

Chair's Report - October 2022

I am pleased to provide a written report to the Board of Directors which covers some key updates for members' attention and assurance.

Speak Up Month 2022

On behalf of the Board of Directors and our FTSU NED Lead, Mr Steve Connor, I would like to recognise that October is Speak Up Month. The theme this year is #FTSUforEveryone with a focus on the impact Freedom To Speak Up can bring for safety, civility and inclusion.

I would like to thank our FTSU Guardian, Alison Jones, for her continued promotion and support of all FTSU processes in the Trust and the team of 50 FTSU Champions who work right across the organisation to engage with and support our staff.

Team WCHC Staff Awards

Following a further postponement during the period of national mourning, we were delighted to hold our Staff Awards on 5 October 2022 recognising and celebrating the tremendous work of colleagues and teams right across the Trust. This year we received over 100 nominations across 8 categories, including the Peoples Choice Award which has been judged by our governors.

It was a wonderful evening and a great chance for colleagues to connect and enjoy time together. I also enjoyed having the opportunity to welcome our sponsors for the event and thank them for their support of the event and our staff.

My congratulations to all those who were nominated, shortlisted and to our winners.

I would also like to extend sincere thanks to the Communications Team who organised the whole event so well, and very calmly and professionally supported the postponement from September to October 2022. I do not underestimate the time required to make all the new arrangements and deliver such a successful and enjoyable event for us all.

Non-Executive Director appraisals

I would like to report formally that I have completed appraisals of all Non-Executive Directors (NEDs), and my appraisal as the Chair of the Trust has been completed by our Senior Independent Director, Gerald Meehan. In completing my appraisal, we adopted the NHSE/I framework for Chair appraisals which has included feedback from external stakeholders and peers using the key competence areas within the national framework. The outcome will also be reported to the NHS Regional Director for the Northwest Region. We also considered relevant competences from this framework in the NED appraisals.

A summary of NED appraisals will be reported to the Remuneration & Nomination subgroup of the Council of Governors.

Fit and Proper Persons

I confirm that all members of the Board, including advisors to the Board have completed a annual declarations in respect of Fit and Proper Persons and all subsequent checks have

been completed in line with our Fit and Proper Person Policy which I have had the opportunity to check and take assurance on the process followed and the checks in place.

Council of Governors

The scheduled meeting of the Council of Governors on 13 September 2022 was postponed due the period of national mourning and the next meeting will take place in mid-November 2022.

We are looking forward to meeting with our governors again and we hope to be able to meet in person and enjoy the opportunity to be together and review forthcoming priorities and challenges.

The work of the Council of Governors to lead the process to appoint new external auditors for the Trust has continued and will conclude imminently following a meeting with potential suppliers on 10 October 2022. My thanks to the members of the Audit Sub-Group who have supported this work which is not only complex but has been time consuming given the detail and importance of the appointment being made.

In the next few weeks, we will be launching governor elections as we have some vacant seats across our constituencies and some governors who will be coming to the end of their current term of office. Please look out for further information on our website, our social media channels and direct to you if you are members of the Trust.

This is an exciting and challenging time for the Trust and indeed the entire NHS as we continue to recover from the COVID pandemic, face a difficult winter and establish ourselves in the new Integrated Care System arrangements. We are therefore very grateful to our existing governors and welcome new governors to work with us as we continue to support and care for our local communities in Wirral and beyond.

Place Based arrangements

The work across the system on PLACE governance arrangements has continued and with the Place-based Lead, (Simon Banks) now in place, work is progressing with senior leaders across the system to finalise and establish the Place-Based Partnership Board and a Wirral Providers Partnership.

The inaugural meeting of the Place-Based Partnership Board will take place on 13 October 2022.

I invite the members of the Board of Directors to receive this report for information.

Professor Michael Brown CBE DL
Chair

30 September 2022

Lead Governor Report

External Audit contract engagement

A sub-group of the Council of Governors continues to support the Trust in the procurement exercise to appoint external auditors for the Trust. Over the last few weeks, the sub-group has been working hard to review and score bids received from potential firms and on Monday 10 October 2022, the members of the sub-group, together with the Audit Chair met with two firms for clarification meetings.

