

<b>Meeting title:</b>	Public Trust Board	<b>Public Trust Board paper C</b>				
<b>Date of the meeting:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2023					
<b>Title:</b>	Chair's Report					
<b>Report presented by:</b>	John MacDonald – Trust Chair					
<b>Report written by:</b>	John MacDonald – Trust Chair					
<b>Action – this paper is for:</b>	Decision/Approval		Assurance		Update	X
<b>Where this report has been discussed previously</b>	None					

<b>To your knowledge, does the report provide assurance or mitigate any significant risks? If yes, please detail which</b>
N/A

<b>Impact assessment</b>
N/A

Recovering Services

A major focus of 2022/23 has been on recovering services following the Covid pandemic and the reduction of the time patients wait for diagnosis and treatment. The performance reports being discussed later in the meeting demonstrate the progress that has been made in reducing turnaround times for ambulances taking people to Accident and Emergency, reducing the time that patients have to wait for planned care with major progress in having no patient waiting for more than 78 weeks and, more recently, for diagnosis and treatment of people with cancer. I know this has been considerable commitment and determination from staff at UHL and across the health and care system. A recent visit by the national team overseeing the reduction of elective waiting times has recognised the will, skill and appetite to deliver the elective recovery. I would like to thank staff for their work and determination to reducing waiting times.

Recent reports on the impact for patients with long ambulance waits and/or waiting in Accident and Emergency have highlighted the harm this causes patients (specifically from the Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch on ambulance delays and the Royal College of Emergency Medicine). It is also clear that this impacts staff who are very concerned about their ability to provide safe care. Our focus will continue into 2023/24 to ensure we reduce further waiting times for patients and at the same time support staff, often in difficult circumstances.

## Long Term Conditions

The development of a long-term conditions strategy for conditions such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease, dementia, mental ill health, and musculoskeletal disorders. This strategy, which aims to “shift to integrated, whole-person care,” provides opportunities to revolutionise the way care and support is provided to people with debilitating and, in many cases, multi morbidities.

UHL and Leicestershire and Leicester health and care system already have some nationally and internationally recognised services for people with conditions such as diabetes and respiratory conditions. The development of a national strategy will provide us with opportunities to further develop the way we care for such people and adopt best practice across Leicester and Leicestershire. The strengths of the research in these areas, as evidenced by the research into Covid and recent successful funding bids by the University of Leicester provides us with fantastic opportunities to improve peoples’ lives and to address inequalities in accessing services.

## Strikes

Over the last few months there have been strikes by some staff and I am grateful for the work that staff have done to mitigate the impact of these strikes on patients. Whilst these strikes have been in other organisations and not staff at UHL, the junior doctors strike between 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 will involve all Trusts. Planning to minimise the impact on the services we provide is well advanced and we will do all we can to mitigate the impact.

## System Working

Over the last year we have developed strong relationships with partners across the NHS, social care and the voluntary sector. Experience from other systems has been important in identifying best practice and the work being led by the Honourable Patricia Hewitt, which is scheduled for publication later in March will, I am sure, provide us with further opportunities and examples of best practice to further strengthen our relationships and partnerships.