

Paper No. SET/38/2022	
	Tick One ✓
For discussion	
For approval	
For information/noting	✓

Date of Trust Board Meeting: 29 June 2022

Confidential or Public Agenda: Public

Agenda Item: Chair's Report

Colleagues,

The period since our last Board Meeting included one week's annual leave hence reducing my opportunity to engage across the Trust as much as I would have wanted.

I have chaired two Consultant interview panels and was again very impressed at the new appointments and the potential they bring to the Trust.

I travelled to Liverpool with HSC colleagues to attend NHS Confederation Expo and Conference. I made good use of the time attending symposiums primarily on integrated care and met with both English and Welsh Chairs of Trusts enquiring how they operate, their relationship with their Department of Health and Ministers. Extremely enlightening conversations.

I gave time commitment to Professor Sealy from Exeter University who is researching the diversity of Board Members and explained how Trust Boards in NI operate. The conversations with Chair colleagues at Confederation and Professor Sealy highlight significant differences between NI and those in England and Wales. Professor Sealy's report will be published in the autumn.

I was a guest at the RCN Nurse of the Year celebrations and was delighted to see South Eastern Trust nurses recognised for their incredible high quality work and leadership across so many disciplines. The award winners highlighted once again the skill levels, ability and compassion of our nurses both as individuals and within teams.

I was delighted to host Health Minister Robin Swann MLA at our Ulster Hospital site for him to see first-hand the work of our Respiratory and Gastro Hubs - the model developed to fast track patients away from ED and give specialist care with wraparound services within the Hub. Minister Swann again left the Trust greatly impressed with the progressive thinking and "can do" attitude of our staff.

Together with the Deputy Chief Executive we supported our Dementia Bus support staff at Parliament Buildings as they engaged with MLAs promoting the resource and increasing the knowledge base for all of those participating. Our staff have a tremendous engagement programme with this vehicle relaying their unique messaging around Dementia.

The NI Audit Office launched their revised good practice guide for Board Effectiveness. I attended the launch allowing for the opportunity to meet with other public sector chairs and share best practice. I have asked our Board Secretary to supply a copy to each member.

I was afforded the opportunity to speak at the Wellness Recovery College networking event held to engage with stakeholders and increase awareness of this excellent resource.

At the same event, I had a long conversation with the newly appointed Mayor of Ards and North Down Borough Council Councillor Karen Douglas who expressed her desire to work in partnership with the Trust in any way she can during her year.

I joined the Deputy Chief Executive to visit Oaklands Children's Home to hear from staff how life is in the home and understand something of our children and the journey they are on. A very worthwhile opportunity with time spent with some amazingly dedicated staff.

As the Acting Chair of the Trust I have a deep interest in succession planning in our system and ensuring we have a flow of well-developed and prepared candidates for Board membership. I joined HSC Aspiring Directors as their course came to an end to hear their reflections on the course. The course was well designed to test participants ability to step up to the next level in their careers and made them search within themselves as to their motivations and personal abilities. This is a great addition to the courses offered and I look forward to the developments discussed at the session. Our HSC system needs this course working at pace urgently.

Jonathan



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