

Paper No. SET/26/2022	
	Tick One ✓
For discussion	
For approval	
For noting	✓

Date of Trust Board Meeting: 1 June 2022

Confidential or Public Agenda: Public

Agenda Item: Chair’s Report

Colleagues,

In addition to my regular work, I met with Irene Hewitt as she sought to verify and evidence the information we submitted in our Board Governance Self-Assessment Tool. I believe she has met with some of you as part of the independent verification. I would expect to receive her outcome soon.

I continue to hold one to one meetings with our Boardroom Apprentice and delighted to say that Jude has made great progress and I can see a vast change in her knowledge and understanding of the work of Boards and her potential future serving on one.

I visited Downe Hospital with our Director of Children’s Services and met with staff to learn about the services we provide there. The facility was busy with a steady footfall of patients using the services operating from the site.

Whilst DoH ALB Chairs have not met with the Minister since before purdah, NICON work pushes on with meetings reshaping our work and priorities supporting leaders in the system. One significant session was looking at how the economy could benefit from investment from healthcare companies. There are very successful models working in England and ROI and those operating them are willing to assist in establishing the model in NI if we could gain Government support.

I met with and was interviewed by Professor Ray Jones who was commissioned by the Health Minister to carry out a review on Children’s Services in NI. His searching questions and commentary is, I believe, a very positive signal to a review that will highlight an urgent need to do things very differently to what we currently do. It is my hope that with a review carried out by such an eminent and empathetic professional we can make life much better for the children in our care.

The Trust carried out interviews for the Director of Planning Performance and Informatics and I am pleased to confirm that Ms Helen Moore was successful and I welcome her to her first Board Meeting today.

I appreciate that a number of Board Development sessions have all accrued close together making demands on member’s time but I firmly believe that in arranging these and revisiting our primary governance building blocks and learning about QI we have advanced our knowledge significantly.

I was privileged to attend one of the two the NI Healthcare Awards held in April. Across two locations that evening several individuals and groups from South Eastern Trust won and received recognition for the amazing projects they completed. This Trust demonstrated that across the region we have some of the most passionate and progressive healthcare professionals serving patients and those who need our help.

April saw another successful Volunteer Programme completed which was a joint wellbeing programme with South Eastern Trust and South Eastern Regional College where I got the opportunity to meet with the successful participants and award their prizes.

Along with the Chief Executive I hosted Michelle O'Neill on a visit to experience first-hand our Emergency Department and speak with staff. The Chief Executive, ED Consultants and Nurses were forthright in their comments and the needs urgently required to improve patient experience and outcomes.

The celebration of International Day of the Nurse was hosted jointly by the Mayor of Lisburn Castlereagh City Council, Alderman Stephen Martin and Deputy Mayor Councillor Tim Mitchell. They both were very positive and encouraging about the contribution of our nurses and midwives.

Lisburn Castlereagh City Council hosted another official ceremony on 21st May, the Council conferred the Freedom of the City on HSC in Northern Ireland for healthcare staff. Our Director of Nursing and Deputy Chief Executive was delighted to accept the Honour on behalf of the whole HSC family. The day was a fabulous success and enjoyed by many staff from across the Region.

In closing I would wish to inform the Board that in the last week that I was speaking with the Chair and Chief Executive of the Nursing and Midwifery Council who were in Northern Ireland and visited our Healthcare in Prison team. They spoke in glowing terms of their visit to HMP Magilligan facilitated by our Director of Nursing and met with a range of staff in the Prison. The overarching comment I took away from the conversation was that they believed they witnessed the outworking of their code of conduct by nursing staff in the service given to prisoners. There could be no better praise for our HiP Team and I thanked them personally and on behalf of this Board for what they do in a challenging environment.

Jonathan



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