

Trust Board Meeting in Public: Wednesday 11 July 2018

TB2018.55

Title	Chief Executive's Report
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Status	For Information
History	Regular report to Board

Board Lead(s)	Dr Bruno Holthof, Chief Executive			
Key purpose	Strategy	Assurance	Policy	Performance

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Chief Executive's Report

This report summarises matters of current interest.

1. Enforcement Undertakings agreed with NHS Improvement

The Trust Board has agreed a series of what are known as Enforcement Undertakings with NHS Improvement, the organisation which regulates hospital trusts in the NHS – they were published on the NHS Improvement website on 29 June.

They commit the Trust Board to demonstrating that there are clear plans which lead to improvements in performance on key priorities which the Board has already identified for 2018/19 – emergency care, planned care (including cancer and elective care) and financial sustainability – as well as two additional areas – governance and strategic workforce planning.

Each of the priority areas included in the Enforcement Undertakings is led by an Executive Director.

As a Trust Board we are committed to working with colleagues across the Trust – and with our partners in the wider health and social care system – to improve our performance on these key priorities.

This is a challenging time for the organisation, but together we can move forward positively to ensure that we deliver the highest possible quality of care to our patients.

2. Staff past and present celebrate the 70th birthday of the NHS

Celebrations to mark the 70th birthday of the NHS on 5 July included NHS7Tea events on all of our 4 main hospital sites, a photography exhibition with images illustrating the changing face of the health service over the last 70 years, and a walk between the Trust's 3 Oxford hospitals by members of the Oxfordshire NHS Retirement Fellowship.

During the week of the 70th birthday, the NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) hosted behind the scenes tours of research facilities and BRC Director, Professor Keith Channon, gave a public talk about the importance of Oxford in the history of medical research and how this has benefited the NHS.

There was also extensive coverage by local media including live outside broadcasts from our hospitals by BBC Radio Oxford and an NHS 70th birthday supplement in the *Oxford Mail* on 5 July.

The 70th birthday was a valuable opportunity to reflect on the pride and sense of ownership which our local community and our staff feel for their local NHS.

Thanks to generous support from Oxford Hospitals Charity, no NHS funds were spent on the events and activities which were organised to celebrate NHS70 in the Trust.

3. Trust Board and Council of Governors news

Trust Chairman, Dame Fiona Caldicott, has announced that she will be stepping down from her role when her current term ends in March 2019.

I would like to thank Dame Fiona for her service to the NHS in Oxford over many years - we are very fortunate to have benefited from her knowledge, wisdom and sound judgement. She has brought a wealth of experience and expertise to her role as Trust Chairman.

As set out in our Foundation Trust constitution, the Trust has an Appointment Panel to oversee the process for appointing a new Chairman.

This will be chaired by Geoff Salt, the Vice Chairman of the Trust, and its membership will include five members of our Council of Governors.

The role of Chairman will be advertised publicly and the Trust has engaged search consultants in order to attract a high calibre of applicants for this important position. They will seek the views of key stakeholders in their work."

The appointment of a new Chairman, when the process outlined above has been completed, will be subject to approval by the Council of Governors at its meeting in Witney on 20 November.

Trust Medical Director, Dr Tony Berendt, has announced that he will be retiring from the Trust and the NHS in September 2018.

I would like to thank Tony for his outstanding service to the NHS in Oxford over many years. He is an outstanding medical leader who is committed to the role of the medical and clinical workforce in leading quality improvement to improve the patient experience and clinical outcomes for our patients.

The Trust is advertising for a new Medical Director to replace Dr Berendt, welcoming applications from both internal and external candidates.

Public and staff members of our Foundation Trust are being invited to nominate themselves to stand for election to our Council of Governors. The deadline for nominations is 18 July and voting will open on 20 August.

4. John Radcliffe Hospital stars in BBC primetime documentary

The groundbreaking and life-changing work of neurosurgeons at the John Radcliffe was highlighted in a 30-minute documentary *How the NHS changed our world* which was broadcast on BBC1 and BBC2 in June.

It followed the stories of patients with Parkinson's and acute pain whose lives were transformed by pioneering surgery at the John Radcliffe.

The documentary also traced the role of Oxford in medical research over the past 300 years which has made today's breakthroughs in treatment possible.

5. Local MP and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee visits

The Trust hosted a visit from Victoria Prentis, MP for North Oxfordshire, at the Horton General Hospital on 15 June.

She met staff from the hip fracture team at the Horton who were shortlisted for this year's *British Medical Journal Awards* in recognition of remarkable improvements in the quality of care they provide for patients who have suffered a fractured neck of femur (broken hip).

The Horton General has been ranked in the top five performing hospitals nationally for the treatment of patients with hip fractures for the last five years running – achieving the number one ranking when the latest National Hip Fracture Audit was published in 2017.

The average length of time which patients spend in the Horton General following hip fracture surgery is 16 days, compared with a national average length of stay of 22 days.

The Trust also hosted a visit from members of the Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) at the Churchill Hospital on 2 July.

HOSC members, who are county councillors and district councillors from across the county, saw a range of cancer treatment and research facilities on the Churchill site after starting their visit in the Maggie's Oxford Centre where people living with cancer can access emotional and practical support.

Visits such as these are key to the Trust's ongoing programme of engagement with key local stakeholders.

6. Sobell House creates new space to care

Building work to create a new state-of-the-art extension to the Sobell House Hospice on the Churchill Hospital site started on 21 May.

