

SOUTH EASTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST

**Minutes of a Public Meeting of the
South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust Board
held on 29 September 2021 at 1.15pm
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 H Minford, Non-Executive Director
Mrs J O'Hagan, Non-Executive Director
Mrs B Campbell, Director of Children's Services & Executive Director of Social Work
Mr C Martyn, Medical Director
Ms N Patterson, Director of Primary Care, Older People & Executive Director of Nursing
Ms W Thompson, Director of Finance and Estates

IN ATTENDANCE : Ms N Dunbar, Interim Director of Planning, Performance & Informatics
Mrs M O'Kane, Director of Adult Services & Prison Healthcare
Dr D Robinson, Director of Hospital Services
Mrs C Smyth, Interim Director of Human Resources & Corporate Affairs

Mr M Cadden, Executive Support Services Manager (Acting) (Minutes)
Ms J English, Trust Board Apprentice
Mr J Large, Unison Trade Union
Mrs M McNally, Assistant Director, Risk Management and Governance & Board Secretary

APOLOGIES: Mr M Mawhinney, Non-Executive Director

	<u>ACTION</u>
<p>1.0 <u>OPENING REMARKS</u> 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.</p>	
<p>2.0 <u>DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTERESTS WITH ANY BUSINESS ITEMS ON THE AGENDA</u> There were no declared potential conflicts of interests with any business items on the agenda.</p>	
<p>3.0 <u>CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS</u> The Chairman's Report was tabled and noted by members.</p>	
<p>4.0 <u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS</u> Ms Coulter advised members the new Macmillan Unit has opened on the UHD site. She informed members the EMT have visited the unit and that it is a fantastic addition to the Trust. Ms Coulter advised a date will be arranged for Non-Executive Directors to visit the new unit.</p> <p>Ms Coulter congratulated Ms Patterson and her team on their recent ISO Award for Primary Care & Older People's Services.</p>	Mc arranged Macmillan Unit Visit
<p>5.0 <u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 25 AUGUST 2021</u> Minutes of the Public Meeting held on 25 August 2021, were agreed and taken as read and approved as a true and accurate record.</p>	

6.0 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**
The Chairman noted one matter arising, which has been actioned.

7.0 **NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

7.1 **Financial Report for the period ending 31 August 2021**

Ms Thompson outlined the Trust was reporting an in-year deficit of £12 million and is forecasting a deficit for the financial year of approximately £30 million. She highlighted the recent announcement of approximately £120 million additional funding to NI and noted that decisions were yet to be made at the Executive as to how much of this funding would be allocated to healthcare. **Ms Thompson** went on to highlight comparative HSC Performance benchmarks which were included in this month's Financial Report. She outlined that the benchmarks compare performance across Trusts and stated the SET was performing well.

Ms O'Hagan asked about Covid-19 and Rebuilding Services and confirmed these continued to be tracked separately but for the purpose of the report both were reported together. **Dr Briscoe** outlined the additional capital was welcomed and asked if the funding would assist with the estates maintenance of ageing buildings. **Ms Thompson** outlined the funding would help to manage the risks around both backlog maintenance and the targeted replacement or refurbishment of ageing buildings in line with the Trust's five year Estates Plan.

7.2 **Performance Management Reports**

Monthly Performance Report and the Corporate Scorecard was circulated and taken as read.

Dr Briscoe thanked Ms Dunbar for the comprehensive report and outlined she would find it beneficial if the report included regional comparison. **Dr Briscoe** asked about the new model of care around Psychological Therapies and asked if these were having an impact on waiting lists. **Ms O'Kane** outlined the Mental Health Service was experiencing a persistent surge with an expected 36% increase in referrals. She stated Psychological Therapies had been discussed at a recent regional workshop, however she outlined workforce pressures were on-going. **Mrs O'Hagan** enquired about the continual pressures on staff and was this leading to an increase in Incidents. **Ms Dunbar** agreed to follow this up.

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ND

7.3 **Corporate Risk Register 2021/22 (1st Quarter position)**

The Corporate Risk Register 2021/22 was presented for approval. **Mrs Smyth** advised the Corporate Risk Register was reviewed by EMT and presented to both the Corporate Control in July 2021 and the Governance Assurance Committee in September 2021 and is being tabled today for final approval as part of the Mid-Year Assurance Statement. Members approved the Register.

7.4 **Annual Quality Report**

Ms Patterson presented the Trust Annual Quality Report for approval prior to being launched on World Quality Day on the 11th November 2021. She outlined the report was a requirement of the Quality 2020 Framework set by the DoH.

