

Cover Sheet

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Chief Executive Officer's Report

1. Trust Board news

- 1.1. Welcome to **Paul Dean** who joined the Trust Board as a Non-Executive Director on Tuesday 5 September – Paul is also the new Chair of our Audit Committee.
- 1.2. We also welcome **Mark Holloway** who joined OUH in the new Trust Board role of Chief Estates and Facilities Officer on Monday 11 September.
- 1.3. **Dr Andrew Brent** has been appointed as our new Chief Medical Officer. He is a Consultant in Infectious Disease & Medicine at OUH and is currently one of our Deputy Chief Medical Officers and Director of Clinical Improvement.
- 1.4. Andrew is due to take up his post on Monday 9 October. [Further details about his appointment can be found on the Trust website.](#)
- 1.5. On behalf of the Trust Board, I would like to thank **Dr Anny Sykes** for covering the Interim Chief Medical Officer role since July 2022. I am very grateful for her contribution to the Executive team and the wider Trust Board.

2. Industrial action update

- 2.1. Consultant members of the British Medical Association (BMA) are due to take industrial action for 48 hours from 7am on Tuesday 19 September to 7am on Thursday 21 September and for 72 hours from 7am on Monday 2 October to 7am on Thursday 5 October.
- 2.2. Junior doctor members of the BMA will be taking industrial action for 72 hours from 7am on Wednesday 20 September to 7am on Thursday 23 September and again for 72 hours from 7am on Monday 2 October to 7am on Thursday 5 October.
- 2.3. This is the first time in the history of the NHS that consultants and junior doctors will be striking together and clearly represents a serious escalation in the BMA's dispute with the Government.
- 2.4. It follows industrial action in August including a four-day junior doctors' strike, from 7am on Friday 11 August to 7am on Tuesday 15 August, and a 48-hour consultants' strike, from 7am on Thursday 24 August to 7am on Saturday 26 August.
- 2.5. We continue to work closely with staff and the BMA to ensure that patient safety is paramount at all times, whilst supporting the right of our people to take industrial action if they choose to do so.
- 2.6. All patients affected by the unavoidable rescheduling of appointments and operations are contacted in advance of industrial action.

- 2.7. We recognise how frustrating this is but we ask all patients and families to treat our staff with civility and respect, in line with [our ongoing No Excuses campaign which highlights that we will not tolerate either physical or verbal aggression or unacceptable behaviour towards colleagues.](#)

3. Annual Public Meeting

- 3.1. Our Annual Public Meeting 2023 takes place on **Tuesday 19 September** at Oxford Town Hall – refreshments will be available from **5.30pm** and the meeting will start at **6pm**.
- 3.2. Everyone is welcome to attend and it is advised to [register to attend in advance via Eventbrite.](#)
- 3.3. Questions for the Trust Board can be asked during the Q&A session on the day or submitted in advance via apmquestions@ouh.nhs.uk.

4. Health Minister visits Oxford Community Diagnostic Centre

- 4.1. Health Minister Will Quince MP visited the Oxford Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) in Cowley Business Park, which is run in partnership by OUH and [Perspectum](#), on 1 August.
- 4.2. The Minister met with OUH Executive Directors and senior colleagues from Perspectum to see and discuss how patients across Oxfordshire are benefiting from earlier life-saving diagnostic tests.
- 4.3. The CDC provides a range of planned diagnostic procedures, such as scans and tests, in this community setting, providing quicker access to tests and greater convenience for patients.
- 4.4. [Patients who need tests for lung cancer and other conditions are set to benefit from the relocation of our Respiratory Early Diagnostic Service \(REDS\) to the Oxford CDC.](#)
- 4.5. Formerly located at the Churchill Hospital, the service has moved to the CDC so that patients with suspected lung cancer can get their scan, bloods, and lung function tests carried out in one appointment.
- 4.6. Early diagnosis of cancer is essential for effective and successful treatment.