The £4.3 million cost of the Sobell Clinic and Garden Annex, which is due to open to patients in May 2019, has been entirely funded by the people of Oxfordshire through donations and legacies.

The Sobell Clinic will be a modern and welcoming outpatient service for people who have a terminal illness and need access to vital specialist services so they can remain living at home for longer.

The Garden Annex will be a six-patient ward which has been designed to care safely for frailer or confused patients by using design and colour to create a calm environment and allow for easy navigation.

7. Staff Recognition Awards 2018 launched

Nominations are now being invited for this year's Staff Recognition Awards – this is an important annual opportunity to recognise individual members of staff and teams who go the extra mile.

The Trust is inviting patients and the public to tell us about members of staff and teams who have gone above and beyond their role to make a difference and nominate for the Patients' Choice Award.

Nominations can be made on the Trust's website at www.ouh.nhs.uk/patientschoice up until 3 August.

Other award categories will be nominated internally by staff and the winners will be announced at an awards ceremony at Oxford Town Hall on Wednesday 5 December.

8. New Community Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit opens

A new community service dedicated to the care of women who experience problems in early pregnancy opened in Rose Hill Community Centre in Oxford on 11 June.

The Community Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit (EPAU) is for women in the early stages of pregnancy who are in pain, bleeding or having other problems which are concerning them.

This service was previously provided from the Gynaecology Department at the Women's Centre on the John Radcliffe Hospital site.

By delivering early pregnancy care out in the community in a calm and less medicalised environment, staff can support women in a more sensitive way. If women are experiencing problems in their pregnancy, which in some cases can sadly lead to a miscarriage, staff want to avoid them having to make unnecessary and potentially upsetting visits to hospital.

9. Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) news

The Oxford BRC has submitted its **Annual Report** to the NIHR. This was a substantial piece of work requiring a great deal of co-ordination to report on activities across the 20 themes. In 2017/18, the themes published 626 papers acknowledging the NIHR Oxford BRC in peer-reviewed journals, including papers in Nature, Nature Genetics, The Lancet, BMJ and New England Journal of Medicine.

The BRC's annual **Technology Showcase** took place on 13 June at Oxford's Saïd Business School, with the theme of Therapeutics, Small Molecules and Biologics.

The [event](#) was attended by around 200 people, including leading academics, clinicians and investors, who discussed the most exciting commercial opportunities and projects in such fields as small molecule discovery, vaccines, experimental medicine and novel modalities. The event is organised by the Oxford BRC with Oxford Academic Health Science Network and Oxford University Innovation.

Health Minister, Lord O'Shaughnessy, visited Oxford BRC on 30 May to look at groundbreaking research that is taking place in the fields of cancer and genomics. He was shown round the Early Phase Clinical Trials Unit at the Churchill Hospital's Cancer Centre, before visiting the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics to see the latest research into targeted gene sequencing panels, which are used to analyse specific genetic mutations, and devices for real-time DNA sequencing.

A BRC-supported researcher has received a £1 million grant to expand his research into the immunology of lung diseases, including asthma and COPD. Dr Tim Hinks was awarded a **Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Career Development Fellowship**. The funding will allow Dr Hinks to establish his own research group and purchase the necessary equipment to carry out his research.

The **first trial of robot-assisted eye surgery in patients** has [shown the technique to be both safe and effective](#). The findings of the research team, led by BRC Surgical Innovation Theme Lead Prof Robert MacLaren, found that the robot was able to perform the procedure as effectively as the most highly trained retinal surgeons.

New national guidelines are recommending that **all babies born with Down's syndrome should have a new genetic test to detect signs of a condition that can lead to leukaemia**. The new British Society for Haematology (BSH) guidelines, [published in the British Journal of Haematology](#), follow research by a University of Oxford group, led by Oxford BRC-supported researchers Prof Irene Roberts (Department of Paediatrics) and Prof Paresh Vyas, the Oxford BRC's Co-theme Lead for Haematology, both of whom work at the MRC Molecular Haematology Unit.

The latest BRC **public talk** took place on 17 May and looked at different aspects of tuberculosis. Carolyn Day, a historian from Furman University, discussed the concept of 'consumptive chic', which was popular in the 19th century, and Dr Tim Walker explained how the study of TB genetics is changing the way we diagnose and treat the disease.

10. Oxford Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) news

NHS England has approved a [new five-year licence](#) for Oxford AHSN and the other 14 AHSNs in England. NHS Chief Executive Simon Stevens described AHSNs as 'change catalysts'.

The regional Emergency Department Collaborative, co-ordinated by the Oxford AHSN patient safety team, meets for the third time on 6 September, focusing on positive safety culture – details are available on the [AHSN website](#).

Around 100 people – including many Oxford University Hospital staff – have benefited from the Oxford AHSN Adopting innovation and managing change programme since it

began in 2016. The next course starts in the autumn. An [open evening](#) on 31 July explains more.

OUH staff were among those who took part in the [Oxford Patient Safety Collaborative](#) sepsis shared learning event in May.

The Oxford AHSN co-hosted a regional event on 10 May focussing on [improving the health and wellbeing of older people living with frailty](#). A follow-up webinar takes place in July.

Applications are now invited to join the [Oxford AHSN Q](#) community – working to improve health and care quality.

In the run-up to the NHS 70th birthday celebrations on 5 July, the AHSN Network teamed up with NHS Digital with an [online 70 day calendar of NHS innovations](#), including some from Oxford AHSN. These included the GDM-Health app which was initiated at the Oxford University Hospitals.

Dr Bruno Holthof
Chief Executive

July 2018