

SOUTH EASTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST

Minutes of a Public Meeting of the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust Board held on 23 February 2022 at 14.00pm 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
Mrs H Minford, Non-Executive Director
Mr C Martyn, Medical Director
Mr M Mawhinney, Non-Executive 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 E Brownrigg, Clinical Pharmacy Development Lead , Woman & Acute Child Health – Pharmacy (*Left at 14:40*)
Mr M Cadden, Executive Support Services Manager (Acting) (Minutes)
Ms J English, Trust Board Apprentice
Ms E Hannaway, Interim Assistant Director Performance, Strategic & Capital Development, Strategic & Capital Development
Ms J Jenkins, Sister, Elderly Services - Older People & Primary Care (*Left at 14:40*)
Ms C.M Dickson, Assistant Director of Primary & Integrated Care, Primary Care / Community Nursing - Unscheduled Care (*Left at 14:40*)
Mrs M McNally, Assistant Director, Risk Management and Governance & Board Secretary
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
Ms MJ Thompson, Interim Assistant Director Medical Specialties & Cancer, Medicine - Operation Support (*Left at 14:40*)

APOLOGIES: Mrs J O'Hagan, Non-Executive Director

Joint Presentation: A Partnership Approach to Rapid Implementation of Covid-19 Treatments

Members received a Joint Presentation from Ms Jenkins and Ms Brownrigg. **Mr Brady** asked how patients are referred into the treatment centre and was informed that referrals are received through a number of ways including Consultants and GP's. **Ms Coulter** and the **Chairman**, on behalf of EMT and the NEDs thanked Ms Jenkins and Ms Brownrigg, for their presentation and extended sincere gratitude to them and the rest of their team for their continued hard work and dedication.

ACTION

1.0 OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined a number of

housekeeping items and asked that members speak clearly to ensure their points are captured and responded to directly.

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's Report was tabled and noted by members.

4.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS

Deputy Chief Executive (DCE) Appointment:

Ms Coulter informed members that Ms Patterson has been appointed to the role of Trust DCE.

Members were informed that the CE and EMT have been meeting with front line staff and Medical & Clinical Teams. Ms Coulter informed members that she was reassured to see that staff remain optimistic despite the pressures on services. Members were informed that Ms Coulter, Mr Martyn and Dr Robinson had met with the Royal College Surgeons for a site visit of the LVH DPU.

Service Pressures

Ms Coulter informed members that she recognised all services across the Trust are continuing to be under considerable pressure and on behalf of the EMT, she thanked all staff across the Trust for their dedication and "can do attitude" and for continuing to prioritise patient safety and service delivery.

Before moving on the Chair congratulated Ms Patterson on her appointment on behalf of the Board and wished her well in a role that was essential in providing support to the CE.

5.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2022

Minutes of the Public Meeting held on 26 January 2022, were agreed and taken as read and approved as a true and accurate record.

6.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Chairman noted one action from the matters arising paper, which has been actioned and closed.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

7.1 Update Covid-19

Primary Care and Community Care Homes

Ms Patterson informed members that for the week commencing 14th February 2022, there were 47 out of 111 Care Homes in outbreak. She advised members that this was a slight decrease compared to the figures reported at the January 2022 Trust Board meeting. Members were informed that the biggest challenge continued to be staff absence regionally. **Ms Patterson** informed members that the Trust was preparing to commence Covid-19 Vaccinations for the over 70's demographic in line with the latest government guidelines.

Hospital Services

Mr Martyn informed members that there had been an increase in Covid-19 inpatients and that the Omicron Variant appeared to remain the dominant variant.

7.2 Financial Report Month 9 for period December 2021

Members were informed that the Trust is reporting an in-year and a forecast break-even. **Ms Thompson** advised members that the Trust was coming to the end of the financial year and that its current focus is now turning to future budget requirements for the next financial year. Members were informed that predicting budget expenditure remained challenging due to uncertainties surrounding global issues such as energy and goods costs, as well as the future trajectory of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ms Thompson informed members that looking system wide, and in the absence of an agreed budget, the opening position will be a budget equal to the opening recurrent allocation for the 2021/22 year. This is some £900m short of actual spend in 21/22 and would clearly result in a system wide failure to break-even. Given this difficult outlook, members were informed that the Trust cannot commit to any new spend unless an existing funding source can be determined. **Ms Thompson** informed members that the capital allocation has stabilised for the year and that the Trust is now carefully monitoring expenditure against a final capital resource limit.

7.3 Performance Management Reports

Members received the Corporate Scorecard and a verbal update from **Ms Dunbar** on the Performance Management Report. **Dr Briscoe** welcomed the new format of the Report and noted the Speech and Language waiting list target and asked what the Trust improvement plan was to address this. **Ms Patterson** informed members that there is a workforce issue that the Trust is working on addressing and it is hoped that moving forward there will be an improvement.

