

## **Briefing from Informal Board Session**

### **Purpose**

1. This report records the key topics discussed and the information shared at an informal board session held on 15 May 2024.

### **Key topics discussed.**

2. The session started with members reviewing the areas of focus for the delivery of Year 3 of the organisational strategy. The Chief Strategy Officer recognised the work progressed through the committees of the Board to review the detail of delivery plans for each of the enabling strategies. The members of the board reflected on the proposed 'we will' statements for Year 3 identifying any areas for revision or further debate. It was noted that the strategy would be formally presented to the Board of Directors for approval following informal discussion and development by members.
3. Following the opportunity to consider Year 3 of the organisational strategy, the Director of Corporate Affairs facilitated a discussion on the Board Assurance Framework and the focus of strategic risks during 2024-25. This included specific discussions on service delivery, performance and financial risks following discussions at the Finance & Performance Committee in May 2024. The members of the Board recognised the year-end position reported to the Board of Directors in April 2024 and a number of risks to be carried forward for the new financial year. A proposal in relation to financial risks was agreed to be further discussed at the next meeting of the Finance & Performance Committee in June 2024. The members of the Board also appreciated the opportunity to consider the risks articulated in the Wirral Place Delivery Assurance Framework and alignment with the organisation's identified strategic risks.
4. The members of the Board welcomed Liz Pritchard, Head of Learning & Organisation Development and Rachel Markey, NHS Cadets Programme Co-ordinator to the informal session to provide an update on the NHS Cadets programme working with the MHLDC in Cheshire & Merseyside, NHS England and St John's Ambulance. All members of the Board welcomed the opportunity to learn about the on-going success of the programme and the expansion to other geographies including St Helens and Knowsley. The success of the programme was recognised and celebrated by all and the Director of Corporate Affairs, as SRO for the programme confirmed that discussions were underway with key stakeholders to secure future funding of the programme in order to expand it further across other geographies. The stories shared of NHS Cadets experiences were welcomed and appreciated by all.
5. The Board were pleased to welcome nursing colleagues from across the Trust to meet with members informally to celebrate International Nurses Day. The Trust had planned a week-long programme of activities to recognise the nursing workforce, and colleagues from across the Trust had got involved to share their stories and celebrate with each other. All members of the Board appreciated the opportunity and the time spent meeting with nursing colleagues. The Chief Nurse also provided an overview of the activities taking place and acknowledged the success of the BBC Radio Merseyside interview with two senior nursing colleagues, Gilbert Ngatia and Elly Wright sharing their experiences as nurses working in the community.
6. The Chief Executive facilitated a discussion with members of the Board on the 11 recommendations from the Shanley Report, the independent review of Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS FT. The members of the Board had the opportunity to consider the

detail of each of the recommendations in the context of the Trust and the current arrangements in place. It was noted that through the Integrated Performance Board (IPB), an action had been agreed to review each of the recommendations through the oversight groups and provide an update to the IPB at the end of June 2024. It was noted that this would subsequently be reported to the Board of Directors, together with learnings from other independent reviews in due course.

7. Finally, the Director of Corporate Affairs provided a briefing on the arrangements for the Team WCHC Awards 2024 which would launch on 20 May 2024.

**Alison Hughes**  
**Director of Corporate Affairs**

11 June 2024.