A formal recommendation will now be put forward to the full Council of Governors, and it is anticipated that the new contract will commence in November/December 2022.

My thanks to members of the sub-group that have supported this important work so far; their commitment and focus is highly appreciated for what is a key duty of the Council of Governors and a significant contract for the Trust.

Team WCHC Staff Awards - judging

One of our public governors, Ronnie Morris, Wirral West attended the Team WCHC Awards on 5 October to represent the Council of Governors.

We were delighted that Ronnie was able to attend and spend time celebrating and recognising the hard work that is delivered by staff right across the Trust every day.

On behalf of the Council of Governors I would like to congratulate everyone that was nominated and shortlisted and our winners who were announced on the night.

Your Voice Group

The Your Voice Group met on 21 September 2022 and members were delighted to welcome two new members.

The agenda included standing items such as a report on patient experience feedback from across the Trust and on-going projects and programmes involving members of the group.

It was pleasing for members to receive a copy of the Specialist Palliative Care patient leaflet that members of the group were involved in developing.

The Infection Prevention & Control Team attended to invite members of the group to support in the development of a patient leaflet and the Trust's Practice Education Facilitator was present to invite members to get involved in a preceptorship programme development and implementation group.

Finally, members were delighted to welcome Emmanuel Eduh to the meeting. Emmanuel is the Trust's new Research & Innovation Lead, and we look forward to hearing more about the development of the R&I Strategy for the Trust and how Your Voice members can get involved.

The next meeting of the Your Voice group will take place on 22 November 2022 at 10.00am.



Place assessments

Representatives from the Council of Governors and public members of the Trust have been pleased to be able to recommence Place assessments working with the Estates & Facilities Team. These assessments provide an opportunity to review the general state and cleanliness of Trust premises, and signage within buildings which are accessed by members of our local community to receive care.

Council of Governor elections

The governor elections for 2022 will commence on Monday 17 October 2022 with four seats up for re-election across the constituencies as follows;

- Birkenhead x 1
- Wirral West x 1
- Rest of England x 1
- Staff governor

We also have a number of vacant seats across our constituencies that we will seek to elect through this process.

Further information will be circulated to all public members of the Trust in the coming weeks, and we will be raising awareness of these elections through a number of different channels right across Wirral, Cheshire East, St Helens and Knowsley.

The last couple of years have been challenging for the Council of Governors as we have supported the Trust from afar in its remarkable response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a group we have continued to deliver on our statutory duties including the re-appointment of Non-Executive Directors, the appointment of a new Audit Chair and imminently the awarding of a new external audit contract for the Trust.

All governors, without exception, are looking forward to coming back together in November to focus on the priorities and challenges for the Trust over the next 12 months. This is an important moment for community health and care services, particularly following the establishment of the new ICB in July 2022, and I would encourage all public members to consider the opportunity to get more involved and stand for election as a governor.

Next Council of Governor meeting

The next formal meeting of the Council of Governors will take place on Tuesday 15 November 2022, and we are looking forward to meeting in person as fellow governors and with members of the Trust.

I provide this report to the Board of Directors for noting and assurance on the work of the Council of Governors.

Lynn Collins
Lead Governor (public governor, Wirral West)

10 October 2022

Chief Executive's Report - October 2022

1. This report provides an update on regional and local news and developments including important updates from across the Trust. In addition, it advises on the work considered by the Executive Leadership Team. I have also highlighted some key national updates for information.

Regional and local news and developments

October is Speak Up Month



2. October is Speak Up Month, an opportunity to raise awareness of how much we value speaking up in our organisation.
3. This national annual campaign gives us a real opportunity to focus on our Freedom To Speak Up (FTSU) messages and encourage and engage our workforce to feel confident about FTSU and learn more about why Speaking Up is so important to us.
4. This year the theme for Speak Up Month 2022 is “**Freedom to Speak Up for Everyone**” with each specific focus on:

#SpeakUpforSafety

5. The safety of people who use and work in our services is core to how we work. Speak Up for Safety highlights the importance of speaking up about anything that gets in the way of us doing a good job, particularly relating to patient care and staff/colleague safety.

