

Chairman's Note

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Trust Board paper C

Dear Board Member,

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Since we last met the key things on my mind have been:

The performance and associated challenges in the Emergency Department continues to remain amongst the forefront of my concerns. The current emphasis on learning from our experiences within the Department and the remainder of the Trust over these two weeks has to be an important building block for our ability to respond to the usual pattern of increased patient demand during the winter period. In his communications about this learning opportunity the Chief Executive has made it clear to the organisation as a whole that whilst the national 95% target can be viewed as a proxy measure, we need to focus on achieving better outcomes in terms of the patient journey through (and beyond) the Emergency Department. The Trust Board needs to continue asking the question during the coming winter and beyond – how can we improve the quality and efficiency of our emergency services to the public?

In terms of changes in the composition of the Trust Board and associated issues, I have to report with great pleasure that Andrew Johnson, one of our Non-Executive Directors, has been reappointed by NHS Improvement for a further four year term effective from 1st November 2017. Board colleagues will know that we currently have a vacancy for a Non-Executive Director role since Dr Shirley Crawshaw resigned during the summer. NHS Improvement will be advertising this role shortly and it would be helpful if you could all draw this to the attention of appropriate organisations and individuals.

The scrutiny of NHS Boards such as ours by national regulators will increasingly be on our ability to demonstrate to them that we have the capability and insights to set a clear sense of direction against a canvas of complexity, ambiguity and scarcity and to deliver outcomes which make a difference. Our governance structures and discussions should be aligned with this objective as well as ensuring that we focus on the salient issues.

I look forward to seeing you at our forthcoming board meeting on 7 September 2017.

Regards,

Karamjit Singh

Chairman, University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust