

REPORT TO PUBLIC TRUST BOARD

Enclosure No: 3

Date of Meeting:	12 th November 2020		
Title of Report:	CEO Board Report		
Presented by:	Peter Axon, Chief Executive Officer		
Author:	Peter Axon, Chief Executive Officer		
Executive Lead Name:	Peter Axon, Chief Executive Officer	Approved by Exec	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Executive Summary:		Purpose of report	
This Report updates the Board on recent activities, developments and news of interest across Combined and the wider STP.		Approval	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Assurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Seen at:	SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Execs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Document	
	Date:	Version No.	
Committee Approval / Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Committee <input type="checkbox"/> • Finance & Performance Committee <input type="checkbox"/> • Audit Committee <input type="checkbox"/> • People, Culture & Development Committee <input type="checkbox"/> • Charitable Funds Committee <input type="checkbox"/> 		
Strategic Objectives (please indicate)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We will attract, develop and retain the best people <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. We will actively promote partnership and integrated models of working <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. We will provide the highest quality, safe and effective services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. We will increase our efficiency and effectiveness through sustainable development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 		
Risk / legal implications: Risk Register Reference	N/A		
Resource Implications: Funding Source:	N/A		
Diversity & Inclusion Implications: (Assessment of issues connected to the Equality Act 'protected characteristics' and other equality groups). See wider D&I Guidance	Includes details of the launch of our Trust Strategy for 2020 and beyond (which includes strong emphasis on diversity and inclusion), REACH staff Awards 2021 which includes the Diversity and Inclusion Award, and support for national Occupational Therapy Award whose theme this year is "Securing the future workforce and increasing diversity in the profession".		
STP Alignment / Implications:	N/A		
Recommendations:	Note contents		

Chief Executive's Report to the Trust Board 12th November 2020

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report updates the Board on activities undertaken since the last meeting and draws the Board's attention to any other issues of significance or interest.

1. COVID-19

Combined Healthcare continues to rise to the challenge of Covid-19.

In anticipation of the second national lockdown, I issued a video message to all our staff setting out the fundamentals of what this means for us as staff and a Trust. This can be seen publicly on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcXeTKnacDU>

It was also shared across our social media channels, placed on our public website and uploaded with subtitles to our television in the main reception at Harplands Hospital.

As you will see, the main messages from me to our staff are:

- A huge thank you to everyone for their ongoing efforts.
- We got through the first phase incredibly well and learnt a number of things during that time which will stand us in good stead as we enter into this second surge phase. These lessons include of course the fact that effective use of PPE at all times is critical to control the virus and is the absolute top priority in terms of infection prevention and control. Testing also has a hugely important role to play and has improved more recently - speedier tests and more test availability.
- We already operate services where possible in a digital way through remote mechanisms and therefore are unlikely to need to significantly change as a result of the announcement of the second lockdown.
- We need to stay as fleet of foot as we possibly can, ensuring that we maintain those critical and essential services for the most vulnerable in our population, as such we have to constantly evaluate the nature of services and how we are providing services, to ensure that we can maintain those critical and essential arrangements throughout this second surge.
- We have also added to our arrangements to support the health and wellbeing of our staff, whether it be through our staff counselling arrangements or other support. No one will go unsupported.
- We will get through this together as we do in Combined every day, every week, every month, every year. We work better together.

We followed up this high level message with an equally important message from our Executive Director of Operations, Jonathan O'Brien, who provided the latest Trust Covid Bulletin setting out some practical operational details.

We also updated our public website with the latest messages and detailed lockdown advice from the Government. This can be seen [at this link](#)

We are seeing greater pressure on our services this time around than during the first surge, which is aligned to the increased prevalence of the virus within the local population. However I am confident that we have the skills and resources in place to effectively tackle this phase of the pandemic in an effective manner.

2. LAUNCH OF TRUST STRATEGY FOR 2020 AND BEYOND

Preparations are well underway for the launch of our Trust Strategy for 2020 and beyond on Thursday 19th November at 4.30pm.

The launch will be an online event to which our staff and stakeholders will be invited. It will feature a short series of films from the relevant Executive Leads setting out our overall vision and the key elements of each strategic theme – Quality, People, Partnerships and Sustainability.