#SpeakUpforCivility

6. We want to focus on being kind to colleagues and not forgetting to be kind to ourselves. Civility Saves Lives say that “*Almost all excellence in healthcare is dependent on teams, and teams work best when all members feel safe and have a voice.*”

#SpeakUpforInclusion

7. This is all about promoting inclusion and breaking down the barriers we know exist to enable all workers to feel safe to speak up and be heard.

#FTSUforEveryone

8. We want to make speaking up business as usual for everyone, regardless of job role, background or circumstance.
9. As always in October, staff right across the Trust will see a lot of activity to promote and celebrate Speak Up Month 2022, all helping to raise awareness and get people talking.

10. My thanks to our Freedom To Speak Up Guardian, Alison Jones, our FTSU Executive Lead, Dr Nick Cross, our Non-Executive FTSU Lead, Steve Connor and all the FTSU Champions across the Trust who support our colleagues every day.

Place Governance Arrangements

11. I am working with the Director of Corporate Affairs, who in turn is working with governance leads across the system to ensure that there is an effective Place reporting mechanism for the Board of Directors to receive at future meetings. This will include the meetings of the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board (WPBPB) and the Wirral Provider Partnership (WPP) and given that the result of this changing governance across geographical places, is that Terms of Reference are being reviewed for other extant groups such as the Health & Wellbeing Board and the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board sub-committee, this will also be considered in future updates to the board.

Wirral

12. The inaugural Wirral Place Based Partnership Board (WPBPB) will take place on 13 October 2022.
13. The WPBPB will provide leadership and delivery of the overarching strategy and outcomes framework for the place-based partnership in order to achieve the objectives of the Health and Wellbeing Board which aims to improve the health and wellbeing of the Wirral population.
14. The priorities and work plan for the WPBP Board will be set out in the WPBP Board Delivery Plan and aligned with the strategic direction for the Borough agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
15. As part of Place governance arrangements, the Wirral Provider Partnership (WPP) which will report to the WPBPB will hold its inaugural meeting at the end of October 2022. The WPP will bring together providers from the NHS, statutory and non-statutory bodies and the independent sector to promote effective partnership working to implement the strategic intent as set out by the PBPB and agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The WPP will have due regard for population health to ensure the equitable provision of services to the community, financial stewardship and safety, whilst also supporting transformation and innovation to drive appropriate change at Place.

Cheshire East, St Helens and Knowsley

16. Across the other geographies where the Trust provides services, we are engaged in appropriate place-based forums to represent the services delivered by the Trust and the communities we serve.

Team WCHC Awards



- 17. Nearly 300 colleagues from Team WCHC, along with sponsors and partners packed the Pavilion Suite at Chester Racecourse on 5 October 2022 for a fantastic evening celebrating the outstanding care, treatment and support that we deliver 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- 18. BBC North West’s Roger Johnson was our fantastic compere for the night and guided us through the evening’s awards with style.
- 19. This year we received over 100 nominations, making it a difficult task for all our staff judges!
- 20. Our winners across 12 categories were as follows;

Category	Winner
Excellence in care	Neutralising Monoclonal Antibodies (nMabs) Service
Excellence in inclusion	Community Cardiology Service
Excellence in quality improvement	Community Nursing - Single Point of Access
Excellence in wellbeing	Birkenhead Locality 0-19 Team
Excellence in partnership working	Communications and Marketing
Excellence in learning	Jenna Brassington, Physiotherapy
Excellence in leadership	Jennifer De Ornellas, Quality Lead
Unsung hero award	Jeff Wilson, Pharmacist
System partner award	The HIVE Youth Zone & NHS Cadets
Chair and Chief Executive Award	Procurement Team
Chair and Chief Executive Award	Community Intermediate Care Centre (CICC)
People's Choice Award	Denise King Clinical Lead, Children’s Dietitian

- 21. Excellent community health and care is incredibly important to the future of the NHS, and it is right to shine a spotlight on the services we provide, 365 days a year. We touch the lives of thousands of people every day, supporting them to get better, stay well and out of hospital.
- 22. A sincere thank you to all our sponsors - Convatec, Eric Wright Construction, Hill

Dickinson, Lexacom, Lenovo, Logex Healthcare Analytics, Sudlows, ECG on-demand, LT Print, MBF Pace and RL-Datix. The event would not have been possible without their kind generosity.

23. My heart felt congratulations to everyone nominated, shortlisted and our winners!

HR Leadership

24. Jo Shepherd, Director of HR & Organisational Development has taken the difficult decision to move on from her role as Director of HR & OD at the Trust and has started a new role supporting the Cheshire & Merseyside Mental Health, Learning Disability & Community Services Collaborative as Strategic Workforce Lead.

25. This role is much needed, and Jo will be leading the development of a coordinated workforce plan for this group of providers to ensure that we can meet the retention and recruitment challenges ahead.

26. Jo has been with the Trust since its establishment in 2011 and indeed worked for the PCT in Wirral prior to that. We will all miss her greatly, but we are delighted that she will continue to play a part in the future development of community health and care services.

27. We have now started the recruitment process for a new Director of People and Culture to join the Trust and support us in the delivery of our ambitious People Strategy.

Cheshire East Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI)

28. In late June/early July this year the 0-19+ Service in Cheshire East and local partner agencies were involved in a Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI). The inspection looked at the multi-agency identification of risk and need in response to child criminal exploitation, including sexual exploitation.

29. The findings of the inspection have been now published - [50194535 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/50194535).

30. We are committed to supporting the improvements identified in the report. Partnership and collaborative working are key strengths of our Cheshire East 0-19+ Healthy Child Programme and the efforts of frontline staff across all agencies is acknowledged.

Infection Prevention and Control Standards: Living with COVID-19

31. Following a review of the Trust's current IPC guidance in response to COVID-19 and in line with other NHS providers locally, we have implemented some changes with immediate effect;

COVID-19 testing

Patients (Community Intermediate Care Centre ONLY):

- Asymptomatic routine testing of patients will cease with immediate effect
- Patients who have symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 will be tested using a LFD test on the ward, followed by a PCR test

Staff:

- Routine testing of asymptomatic staff has ceased

- Symptomatic staff are continuing to follow the current guidance in accordance with the Trust's risk assessment
- **CICC staff** are required to undertake 10 days of LFD testing in the event that a patient tests positive for COVID-19

Fluid Resistant Surgical Facemasks (FRSM)

- Due to rising cases and outbreaks of COVID-19, staff will continue to wear a fluid resistant surgical facemask in clinical areas, this includes patients' homes, and when providing direct patient care
- FRSMs do not need to be worn in communal areas such as corridors and in non-clinical settings such as offices. However, staff can continue to wear a FRSM in non-clinical settings if that is their preference
- Patient and visitors are encouraged to wear a FRSM within clinical settings and in waiting areas where possible to do so

Screening

Screening questions are no longer required; however, all Trust services will advise patients not to attend if they feel unwell and/or have symptoms of respiratory infection unless required to for treatment purposes i.e., Urgent Treatment Centre/Walk-in Centres

Annual flu campaign

32. Our annual staff flu campaign has begun with staff across the Trust having the opportunity to access their seasonal flu vaccine to protect themselves, their families and those in their care.
33. In parallel and thanks to our partners at Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS FT, our staff are also able to access the COVID-19 booster vaccine.

Executive Leadership Team - service visits and engagement

34. In light of the easing of restrictions, the Executive Leadership Team and I have been delighted to start getting out and about to connect with our services and staff.
35. Each Board Director has been partnered with a Service Director to maximise every opportunity to visit teams and services. After the last 2 years, it has been wonderful to have the opportunity to see our staff, to hear from them and to understand how they are feeling.
36. Over the last few months, the team have visited over 17 services meeting with staff and hearing about their work, what they are proud of and how they are delivering services post-COVID.
37. We are now looking forward to inviting Non-Executive Director colleagues to join these visits.

Your Experience - the importance of feedback

38. In August 2022 we received over 2,500 responses to our patient experience survey with 92.43% of people recommending our services.
39. The top 10 themes from the feedback included staff attitude, the implementation of care, the environment and communication. This is so important to not only ensure we

continue to deliver and improve our services for those accessing them, but also for our staff who continue to work incredibly hard and to know that they are appreciated and doing a good job!

