

Paper No. SET/52/22	
	Tick One ✓
For discussion	
For approval	
For information/noting	✓

Date of Trust Board Meeting: 31 August 2022

Confidential or Public Agenda: Public

Agenda Item: Chair's Report

Colleagues,

Just ahead of our June Board Meeting, I took the opportunity to join Mr Mawhinney on his first visit to our Lisburn PCCC. I would again reiterate that this will be a fabulous resource for the people of Lisburn and the surrounding areas once operational.

In July, the National Health Services of the United Kingdom was awarded the George Cross by Her Majesty The Queen. The award comes in recognition of 73 years of dedicated service, including for the courageous efforts of healthcare workers across the country battling the COVID-19 pandemic. Correspondence from Minister of Health, Mr Robin Swann MLA confirming the award to the HSC family in Northern Ireland has been tabled today for noting.

Together with the Chief Executive, we represented the Trust at the Department of Health's workshop on the proposed Partnership Agreement. Work on this development has begun again having been paused due to the pandemic.

I chaired one Advisory Appointments Committee and also attended my refresher recruitment training which is valid for the next three years.

In addition, I attended half day online cyber training for Board Members in order to update my awareness.

I attended one NICON Health Chairs meeting and one NHS Confed Meeting which were both online.

In July, the Chief Executive, the Interim Director of Human Resources and Corporate Affairs and I met to assess the finalists of the 2022 Chairman's Awards. I know our Non-Executive Directors and operational colleagues were directly involved in visiting entrants and selecting category winners and I want to thank everyone for their time and support and additionally to the staff who submitted a total of 120 entries this year, the largest entries ever in the history of the Awards. Well done and thank you for entering! There is so much happening on the ground that is promoting high level and improving healthcare.

Together with the Deputy Chief Executive, I visited our Children's Home in William Street, Newtownards. We had a warm welcome, and from our conversations, I gained a better understanding of the demands on our staff and services. Staff at William Street have an amazing commitment to our young people and it is evident they go the extra mile for them.

The Trust ran a recruitment competition for a new Director of Children's Work and Executive Director of Social Work in July and I am pleased to confirm that from 1 September 2022 Lyn Preece will step into that role.

I would wish to extend my thanks and appreciation to our outgoing Director Barbara Campbell who has carried that challenging and testing role since 2020. I wish her well in the future.

I met with our UHD Mortuary Team to celebrate their recognition as one of our 'Hidden Hero' teams. Out of sight from most of us, they work with a quiet, confident and compassionate nature continuing the provision of that high level of care and dignity for patients.

During July, the Non-Executive Directors completed their Annual Appraisals for 2021/22 and those completed documents are now with the Department.

I joined our Director of Hospital Services in a visit to Glenmore Children's Home in Lisburn where we were able to spend time with staff who informed us about life in the home and about our children who reside there. It was very informative and staff were superb but as a Trust and a Regional System we could do so much better for our children.

It is very timely given that we will review our Annual Equality & Good Relations Progress Report that I record my experience following an invite extended to me by staff in our Services for Physical Disability Sight and Hearing who work Trust wide. The visit to their Newtownards base was really informative and seeing how advanced their use of technology is in helping and educating users was most impressive. I recommend finding out more about the work they do.

I had the privilege of again hosting Minister of Health Mr Robin Swann MLA at the launch of our Mole Mapping procedure in partnership with Cancer Focus. This kind of partnership broadens our understanding and knowledge base and proves a better outcome for those who we seek to help. In my conversation with Minister Swann, I was able to relay that this kind of innovative and ground breaking thinking has long been one of the great strengths of this Trust and one we must keep alive.

As I close off the Report, I wish to extend my thanks and pay tribute to Judith English our 2021/22 Board Apprentice. Jude's time with us comes to an end at our August Board Meeting and it has been a pleasure to work with her. I have been very impressed with her commitment to the Programme and the Trust throughout the year. On behalf of the Board, I wish her well in the future and hope she can make use of what she learned here at South Eastern Trust.

Jonathan



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