

Meeting title:	Trust Board (public session)				Paper C
Date of the meeting:	3 November 2022				
Title:	Chair's Report				
Report presented by:	John MacDonald – Trust Chair				
Report written by:	John MacDonald – Trust Chair				
Action – this paper is for:	Decision/Approval		Assurance		Update X

New Secretary of State

The Right Honourable Stephen Barclay was appointed the Secretary of State of Health and Care. He will shortly be setting out his short-term priorities. However, these are unlikely to differ very much from his predecessor – reducing ambulance waits, reducing waiting times for people requiring planned care and operations and improving access for cancer patients. These have been the priorities for the last few months, and we will continue to seek to improve access for patients across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Winter

UHL together with its partners has been planning and putting in place measures to ensure that people have access to urgent and emergency care over winter, whilst at the same time continuing to reduce the number of people waiting for planned care. These include:

- *Increasing access to care outside of hospital;* such as increasing the capacity of urgent treatment centres and supporting patients at risk of respiratory problems to be managed outside of hospital
- *Improving flow within our hospitals;* protecting elective capacity, safely expanding our bed provision – including opening a rehabilitation and reablement ward at the Leicester General Hospital and expanding our Same Day Emergency Care provision at the Glenfield Hospital.
- *Increasing capacity outside of hospital to speed up safe discharge;* including UHL establishing a care home, expanding social care support to allow people to return to their homes, and the establishment of 'virtual wards' to allow people to have their care managed and monitored from their home.

However, there are major challenges to ensure that patients receive timely care. The pressures including staffing levels across the urgent and emergency care pathway are well known and have been discussed in both the national and local media.

Elective Hub at Leicester General Hospital

I am delighted that we have had approval for the first phase of the development of the elective hub. This phase of the programme will see additional theatre capacity on site at the Leicester General Hospital with the first patient treated in May 2023.

When fully operational the hub will offer 2 modular theatres, ward space protected for elective activity and outpatient clinic and treatment rooms. This additional capacity will support c.2,000 operations a year and see upwards of 85,000 patients in clinics mainly in Urology, General Surgery, ENT and Ophthalmology.

NHS Heroes Ball

The NHS Heroes Ball hosted by the Charitable Funds was held on 13th October 2022 at the Athena. Attended by over 200 people the evening raised over £40,000 for the Trust's Charitable Funds and I am very grateful for everyone who came and donated so generously.

Strategy session with ICP and HWBB

The LLR Integrated Care Board has been developing the Integrated Care Strategy and there have been a number of events and discussions over the last couple of months. A draft strategy is due to be produced by Christmas, with further work to refine and develop this after Christmas. UHL has an important part to play in delivering this strategy in integrating care, reducing disparities in health and care, supporting independence, personalisation and prevention and improving quality of care.