5. OUH receives £3.4m for cutting-edge research equipment

- 5.1. [OUH has received £3.4 million to fund state-of-the-art research equipment that will enable scientific discoveries and new technologies to improve the prevention, management and treatment of disease.](#)

- 5.2. The funding is part of £96 million awarded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) to 93 NHS organisations in England.
- 5.3. It will support groundbreaking research being carried out by University of Oxford academics and the NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) by building Oxford's capacity to deliver novel therapeutics and diagnostics for clinical research, such as those developed at the Clinical Biomanufacturing Facility on the Churchill Hospital site.
- 5.4. The award will also allow the Trust to purchase specialist clinical investigational equipment for the new NIHR Oxford Clinical Research Facility and to support the Oxford Eye Hospital's groundbreaking retinal gene therapy.

6. Staff Recognition Awards event celebrates our #OneTeamOneOUH

- 6.1. More than 1,800 nominations were received for this year's OUH Staff Recognition Awards – [the finalists in each category were announced in May](#) and [the winners were revealed at the Awards ceremony at Oxford Town Hall on 6 July](#), which was a truly uplifting and memorable evening.
- 6.2. This was a welcome opportunity to celebrate all that is best about our #OneTeamOneOUH and it was humbling to hear about the remarkable work of our colleagues in the week of the NHS 75th birthday.
- 6.3. [Details of all the winners are available on our website.](#)
- 6.4. On behalf of the Trust Board, I would like to thank Oxford Hospitals Charity for generously supporting the Staff Recognition Awards in order to help make this important celebration of staff achievements possible.

7. NHS 75 at OUH

- 7.1. Wednesday 5 July was the 75th birthday of the NHS and here at OUH we marked this milestone with a range of events and activities throughout the week, all generously supported by Oxford Hospitals Charity.
- 7.2. We started the NHS 75th birthday week on Monday 3 July by launching the [OUH Poem, 'All kinds of bright'](#) which was created in collaboration with staff across the Trust and through artlink, the Trust's arts programme which is funded by the Charity.
- 7.3. A four-minute film of staff reading lines from the poem was created by videographers from the Trust's Oxford Medical Illustration (OMI) team - with Ruth Charity (Arts Lead, Oxford Hospitals Charity). [The film is available to watch on the Trust's YouTube channel.](#)

- 7.4. On Tuesday 4 July we launched [Our future in focus](#), an online gallery and in person photography exhibition of 25 OUH staff portrait to celebrate NHS 75.
- 7.5. All the photographs were taken by members of the OUH Clinical Photography team – the [online gallery](#) is on the Trust website and the 25 portraits are currently displayed across two exhibition spaces at the John Radcliffe Hospital and at the Churchill Hospital.
- 7.6. Thank You events for staff were held on the NHS 75th birthday on Wednesday 5 July on all four main hospital sites in Oxford and Banbury, and at OUH Cowley where many colleagues who work ‘behind the frontline’ to support our clinical teams are based.
- 7.7. The Staff Recognition Awards event took place at Oxford Town Hall on the evening of Thursday 6 July.
- 7.8. In addition, OUH staff participated in national events to mark NHS 75. Three members of our Clinical Photography team, who were [finalists in the 'Our NHS at 75' national photography competition](#), attended the launch of the exhibition of all 75 shortlisted images in London on 4 July. [Five staff chosen by myself and my Executive Director colleagues attended a multi-faith service in Westminster Abbey](#) on 5 July. Megan Jones from Oxford Hospitals Charity’s Fundraising team, who was the [South East regional winner of the NHS Rising Star Award category](#), attended the NHS Parliamentary Awards ceremony in Westminster on 5 July.

8. OUH teams and colleagues recognised in national awards

- 8.1. The **Rapid Intervention in Palliative and End of Life Care (RIPEL) service** and the **Preoperative Assessment Team** are both shortlisted for this year’s [Health Service Journal \(HSJ\) Patient Safety Awards](#). Winners will be announced on 18 September.
- 8.2. **Terry Roberts** (Chief People Officer) is shortlisted in the Director of Year category of the [Healthcare People Management Association \(HPMA\) Awards](#). The awards ceremony is on 19 September.
- 8.3. The **Integrated Severe Asthma Project (ISAC)** and **Cost of Living support for OUH staff** are both shortlisted for this year’s [Health Service Journal \(HSJ\) Awards](#). Winners will be announced on 16 November.
- 8.4. **Ariel Lanada**, one of our Divisional Leads for Practice Development and Education, is shortlisted in the Practice Educator of the Year category of the [Nursing Times Workforce Awards](#). The awards ceremony is on 21 November.
- 8.5. Our **Maternity** team has been nominated for the charity Baby Lifeline’s [UK MUM \(Maternity Unit Marvels\) Awards](#).

- 8.6. **Sonia Apankar**, who works in Oxford Critical Care at the John Radcliffe Hospital, won an [NHS England Chief Nursing Officer Healthcare Support Worker Award](#) earlier this year. [Paula Gardner \(Interim Chief Nursing Officer\) presented Sonia with her award](#) on 27 July.

9. Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) news

- 9.1. OUH's ability to help develop revolutionary new therapies has been given a boost with the opening of a new temporary [Pharmacy Clinical Trials Unit \(CTU\)](#). Based on the Churchill Hospital site and an innovative development in the NHS, the new temporary aseptic facility will be used to handle and prepare a new range of medicines known as advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMPs), which are based on gene, tissue or cell therapy products, such as those being developed by Oxford BRC researchers. As well as being vital for research trials, the ATMPs could be standard of care specialist treatments commissioned by NHS England.
- 9.2. Oxford researchers have discovered a link between immune cells known as monocytes in tumours and [overall survival in patients with oesophageal cancer](#). A study by Ludwig Cancer Research, supported by the Oxford BRC, found that the presence of relatively high numbers of monocytes in tumours was linked to better outcomes in oesophageal adenocarcinoma (OAC) patients treated with a combination of chemotherapy and immunotherapy, or immunochemotherapy. The results also applied to the most common forms of gastric cancer, indicating potential for future research. The study showed that tumour mutational burden (TMB) – the degree to which a tumour's malignant cells are mutated – also predicted survival outcomes.
- 9.3. The landmark OCTAVE study has revealed for the first time the real-world COVID-19 [vaccine responses and infection outcomes](#) in clinically at-risk patients with a range of immunocompromised or immunosuppressed conditions. The study, a collaboration between the Universities of Glasgow, Birmingham and Oxford and a consortium of other leading UK institutions, is supported by the Oxford BRC. The new data show that while in most at-risk patient groups the overall COVID-19 infection rates were low, the risk of severity and death from SARS-CoV-2 was high in a sub-group of conditions, despite vaccination. This was particularly the case during the Delta wave. Furthermore, the data show that while Omicron, now the dominant SARS-CoV-2 strain worldwide, saw a rise of infection rate among at-risk patients, fewer of them became severely unwell or died.
- 9.4. An experimental medicine programme that enables researchers to screen potential drugs more rapidly in people with motor neurone disease has been

announced. The [EXPERTS-ALS programme](#), co-led from Oxford and Sheffield, will screen candidate drugs at a scale not seen before, identifying those that should be tested in larger clinical trials faster. It is hoped that eligible patients can begin taking part in the study in summer 2024. This flagship programme of the new UK MND Research Institute is supported by the national network of NIHR BRCs.

- 9.5. A clinical trial supported by the Oxford BRC has shown that a three-month rapid weight loss programme was [safe and effective](#) in reducing the severity of the liver disease NASH with liver fibrosis, for which no medication is currently approved.
- 9.6. A large study has found that using high-dose, dual-antibiotic loaded cement is [unlikely to reduce the risk](#) of infection in people who have had hip replacement surgery for their hip fracture. The study, supported by the Oxford BRC, also found that the more expensive high-dose, dual antibiotic cement was unlikely to be cost effective.
- 9.7. Patients treated by surgeons who average more than 10 shoulder replacements a year have a [lower risk of further operations](#) and serious complications, and a shorter hospital stay than those treated by surgeons who do fewer operations, according to a study by Oxford researchers. The findings build on similar evidence for hip and knee replacements.
- 9.8. Clinical scientists at the Oxford Eye Hospital have presented a new [method of imaging of the retina](#) that overcomes many of the drawbacks of the current standard way of diagnosing and monitoring retinal diseases like age-related macular degeneration (AMD). The new method, which was more comfortable for patients, delivered high-quality, high-contrast images and has the potential to uncover disease features that had previously remained undetected.

10. Oxford Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) and Oxford Academic Health Partners (OAHP) news

Oxford Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) news

- 10.1. [The latest quarterly report from the Oxford AHSN covers the three months from 1 April to 30 June 2023.](#) It highlights how the AHSN is working with NHS partners to develop new care pathways, support adoption of innovations to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities. It includes three case studies relating to OUH services:

[Personalised approach improves patient experience before surgery and supports elective recovery](#)

[Collaborative approach improves outcomes for preterm babies](#)

[AHSN assesses innovation which could improve cannulation for newborn babies](#)

- 10.2. Members of the OUH respiratory team were among contributors at a national event focusing on the future of severe asthma care hosted by the Oxford AHSN in July. Pharmacist Ola Howell and Consultant Andrew Chadwick discussed the Integrated Severe Asthma Care (ISAC) project, run in partnership with primary care and the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care System (ICS) and supported by the NHS England Pathway Transformation Fund.
- 10.3. The ISAC Project reviewed more than 2,000 patients and fast-tracked many for specialist care. It has been shortlisted for a *Health Service Journal (HSJ)* Award. [More information is available on the Oxford AHSN website.](#)
- 10.4. England's 15 AHSNs, including the Oxford AHSN, are to be relicensed for a further five years to 2028 and renamed 'Health Innovation Networks' to reflect their role in supporting development and spread of innovation across the NHS. [From 1 October 2023 the Oxford AHSN will become Health Innovation Oxford and Thames Valley.](#) The first Board meeting under the new name is on 8 November.
- 10.5. National AHSN initiatives benefited more than 500,000 patients and freed up almost 180,000 hours of NHS staff capacity in 2022-23. AHSNs saved the NHS £165 million and delivered a return on investment of almost £3 for every pound from commissioners. [More details are available in the AHSN Network Impact Report.](#)
- 10.6. Professor Gary Ford, Chief Executive of the Oxford AHSN and a consultant stroke physician at OUH, is standing down as Chair of the AHSN Network after two years in the role.

Oxford Academic Health Partners (OAHP) news

- 10.7. Members of the OAHP Board have continued to meet to focus on the development of Precision Public Health and the Director and Chief Operating Officer met recently with Dr Raghiv Ali, the Chief Medical Officer and Joint Chief Investigator of [Our Future Health](#).
- 10.8. The OAHP Annual Report to the NIHR was submitted as required in July together with three case studies:
- The first case study highlighted the continued progress of the [Brainomix](#) support for stroke and developments in other clinical areas including cancer
 - The second described the development of an innovative blood test by Oxford-based diagnostics spinout [Oxomics](#) which aims to fill the diagnostic void for patients with vague and non-specific symptoms, as

well as fulfilling unmet patient needs across a broad range of other specific cancers

- The third study focused on the OAHP drive to develop research capability and capacity across Nursing, Midwifery and the Allied Health Professions and included the partnership now in place between OUH and Oxford Brookes University with the appointment of clinical research leads within each Division

[The Annual Report and the case studies are available on the OAHP website.](#)