Dr Briscoe asked in relation to dementia. **Ms Patterson** informed members that the Trust is aware of a data collection issue which has impacted the waiting times figures contained within the report. Members were informed that the Trust is working with the DoH to resolve this issue.

Ms Minford asked for clarification concerning the increase in pressure ulcers noted in the report. **Ms Patterson** informed members that this is a regional issue with other Trusts reporting similar numbers. Members were informed that the Trust has been monitoring the situation and that there has been a lot of work ongoing to improve and reduce the number of pressures sores.

7.4 Public Consultation on the Temporary changes to Urgent and

Emergency Care Services at Lagan Valley Hospital (LVH)

Ms Dunbar provided members with a presentation. **Mr Mawhinney** welcomed the report and thanked Ms Dunbar for responding to his questions in relation to this agenda item in advance of today's Trust Board meeting. **Mr Mawhinney** expressed concern regarding the public's perception in relation to the change of LVH ED name. **Dr Robinson** informed members that as part of his site visit to LVH today, he met with Medical staff, Trade Union Representatives and front line staff working in LVH ED who have welcomed the public consultation. They feel that the name change gives clarity with regards to the level of service that can be provided at LVH. **Mr Mawhinney** informed members that he felt it would be beneficial if the Corporate Communication Team would emphasise the positive changes at the LVH site, for example the Regional DPU centre recently opened at LVH to be included as part of the consultation process.

Ms Coulter thanked Ms Dunbar and the Planning Performance and Informatics Team for all their hard work in relation to the Public Consultation. Members were informed that the Trust is aware of the pressures facing Emergency Care Services and that the purpose of LVH temporary change is in the interest of staff and public safety. **The Chairman** sought and obtained unanimous support to progress the proposed Public Consultation on the Temporary changes to Urgent and Emergency Care Services at LVH briefing paper and report.

7.5 Children (NI) Order 1995 Article 20 Review 2017-2020

Members received a briefing paper and report for approval to send to HSCB. **Mrs Campbell** informed members that the reports were retrospective for the preceding 3 years and that their submission had been delayed due to Covid-19 and additional pressures on the sector and the Trust Early Years Teams. **Dr Briscoe** asked if the Trust commissioned services regionally for children who have survived neonatal care. **Ms Minford** asked if the inspections bureaucracy involved with the provision of child minding services had a negative impact on staff recruitment and retention. **Ms Campbell** informed members that the process is currently being reviewed on a regional basis. **The Chairman** sought and obtained approval for the Children (NI) Order 1995 Article 20 Review 2017-2020.

7.6 Approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 01 December 2021

Members received the approved minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 01 December 2021, which was noted by members.

7.7 Approved Minutes of the Finance and Performance Committee Meeting held on 15 December 2021

Members received the approved minutes of the Finance and Performance Committee Meeting held on 15 December 2021, which was noted by members.

8.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Freedom of Borough

Ms O’Kane informed members that Mr James Keenan from the Wellness Recovery Network has received the Freedom of the Borough from the Lord Mayor of Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council.

Trusts Board in Person Meetings

Mr Brady raised a query on behalf of **Mrs O’Hagan** regarding when it is envisaged that the Trust Board Members would return to face to face meetings.

Ms Coulter informed members that there was a regional agreement that all Trusts would move together with regards to face to face meetings and she agreed to raise this at the next CE’s meeting.

Ms Coulter

9.0 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 30th March 2022 at 14:15pm via Zoom hosted from the Board Room, Trust Headquarter, Dundonald.

ASB- Acute Services Block

BHSCT- Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

BSO- Business Services Organisation

CE Chief Executive

CNO- Chief Nursing Officer

CRR- Corporate Risk Register

DCE- Deputy Chief Executive

DoH- Department of Health

DSF- Delegated Statutory Functions

ED- Emergency Department

EMT- Executive Management Team

GAC- Governance Assurance Committee

GP- General Practitioner

HCAI- Healthcare Associated Infections

HR- Human Resources

HSCB- Health & Social Care Board

ICU- Intensive Care Unit

LFT- Lateral Flow Tests

LVH- Lagan Valley Hospital

MAPA- Management of Actual and Potential Aggression

MLA- Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA)

MOD- Ministry of Defence

NI – Northern Ireland

ED- Non-Executive Directors

NHSCT- Northern Health and Social Care Trust

NIAS- Northern Ireland Ambulance Service

OBC- Outline Business Case

PICU- Psychiatric Intensive Care

RMB- Rebuilding Management Board

RPOG- Regional Prioritising Oversight Group

RQIA- Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority.

SET South Eastern Trust

UH- Ulster Hospital