Dr Briscoe noted in the report that the number of serious falls remained low, the level of general falls appeared to be increasing and she asked if this was a symptom of the current pressures. **Ms Patterson** advised there had been a real focus on the prevention of falls and stated the increase in falls is likely a reflection of the inpatients profile who were at higher risk of falling and was not unique to Covid-19. Following the discussion, Members approved the Report.

7.5 Annual Report on Information Governance 2021

The Trust Annual Report on Information Governance 2021 was presented to members. **Mrs Smyth** advised members the Annual Report on Information Governance 2021 was presented to the Governance Assurance Committee in September 21 Members approved the Report.

7.6a Update Covid-19- Speaking Request by Mr Large, Unison Trade Union

The Chairman invited Mr Large, Unison Trade Union, who had requested and has been granted Speaking Rights at today's Public Trust Board. **Mr Large** thanked the Chairman and outlined that the issue he intended to raise had since been resolved and he no longer wishes to speak at today's meeting.

7.6b Update Covid-19

Ms Patterson provided members with a verbal update on Community and Care Homes in relation to Covid-19. Members were informed over two thousand Covid-19 Booster Vaccinations had been administered to Care Home Staff and Residents. She stated 17 Care Homes were considered in Covid-19 Outbreak, (2 or more positive cases of staff and/or residents), however outlined that the acuity of positive residents was less which was likely due to the Covid-19 Vaccine. **The Chairman** asked how the SET Booster Vaccinations compared regionally. **Ms Patterson** outlined the SET had efficiently rolled out their Booster Vaccinations to the Care Home sector and that other Trusts were progressing their roll outs. **Mrs Minford** complimented that over two thousand Booster Vaccinations had been administered and asked if there would be a Regional Vaccination Centre set up again. **Ms Coulter** advised that there is no plans to set up another Regional Vaccination Centre and vaccinations would be given through Community Pharmacies and GP's.

Mr Martyn outlined services continue to experience sustained pressures from both Covid-19 and non Covid-19 patients. **Mr Brady** asked if the majority of Covid-19 inpatients were unvaccinated and was there an age profile. **Mr Martyn** outlined the number of unvaccinated inpatients was lower than previous and typically were younger patients but highlighted that the majority of ICU patients were unvaccinated. He stated that the key message still remains to promote and encourage the uptake of the Covid-19 Vaccination. **Mr Brady** outlined there had been a lot of media cover from SET staff and stated he hoped the message been communicated was been picked up by the public. **The Chairman**, on behalf of the Board, thanked Corporate Communication Team for all their work and in relaying these messages continually.

Ms Coulter informed members the Trust was awaiting regional guidance on the Covid-19 Booster, but that it would likely be offered to the clinically vulnerable, immunocompromised and frontline staff. She outlined the Trust

recognises staff are under a great deal of pressure and the Trust is doing its best to work in partnership with Trade Unions and staff in order to support them. **Mrs Minford** asked if staff were availing of their annual leave. **Dr Robinson** outlined staff, including senior management teams, are being encouraged to take their leave.

Mrs O'Hagan left the meeting (14:15) due to technical difficulties.

7.7

Development of Quality Strategy

Ms Campbell provided a verbal update on the Quality Strategy. Members were informed the Quality Strategy would be a Total Quality Management System consisting of four priorities:

- Health and wellbeing of the population
- Safety quality and experience of Care
- Our People
- Improving Value for our Population

Members were informed the Quality Strategy links with the Corporate and People Plan and aims to put people at the heart of what we do and will be launched on 11th November 2021 via zoom. **Mr Brady** stated he felt Quality Improvement was embedded in the Trust's culture and welcomed the new Quality Strategy. **Dr Briscoe** outlined the importance for Bottom-up and Top-down Leadership approach to Quality Improvement. **The Chairman** on behalf Board endorsed the Quality Strategy.

8.0 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chairman informed members of the up incoming NICON 21 Conference planned for the 06th & 07th October 2021 and advised the conference had a number of key topics and speakers including our Chief Executive, Ms Roisin Coulter.

The Chairman informed members the NI Healthcare Awards were held recently and outlined SET celebrated success in two categories: Prison and Healthcare Team and Dementia Hubs. On Behalf of the Board, **The Chairman** offered his congratulations to Ms O'Kane and Dr Robinson and the teams.

9.0 **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 24 November 2021 at 2.00pm via Zoom from Trust Headquarters, Ulster Hospital, Dundonald.