Inclusion Week 2022

40. At the end of September 2022, we celebrated Inclusion Week across the Trust. It was a great opportunity to shine a light on some of the fantastic work we have been doing across the Trust to make sure we are 'getting it right for everyone'.
41. We work very hard to create a culture and environment where patients, service users and communities feel we are a welcoming, fair, equal and inclusive health and social care provider, but it is also really important that our staff feel this too. If our staff feel welcome and valued, this will naturally lead to greater role satisfaction, increased creativity and personal growth and development - all helping to create a positive environment where everyone can influence and share knowledge, and generally feel happier at work.
42. My thanks to all who supported and got involved in the activities to mark Inclusion Week 2022, particularly to all those who attend and support our active Staff Network groups.

Black History Month 2022



43. October is Black History Month, a time to give focus and honour the achievements, culture and history of black people. NHS organisations, like our Trust, right across the country are celebrating the month with face-to-face and virtual events.
44. The theme for the month is 'Time for change: Action not words'.
45. Addressing discrimination and disparity is essential, unfortunately, discrimination leads to talent being wasted and poor staff experience leads to poorer outcomes for patients and communities, so it is vital that tackling this issue is at the forefront of every NHS organisation.
46. Whilst we all like to believe that we take personal responsibility to ensure that racism doesn't impact on the care we give to our patients and the respect we have for our colleagues, it is a reality that inequalities still exist between the experience of white people compared to black people or indeed other skin colours and ethnicities, and this includes our own colleagues.
47. The Trusts own Workforce Race Equality Standard (WRES) highlights some of the challenges we have to tackle within our Trust and across the NHS and our WRES Annual Report for 2021 can be found in the publications section of our public website - [Our publications - Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust \(wchc.nhs.uk\)](https://www.wchc.nhs.uk/publications)

48. Our BAME Staff network have been working very closely with the Trust developing and delivering our action plan for the WRES and they provide valuable insight and lived experience to support our continued improvement work.

Allied Health Professionals Week 2022

49. We celebrated our Allied Health Professional colleagues during 10-14 October 2022, and on the official AHP Day on Friday 14th October 2022, with a wealth of activities to recognise our diverse AHP workforce across the Trust.

50. It was wonderful that our Team WCHC Awards recognised a number of AHP colleagues as winners

- Jenna Brassington, Physiotherapy (Excellence in learning winner)
- Denise King, Children's Dietitian (People's Choice winner)
- Multi-disciplinary teams in Community Cardiology (Excellence in Care) and at the Community Intermediate Care Centre (Chair and Chief Executive award)

51. Over the course of the week, we have shone a light on all AHPs in our organisation and the fantastic work that they do each day. This has included;

- Sharing colleagues career journeys, exploring how they started their career as an AHP, why they are passionate about what they do and the opportunities that they have had in their career
- Profiling the work of the Allied Health Professions workforce supply project implementation group which centres around increasing our workforce supply routes, retaining our existing staff by supporting them to develop and grow, and strengthening AHP leadership
- Our AHPS sharing their learning with stories via our Beyond Boundaries series



Let's get you home.

52. In mid-September we were delighted to launch the Home First service which support people to return home after a stay in hospital and helps them continue their recovery in their own surroundings, regaining their ability to live as independently as possible.

53. Staying in hospital for longer than necessary can have a negative impact on how well a patient recovers, so ensuring people are given the chance to continue their lives at home is important for their long-term health and wellbeing.

54. HomeFirst works on the principle of 'hospital may be where you get treated, but home is where you get better'.

55. Working in partnership with Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, our multidisciplinary teams assess a patients suitability for the HomeFirst service once ready for discharge.

56. The team focus on reablement and will work together with the patient to identify goals to regain a level of independence. This may include help from support workers, occupational therapists and physiotherapists, and where possible will include involvement from family, friends and carers.

0-25 Service Knowsley Stakeholder Event

57. At the end of September 2022, our 0-25 Service in Knowsley held a fantastic stakeholder engagement event which brought partner agencies together from across the borough.

58. My thanks to Sharon Clunn, Deputy Director of Contracts and Commissioning, who got the event underway which brought together local partner organisations. The event, held at Our Place in Knowsley, was a great opportunity to network, build relationships and learn more about the amazing services on offer to support local children, young people and families.

59. Toni Shepherd, Service Director, Regional Services, Donna Wilson, Universal Service Lead and Andrea Johannessen, Enhanced Nurse shared how our teams are supporting families to not only have the best start in life, but to also access the care and support they need to improve life chances.

60. Partners had the opportunity to speak to colleagues from our health visiting and school nursing services as well as the Enhancing Families Programme (EFP) in the 'marketplace' of stalls, in between grabbing a bite to eat and a coffee in this fantastic space in the heart of the community

61. Thank you to everyone involved in making this event happen. It was wonderful to see so many people come together.

Launching Cheshire and Merseyside's Physical Activity Strategy

62. Cheshire and Merseyside's physical activity strategy for health and social care: **All Together Active** has just been launched following an intensive period of engagement with stakeholders across the health and care system in the subregion and is underpinned by the ambitious aim to support residents to become more physically active by 2026.

63. The strategy is vital in our pursuit to create a happier, healthier and more equal Cheshire and Merseyside.

64. The strategy and approach have been supported by All Together Fairer, the subregion's report into health inequalities from Professor Sir Michael Marmot and has been expertly developed by the two Active Partnerships in the subregion, Active Cheshire and MSP, with support from Sport England and a subgroup of partners from across Cheshire and Merseyside.

National news and developments

Publication of NHS England's Winter Plan

65. NHS England has published its winter plan setting the following key objectives and supporting actions.

- Prepare for COVID-19 variants and respiratory challenge
- Increase capacity across all sectors to meet demand
- Increase resilience in NHS 111 and 999 services
- Target Category 2 response times and ambulance delays
- Reduce crowding in A&E departments and target the longest waits in ED
- Reduce hospital occupancy
- Ensure timely discharge
- Provide better support for people at home

66. The plan acknowledges that increasing capacity is dependent on the recruitment and retention of staff and ICBs are expected to provide realistic workforce assumptions. In the plan, NHSE also acknowledges the impact of the strain on social care services and the resultant pressures on Urgent and Emergency Care services.

67. ICBs will be responsible in the first instance if providers are unable to deliver against their targets. Additional intervention support may also be provided by NHSE or regional teams. However, NHSE highlights that it will still play a role to 'check and challenge' local performance.

68. In Cheshire & Merseyside, the ICB will play a central role in the coordination of the health and care system's response including close working with health and care providers, NHS England NorthWest, Local Authorities, Healthwatch and voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise partners. Across Cheshire & Merseyside a winter campaign, '*Simple Things Still Mean A Lot*' will run reinforcing messages to help prevent the spread of winter illness. Please keep washing your hands, sanitising surfaces, covering your face when you cough or sneeze and keep your distance when you're not well, so that we can all keep doing the things we love this winter.

NHS Operating Framework

69. NHS England has published a new operating framework which sets out how the NHS will operate in the new structure created by the 2022 Health and Care Act.

70. The framework has been co-created with 300 system leaders, organisations and stakeholders, including Health Education England and NHS Digital.

71. The full framework is available at - [NHS England » NHS England operating framework](#)

Communications and Engagement

Get Together - Team WCHC Briefing



72. The monthly on-line Get Together meetings continue to be well attended by staff and we continue to use this important engagement forum to share news and updates but also to seek feedback from our staff.
73. I look forward to these sessions every month and the opportunity to engage with so many members of Team WCHC.
74. I have also continued to represent the Trust at regular system meetings including Northwest Leaders, Cheshire & Merseyside Providers Chief Executives, and Cheshire & Merseyside Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Community Provider Collaborative (MHLDC).

Congratulations!



75. We have been shortlisted in the Nursing Times Workforce Summit Awards for our NHS Cadets programme in the Best Workplace for Learning and Development category.
76. My congratulation and best wishes to all involved, as the winners are announced.



77. Our monthly Stand Out winners for July 2022 were **School Health Knowsley: Angela Flack, Ashly Rimmer, Clare Hoare and Keren Nesbitt.**
78. Our monthly Stand Out winners for August 2022 were the **National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) screeners and Performance Lead, 0-25 universal services Knowsley**
79. Congratulations to both teams for this recognition from colleagues right across the Trust.



80. Congratulations to Sharon Davenport, Occupational Therapist in Adult Social Care who won a Royal College of Occupational Therapists International Activity Award, enabling her to attend the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) Congress 2022, held in Paris in August 2022.

81. Sharon shared her reflections on the congress with colleagues on our Staff Zone and concluded by saying *"I thank the Royal College of Occupational Therapists for this award and support of WCHC Trust for the chance to attend congress"*.



82. The Trust has been awarded a re-accreditation at Level 1 for the Excellence in Informatics accreditation.

83. This is a significant accomplishment which demonstrates sustained performance and a culture that consistently develops informatics capacity within the organisation.

84. My congratulations to all involved in leading this work to secure this important accreditation.

Safeguarding Adults: It's Everybody's Business - Open Forum Event

85. Congratulations to our Deputy Director of Adult Social Care, Simon Garner who has been asked to Chair this conference in November 2022, coinciding with the NHS Safeguarding Learning Together Week 21-25 November 2022.

86. The conference features an agenda of safeguarding experts, delivering a series of insightful and informative presentations, addressing some of the key issues surrounding safeguarding and to highlight some of the preventative measures to minimise harm and share best practice.

Summary of Executive Leadership Team (ELT) business in August and September 2022

87. ELT has continued to receive regular updates on the following:

- A Wirral system sitrep including discharges into and from the Community Integrated Care Centre
- Developments across the national, ICS and Place health and care systems
- The development of Wirral Place governance arrangements and the Place Based Partnership Board
- The work of the various UECUP (Urgent & Emergency Care Upgrade Programme) committees and workstreams
- Measures to support staff with cost-of-living pressures including approval for the implementation of a Staff Benefits Platform

- The Trust's CQC preparedness plans including regulatory compliance
- Financial performance and progress towards achieving the Productivity & Efficiency target
- The potential for industrial action by staff side organisations during the autumn and associated planning

88. During August and September 2022, the following were approved by ELT:

- A proposal to apply for reassessment in order to achieve a bronze award in the NHS Rainbow Pin Badge scheme
- Changes to the Lateral Flow Device reporting process in line with national guidance
- The Trust's report on the Section 75 Adult Social Care contract for submission to Wirral Council as part of their review of the contract
- Proposed changes to the governance structure which reports into the Integrated Performance Board and upwards to committees and Board
- Messaging to staff on Agile Working.
- Amendments to the Charitable Funds to align them with the new organisational structure
- Changes to the Internal Audit Plan 2022-23
- A proposal for the Trust to continue to receive utilities procurement support and brokerage services from Crown Commercial Services
- A temporary incentive payment to support the filling of additional shifts to address recruitment challenges in the Knowsley 0-25 Service.
- The proposed Social Value Framework for the Trust and a proposal that the Trust signs up to the Cheshire & Merseyside Social Value Charter and Anchor Institution Charter.

89. Additional items were also presented to ELT for assurance or discussion including,

- An update on the People Strategy Delivery Plan
- An overview of the Trust's results in the NHS People Pulse Survey for Q2
- Updates on Winter planning projects including Virtual Wards, Telehealth and Covid Oximetry at Home
- An overview of the 2022/23 CQUIN (Commissioning for Quality & Innovation) schemes
- The outcome of the Well Led Development Review conducted by Mersey Internal Audit Agency
- Assurance regarding the Trust's response to the Silver Puncture cyber incident
- Relocation of Trust services on the Arrowe Park site as part of the Urgent & Emergency Care Upgrade Programme
- An update on recruitment of a new Director of People & Culture

Conclusion

90. I hope you find this report interesting and helpful, and it provides a clear description of the current priorities for the Trust and the key activities underway to address them.

Karen Howell
Chief Executive

Alison Hughes
Director of Corporate Affairs



**Wirral Community
Health and Care**
NHS Foundation Trust

10 October 2022