Immediately following the launch event, our dedicated Trust Strategy web page will go live, featuring:

- The full Strategy and Theme documents;
- Plans on a Page;
- Launch videos; and
- Feedback form allowing anyone to submit comments or questions.

We will be conducting one of the most extensive engagement exercises the Trust has ever undertaken, including staff online discussions and events, outreach to stakeholder and community organisations, web and social media. We will also be available to present our strategy at stakeholders own events should they wish.

A full summary and analysis of feedback and engagement received will be reported to the Board in due course.

3. REACH 2021

We are also finalising details for our REACH Staff Awards, which we expect to launch imminently, culminating in an online event in early 2021. Building on the success of the last two Awards, each of which set a record for nominations received, we will once again be providing facilities for anyone to make nominations online. We will be introducing a new category for this year's event – "Learner of the Year" – which will give us an opportunity to celebrate our partnerships with our universities, as well as the importance we attach to apprenticeships and workplace learning and development.

The Awards night itself will be an entirely online virtual event, featuring films and live content.

4. NHS STAFF SURVEY

We continue to make great progress with this year's NHS Staff Survey. Our Comms and OD Teams have been working in partnership to raise profile and participation, harnessing e-newsletters, video and social media. This has included a film message from myself encouraging everyone to take part, stressing the importance we attach to its findings and our track record of acting on what we hear, and emphasising the anonymous status of all responses received, so our people can be assured that they can give us honest and secure feedback.

We are also urging staff to keep reminding each other to take that additional protected 30 minutes' time out from their routine breaks to grab a drink, find a quiet space and share their experiences with us of working with Combined this last year.

5. ICP / ICS

Our system is understandably concentrating at present on the response to the second surge of Covid19 and given prevalence of the virus within the community is working hard to ensure that pathways for all essential services remain open and patient flow good.

In the background where possible we are also continuing to develop our ICS application including work across the five strands of –

- Strategic Commissioner development
- Integrated Care Partnerships
- Clinical Quality
- Governance
- Financial, performance and quality reporting.

6. CELEBRATING OUR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

We have been taking the opportunity of Occupational Therapy Week to celebrate the contribution made by our OT staff.

The theme for this year is ‘Securing the future workforce and increasing diversity in the profession’. The week’s aim is to celebrate what it means to be an OT and inspire others to consider Occupational Therapy as a profession. We have been using social media to support the week using #ChooseOT and #OTWeek2020.

A group of our Occupational Therapists have reflected on their careers and what it means to them to be an OT, telling more about their role and why they think it’s the best job in the world, in a video which we released and can be seen at <https://youtu.be/fVo5aNDFDnw>

7. “START TO SUCCESS” PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIVERSITIES TO SUPPORT STUDENTS

We have also been highlighting our collaboration with both Keele and Staffordshire University to develop new and innovative approaches to needs assessment and referral pathways, allowing for a more streamlined and sensitive approach to supporting students effectively in both emergency and planned situations.

The mental health of university students has been a focus of increasing concern in the UK, with a weight of evidence suggesting that large numbers of the student population are experiencing poor mental health. The number of students declaring a pre-existing mental illness to their university has more than doubled since 2014/15. There have also been increases in demand for services to support student mental health – with reports suggesting that some universities are seeing a doubling in the number of students accessing support.

The aims are to develop an integrated ‘whole community’ approach to mental health and wellbeing for students studying in Further and High Education in Stoke and North Staffordshire. The region’s universities, colleges, local authorities, police and NHS providers have come together with a common purpose to remove barriers, improve support and services and enable success. Supported by funding from the Office for Students (the national regulator of higher education) and working alongside students from across the region, the project will look across all aspects of the student journey to support effective transitions

Student Champions will be working closely with both Universities to gain an in depth understanding of the difficulties and unique challenges students face and to raise

awareness within their teams, they will also be developing improved communication pathways and a more streamlined approach.

If you would like any more information about Start to Success please contact: Deb Boughey, NHS/HE liaison Project Officer d.m.boughey@keele.ac.uk OR Sam Mortimer, Associate Director North Staffs Locality and Combined Healthcare lead for Start to Success, samantha.mortimer@combined.nhs.uk Or visit; <https://www.starttosuccess.co.uk/>