around 40% of

those under the age of 65. **Mr C Martyn** provided members with an example of four Covid-19 pregnant women in labour ward last week alone. **Mr N Brady** enquired whether the public had been made aware of these numbers. **Mr C Martyn** advised members the situation had been well published in the media. **The Chairman** thanked members and extended a special thank you to Dr M Briscoe who played a significant part in the Vaccination Programme

7.6 Update – Implementation of Hyponatraemia Recommendations

Mr C Martyn provided an update on the Duty of Candour, a recommendation from the DoH following hyponatraemia inquiry. He informed members there was a public consultation on the Duty of Candour which the Trust had been asked to provide feedback and advised this consultation had been extended until 31st August 2021.

Discussing the implementation of hyponatremia recommendations, **Mr C Martyn** informed members the recommendations had been welcomed. **Mr C Martyn** outlined the biggest issue is monitoring fluids for example electrolytes monitoring to the management of adults. **Mrs J O'Hagan** asked what regional impact would there likely be for the report's recommendations of fluid management as this differed from the National Institute Clinical Excellence (N.I.C.E) Guidelines. **Mr C Martyn** advised clinicians are heavily invested in N.I.C.E Guidelines, if the Trust were to choose not to follow with the N.I.C.E Guidelines, this could cause some difficulties. However, **Mr C Martyn** advised clinicians will likely follow the Report's recommendation.

Dr M Briscoe asked if there could be a regional training impact, for example if junior doctors are taught to adhere to the N.I.C.E Guidelines while the rest of the UK adopts the Report's recommendations. **Mr C Martyn** agreed with Dr M Briscoe and outlined that she raised an interesting and valid point which should be raised as part of the consultations review.

7.7 SEHSCT People Plan – Update on Launch and Communications Plan

Mrs C Smyth provided an update on the launch of the SET People Plan for noting, which was launched on the 4th August 2021 following having been brought to the Trust Board and EMT in March and April 2021.

Mr M Mawhinney stated prior to the pandemic there had been some staff industrial strike actions taken and now there are additional pressures on staff as a result of the pandemic. **Mr M Mawhinney** asked with regards to the appropriateness of the timing for the release of the People Plan and if it tied in well with the future of the Trust? **Mrs C Smyth** advised members to ensure the People Plan reflected the needs of our people; a number of engagement opportunities were built in when developing the new People Plan. **Mrs C Smyth** advised members the Trust conducted staff culture assessments Investor in People Surveys and virtual workshops in order to ensure the Trust was listening to the needs of its staff. **Mr M Mawhinney** echoed Mrs C Smyth's sentiments and outlined the listening to staff was key.

Ms Coulter also added the Trust did consider the timing of the release of the People Plan. **Ms Coulter** advised the Trust worked in co-partnership with Trade

Unions who welcomed the plan and advised it could be released in July 2021 however; the Trust delayed the launch to August 2021. **Ms Coulter** informed members the reason for the delay was as the Trust wanted to make sure the People Plan would well support our staff and be embedded within our culture. **Ms Coulter** went on to quantify almost 200 staff attended the virtual launch of the People Plan and it was heartening to receive over 120 positive comments in support of the new People Plan. **Ms H Minford** added it was important the Trust had a good working relationship with the Trade Unions.

Mrs J O'Hagan asked if the planned celebration event to recognise and celebrate the hard work and efforts of staff was on hold, and if so, was there anything we could do to motivate staff and boost morale. **Ms Coulter** stated this had been discussed at Executive Management Team (EMT) meeting. **Ms Coulter** outlined a critical aspect was how the Trust would equally recognise and appreciate the hard work of all of our staff as everyone has worked so hard during the pandemic. **Ms Coulter** advised members the Trust was looking at the Chairman's Recognition Award as an option for achieving this. **Ms Coulter** informed members there will be a role for all to be involved including the Non-Executive Directors. **Ms H Minford** informed members the Charitable Funds could be used to assist with this.

