

Meeting title:	Public Trust Board					Paper C
Date of the meeting:	8 th August 2024					
Title:	CEO Update					
Report presented by:	Richard Mitchell, CEO					
Report written by:	Richard Mitchell, CEO					
Action – this paper is for:	Decision/Approval		Assurance	x	Update	x
Where this report has been discussed previously	The items in the report have been discussed in meetings and committee during the month of July 2024.					

To your knowledge, does the report provide assurance or mitigate any significant risks? If yes, please detail which

The report covers a wide range of risks in the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

Impact assessment

There are no specific impacts because of this report

Purpose of the Report

The report is an update for the month of July 2024 on the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (UHL) and wider Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland Integrated Care System.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to receive an update on the below items.

**UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF LEICESTER NHS TRUST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**THURSDAY 8th AUGUST 2024
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT
PRESENTED BY RICHARD MITCHELL**

Introduction

The report is an update for the month of July 2024 on the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (UHL) and wider Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland Integrated Care System.

Planned Care

We regularly receive updates in public board about improvements in planned care at UHL. Last month the HSJ ran a story about overall planned care performance and LLR, of which UHL is the only substantial provider of planned care, was fourth best out of 42 ICBs for the number of long waiting patients. We have much more to do but we continue to make progress.

Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC)

Urgent and Emergency Care continues to be much more challenging than planned care and the volume of UEC patients at the Leicester Royal Infirmary is much higher than last year. I am extremely concerned about our ability to provide high quality, timely, affordable care to patients this winter. There are 54 days until the start of winter (1 October) and 151 days until Monday 6 January 2025, which is likely to be the most difficult day of this winter. I am pleased Julie Frake-Harris has been appointed to the interim role of LLR System Director for UEC. Julie will work with all LLR organisations including NHS and social care. Thank you to Sarah Taylor who has been in this role for the last year.

South Asian Heritage Month (18 July to 17 August)

On the 26th July Friday Focus, colleagues shared their stories for South Asian Heritage Month. This year celebrates 'Free to be Me,' and we are celebrating, recognising the contributions of our colleagues, and honouring the rich cultures, histories, and contributions of South Asian communities in the UK.

Affiliated Hospital of Nantong University

Last month I visited the cities of Nantong and Shanghai in China for five days. I was fortunate to be part of a small delegation invited to strengthen the relationship between the University of Leicester, University Hospitals of Leicester and Nantong University. The visit was paid for by Nantong University. I would like to thank Professor Bin Yang for the effort she has put into the long-standing affiliation with Nantong.

Financial governance

You will be aware of the historical failure in financial governance at UHL and we still feel the legacy today. Therefore, it is positive that for the first time since 2018/19, we received an unqualified audit opinion from our auditors, KPMG, for our 2023/24 Accounts. Over the last three and a half years a lot

of progress has been made starting with the re-statement of the 2019/20 accounts. Everyone in the financial directorate and wider UHL has contributed to this success and I know that for some members of the finance team, this will have consumed most of their working lives for the last couple of years. Thank you to finance and procurement colleagues who have shown great resilience over a long period of time. We have learnt from the past and our financial governance is much stronger because of them.

Flood Leicester General

In July the team at the Leicester General Hospital was tested in a significant way when a burst water valve caused parts of the site to flood. Estates colleagues were joined by Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service and specialists from Severn Trent Water to resolve the issue over a period of three days, with normal working order resumed by 7pm on Monday evening. During the crisis, the team-working and commitment to minimising disruption was truly exemplary. I would like to thank all colleagues involved in this response. The flood at the General highlights the difficulties we face at UHL in maintaining and improving our ageing estate. For context, the oldest building on the Trust site dates from 1771, when George III was on the throne and there was still 100 years to go before the invention of the penny farthing. It is quite a heritage. Many of our hospital buildings require significant upgrading if we are to provide care that is fit for the future and become a great place to work for all.

New Hospital Programme

Last week, the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rachel Reeves, announced a review of the government's New Hospital Programme as part of ensuring value for money from planned infrastructure projects. Wes Streeting, the Secretary of State for Health, has said he wants to see the New Hospitals Programme completed, but on a more realistic timeframe. UHL is a New Hospitals Programme Trust, and last year we restated our plans to build a new women's hospital and standalone children's hospital at the royal infirmary with NHP investment, as well as expanding intensive care facilities by 2030. There is a vibrant future for all three of our acute sites in the plans, which were broadly supported through a public consultation in 2020. This includes Glenfield Hospital further developing as a centre for specialist services. The Leicester General will become a key site for non-emergency care, serving local communities as well as people in the wider East Midlands. We have already begun this work with the establishment of the East Midlands Planned Care Centre, phase 2 of which will open in December this year. It is likely the General will see more patients than any other UHL site within five to ten years' time.

School of Medicine Graduation Ceremony

On the 16th July I attend the Graduation Ceremony to celebrate the students within the School of Medicine at the University of Leicester receiving their academic degrees. I look forward to seeing them work within our hospitals and LLR in the future. Professor Ivan Browne was awarded his Honorary Doctorate from the School of Healthcare at the University of Leicester on the 19th July.