

## Update from your acute hospital Trust January 2020

### Maternity Services

- A status update from Donna Ockenden, the Midwife who is leading the independent review into our Maternity services, to NHS Improvement/NHS England was leaked to the media, who reported it as an interim report. The Trust only received sight of the update on 28 November – two weeks after it was leaked to the media.
- It is difficult for us to comment on the nature of a leaked email.
- We have been working, and continue to work, with the independent review into our Maternity services.
- Our focus is to make our maternity service the safest it can be. We still have further to go but are seeing some positive outcomes from the work we have done to date.
- We encourage any families who have not had the chance to share their experience to contact Donna Ockenden's team by emailing [maternityreview@donnaockenden.com](mailto:maternityreview@donnaockenden.com)

### Leadership

- New Chief Executive Louise Barnett will join the Trust on 10 February. Louise is currently the Chief Executive at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.

### Hospitals Transformation Programme

- Following the decision made by Shropshire CCG and Telford & Wrekin CCG about the future of our hospitals, the Trust is developing its revised Strategic Outline Case (SOC). A draft version has been shared with commissioners and NHS England/Improvement. The SOC describes how the £312m investment from the Government can be utilised most effectively to deliver the clinical model of a planned care and an emergency care site.
- Telford & Wrekin Council asked the Secretary of State to look into the plans. After considerable consideration, independent experts from the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IPR), unanimously agreed that the plans should go ahead as soon as possible. In its advice, the panel said: "The opportunity to visit the services and test the evidence with those involved locally served to reinforce the written evidence about the case for change.  
"Even if the ever-present problems of recruiting clinical staff to achieve safe rotas were resolved, the current model of emergency services provided through the two hospitals compromises safety and quality.
- The SOC describes the financial implications that delays to the project have had, in that in order to deliver the scope of the original pre-consultation business case, the sum required would now be £498 million.
- This level of increase in cost would have applied to all of the options that were considered prior to consultation.
- A number of approaches are set out within the draft document to ensure the clinical model is delivered. These will be explored and further developed, including delivering the clinical model within the original £312m, consideration of a phased development approach and segmenting the overall development and therefore the costs over a longer period.
- The SOC is part of a process to proceed to final approval. Following sign off of the SOC, the next stage is an Outline Business Case (OBC) which will include much more detail around these factors including ensuring that the project is affordable to the wider health and care system. Following this critical step it is planned that the Full Business Case (FBC) will be completed in 2021. The final SOC, OBC and FBC will all be made available to the public as they are approved.

## A&E Pressures

- In December, 12,435 people attended our A&Es – more than 400 more than in November, and 970 more than in the same month last year (the equivalent of an additional 31 people every day). We saw more than 4,000 ambulance arrivals, the equivalent of 131-a-day or more than five every hour. This is an increase of 385 on the same month last year.

## Recruitment

- 176 nurses have been recruited from India. The first cohorts have arrived.

## Performance

- In October (latest figures), 85.03% of SaTH's patients received planned operations or planned care within 18 weeks of being referred to hospital – below the 92% target and a fall on September's performance.
- In October (latest figures), 69.4% of patients received their first cancer treatment within 62 days of a GP referral – below 85% target is 85% and a fall on September's performance.
- In October (latest figures), 64.5% of people attending A&E were seen within four hours – below the 95% target, and the second successive fall in performance.

## Midwife-Led Units

- The CCGs are leading a review on maternity provision. The Options are for two MLU hubs plus three additional maternity hubs or two MLU hubs and four additional maternity hubs. The MLU hubs would be at RSH and PRH with additional hubs recommended for South Telford (Sutton Hill or Woodside), North Shropshire (Whitchurch or Market Drayton) and South Shropshire (Ludlow).  
The CCGs will go out to consultation in the near future and ask the public for their thoughts and feedback and consider this feedback before making any final decisions. Before that point is reached, the proposals continue to be scrutinised by the local Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.  
As is normal, the proposals are also undergoing a robust process of assurance from NHS England/Improvement. Until these assurances are received, the proposals will not be signed off by the CCGs and so are still subject to change.

## CQC update

- Our CQC inspection is on-going. We have had announced and unannounced visits, which will be followed by formal feedback. Details of improvements made since our last inspection can be found in our [Improving Together newsletter on our website](#).

## Winter

- A therapy-led ward will open at RSH to reduce patient length of stay to help ease winter demand. An additional winter ward will also be created at PRH with the Wrekin MLU moving to a purpose-built modular ward next to the Shropshire Women and Children's Centre, which was craned onto the site over the Christmas period.
- A mobile recovery unit is also in use at PRH to ease bed pressures.

## Flu campaign

- Our staff flu campaign has been launched. The campaign has been a music theme with the tagline: Don't Let Flu Become The Number One Hit This Winter and the hashtag #WeWillRockFlu. The national target is for 80% of frontline staff to get the jab, but we have set ourselves a target of 90%. As an incentive, we are offering staff who get the jab a voucher to be used at our own Caffe Bistro outlets. So far almost 80% of staff have been vaccinated.

## Good news stories

- First patients scanned on new CT scanner at PRH <https://www.sath.nhs.uk/news/first-patients-scanned-on-new-ct-scanner-at-prh/>
- Physics and Radiotherapy staff crowned Team of the Year <https://www.sath.nhs.uk/news/physics-and-radiotherapy-staff-crowned-team-of-the-year/>
- Medical Assistants to join out-of-hours teams at SaTH <https://www.sath.nhs.uk/news/medical-assistants/>
- ReSPECT introduced at Shropshire's acute hospitals <https://www.sath.nhs.uk/news/respect-introduced-at-shropshires-acute-hospitals/>
- Trust works to improve care of patients with mental health conditions <https://www.sath.nhs.uk/news/trust-works-to-improve-care-of-patients-with-mental-health-conditions/>
- Children's Ward is all Gold <https://www.sath.nhs.uk/news/childrens-ward-is-all-gold/>