7.8 SEHSCT Compliments & Complaints Annual Report

Mrs C Smyth presented the SEHSCT Compliments and Complaints Annual Report and advised the Report had been submitted to EMT and Corporate Control Committee for approval and was been presented to the Trust Board for noting. **Mrs C Smyth** informed members the Trust received 2, 842 compliments and 526 complaints with the top three subjects of complaint for the reporting period (2020/2021) noted as; Quality of Treatment and Care, Communication and Staff Attitude. She advised this was a reduction from the previous year (2019/2020) of 4,517 compliments and 769 complaints. **Mrs C Smyth** outlined 99% of complaints were acknowledged within 2 working days. **Mrs C Smyth** went on to say 31% of complaints were responded to within 20 working days and cited the Covid-19 pressures had an impact on response time.

Mr. N Brady thanked Mrs C Smyth for the update and outlined he thought it was brilliant the Trust had received more compliments than complaints. **Mr N Brady** went on to say he thought it was interesting the report dedicated three pages dedicated to complaints but only a few lines to compliments and suggested perhaps this could be more balanced , particularly as the Trust had 5 times more compliments than complaints. **Mr N Brady** outlined staff would appreciate the positive feedback from compliments and acknowledged this is now more important than ever with the pressures from the pandemic. **Dr M Briscoe** stated it was interesting the number of Covid-19 related complaints was relatively low (39). **Dr M Briscoe** outlined given the current pressures, it should be viewed as a compliment to the hard work of the staff that the numbers were low. **Mrs C Smyth** thanked members for their feedback and advised this would be taken on board.

7.9 SEHSCT Celebration of Nursing & Midwifery Report 2020/21

Ms N Patterson presented the SET/51/21 Celebration of Nursing and Midwifery

Report 2021 for noting and she recognised the many great work and achievements being undertaken by Nursing & Midwifery achievements within the Trust during the period. Members were informed the Annual Report was also available on the Trust I connect page tiger. **Mrs J O'Hagan** congratulated Ms N Patterson on the Report and efforts of the nursing staff, particularly given the pressures of the pandemic. **Mrs J O'Hagan** asked if this Report would be used as a debrief in order to help plan for the future. **Ms N Patterson** outlined in the last quarter there had been learning from Covid-19 and that it was important we continue to learn. **Mr N Brady** informed members of a new addition to his family 5 weeks ago, baby Bella Brady. **Mr N Brady** extended his thanks to the midwives and nursing staff involved.

7.10 Minutes of the Charitable Funds Committee held on 16 June 2021

Members were content with the minutes of the Charitable Funds Committee meeting held on 16 June 2021. **The Chairman** acknowledged Ms H Minford request for a new date for the next Charitable Funds Committee meeting.

7.11 Minutes of the Audit Committee held on 12 May 2021

Members were content with the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 12 May 2021.

7.12 Report and Minutes of the Finance & Performance Committee held on 5 July 2021

Members were content with the minutes of the finance and performance Committee meeting held on 05 July 2021.

7.13 Schedule of Dates for Trust Board Meeting 2022

Members received, for noting, Schedule of Dates for Trust Board Meeting 2022 which had been circulated with the papers for today.

8.0 Any Other Business

BBC News Regional Day Procedure Unit

Ms Coulter informed members BBC news filmed a segment at the Regional Day Procedure Unit (DPU) at LVH. Ms Coulter advised members the media piece focused on healthcare services continue to provide urgent elective care during the pandemic and could be viewed on the BBC news 18:00 and 22:00 segments tomorrow (26th August 2021).

Leaver

Dr M Briscoe informed members CNO Professor C McArdle would be leaving to the DoH to a new role of safety and quality at NHS Improvement. Dr M Briscoe outlined Professor C McArdle would be missed and wished her well for her future.

**9.0 Date and venue on next meeting
Wednesday 29 September 2021 at 2.00pm via Zoom from Trust Headquarters, Ulster Hospital, Dundonald**