

Health Overview and Scrutiny

Briefing paper

Title: Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust update		
Author and role:	Contact details: communications@porthosp.nhs.uk	Date: September 2023
Purpose of the paper : To update the committee on the work being carried out by Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust (PHU).		
Update: Acute services partnership - Earlier this year we committed with the Isle of Wight NHS Trust (IWT) to further strengthen the partnership between our two organisations by forming a Group. The Group is not a merger of our Trusts but will enable greater collaboration between our two organisations. A new leadership structure is in place to enable a focus on joint working to plan for the changes required for clinical and financial sustainability as well as leading day-to-day delivery in each of our Trusts. As a Group, we will have an overarching Group Executive Team, supported by dedicated Trust Leadership Teams for both PHU and IWT, each headed by a Chief Officer. The Group Executive Team are the Board Directors for both PHU and IWT as we remain two separate statutory organisations. They will align the strategic direction and transformation work across our two organisations and together with the Trust Leadership Teams, oversee the delivery of each Trust's operating plan and strategy. Following a full consultation and interview process, we have recommended the following appointments to NHS England for approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• John Knighton, Group Chief Medical Officer• Liz Rix, Group Chief Nursing Officer• Mark Orchard, Group Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Chief Executive• Nicole Cornelius, Group Chief People Officer• Joe Smyth, Group Chief Officer for IWT• Nikki Turner, Group Chief Transformation Officer• Dr Anoop Chauhan, Group Chief Research Officer• Lesley Stevens, Director of Community, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, moves into the role of Group Executive Director of IWT Community, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Services The Group Chief Strategy Officer and Chief Officer for PHU roles are vacant at this time, with recruitment underway for the PHU Chief Officer.		

PHU Trust Leadership Team will lead the delivery of the Trust Strategy and delivery of the operating plan. We have maintained strong and experienced leaders in both PHU and IWT Trust Leadership Teams to ensure we continue to improve our day-to-day delivery in line with the strategic aims of both Trusts, and the wider Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care System.

As several people have moved from PHU into Group Executive roles, we are considering the best options for backfilling these positions, ensuring we have the right people with the appropriate skills and leadership experience to provide PHU with the steer and vision needed. The Group Executive Team will continue to provide the oversight and support required to ensure we deliver on our current commitments and make progress in our transformation plans across our two organisations.

Industrial action – We are preparing for another round of industrial action with junior doctors and consultants undertaking four days of joint action later this month. This will be the first time both groups have taken industrial action together and represents a significant operational challenge with potential to impact services, patients and staff.

Main entrance improvements – We are extending the main entrance of the hospital which will see a new lecture theatre and retail space. The development will also include a new Changing Places facility providing an accessible toilet and adult changing space. Alternative arrangements have been made to continue to allow access to visitors through the main entrance and all visitors are able to have 20 minutes of free parking to allow for patient drop off and collection.

Building Better Emergency Care - Work to develop a new Emergency Department continues well, with the foundation and drainage works complete, as of September 2023. There have been no reportable safety incidents and we remain on schedule for opening ahead of winter 2024.

Between July and August, we worked closely with partner organisations including South Central Ambulance Service to manage the diversion of emergency and patient transport vehicles who usually access through the East Entrance through alternatives access. This meant work to build the link bridge between the new Emergency Department and main hospital could take place safely. Pedestrian access remained available throughout with limitations at certain times when critical lifts were taking place, but this was managed locally.

Our clinical teams continue to progress designs and test new processes and pathways in preparation of moving to the new department. Diverting the ambulances away from the East Entrance allowed them to test alternative pathways into the hospital for emergency patients such as maternity, paediatrics and intensive care. Teams are looking at what they can learn from this, as well as in several other areas including imaging, communication/IT systems, and resus to ensure the best possible experience for our patients.

The new Emergency Department gives us the opportunity to look at ways we can work differently including how we staff services. With improved lines of sight and flow, existing staff will be able to work in a more efficient way to provide care to our patients. If any areas of the workforce need further expansion, this will be managed through the normal planning and recruitment/retention routes as pathways develop.

Engagement:

MPs – MPs from across the area attended a briefing with the Executive team in July. We discussed our progress during 2022/23, pressures on our services, recovering our planned services and work on the estate.

NHS 75 - We have been working alongside numerous community groups as part of the celebrations for NHS 75. Local knitting group Hookers and Clickers produced some amazing work to help us yarn bomb various sites across Portsmouth and the hospital to mark the anniversary. Children from community theatre group, Groundlings, put our staff through their paces in interviews on their careers. The local Southsea park run marked the occasion with many runners from the hospital and many people in healthcare fancy dress. We have also run a colouring competition for local children to have their pictures of the NHS put up across the hospital.

Nurses of the ward – Nurses across PHU were filmed last year as part of the second documentary series broadcasting on W Channel. The film crew followed our nurses to give an insight into their daily lives on our wards and also followed the lives of patients visiting the hospital.

Proud to be PHU Awards – Our local community has been asked to vote for Patient Choice Award in this year's Proud to be PHU Awards. The award shortlist is made of up individuals and teams who were nominated by patients and their relatives. We received more than 100 nominations, and these were scored by a panel of judges to create a top 10 shortlist. The winner will be announced at a ceremony later this year.

Tea and medals – patients and staff who have served in the military are invited for a chat and a cuppa at the hospital every month.

Breastfeeding drop information stand – In early August our breastfeeding specialists held a information stand in the main atrium to talk to people about breastfeeding and maternity services as part of breastfeeding awareness week.

Choices College – We have been joined by nine young adults over the past academic year who have become a part of our organisation and completed placements across two or three different departments. The Choices College Programme (formerly Project Choice) provides supported internship courses for young adults ages 16-24 with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and/or Autism. The programme champions real work experience in a supported setting for the interns within a healthcare environment, local organisation or private business. Each internship is tailored to the individual based on their skills, interest and previous experience. Interns spend a year learning maths, English and employability skills and attend up to three, 12-week placements within the Trust.

Health fair and AGM - This year, we extend the usual AGM to include a community Health Fair packed with information on our services, advice on living a healthy lifestyle, tips for greener living and a showcase of our achievements. Held at the Portsmouth Guildhall, a number of PHU services were available to talk to, seek advice and have a conversation

with. As part of the event, our AGM took place, during which people were able to discover more about the work of the Trust, as well as our challenges and achievements of the year.

Awards

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the NHS Pastoral Care Quality Award for providing best practice pastoral care for international nurses and midwives. The scheme, that was launched by the Nursing International Recruitment Programme, supports NHS trusts to provide high-quality pastoral care to internationally educated nurses and midwives, and increase and develop our international recruitment plans.

Two teams at PHU have been crowned winners at this year's HSJ Digital Awards, recognising excellence in digitising, connecting, and transforming health and care. The Maternity Automation Programme, a partnership between the Intelligence and Automation and Maternity Teams at PHU, took home the trophy for 'Improving Back-Office Efficiencies through Digital', and the 'eConsent Project Team won the category for 'Empowering Patients through Digital'.