

Enclosure No: 6

Chairs Report – July 2025

Report provided for:				Report to:	Public Trust Board
Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Assurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date of Meeting:	10 th July 2025
Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Approval	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Presented by:	Janet Dawson, Chair
Prepared by:	Janet Dawson, Chair
Executive Lead:	

Aligned to Board Assurance Framework Risk	Risk 1 The Trust fails to deliver effective care leading to regulatory restrictions
Approval / Review:	N/A
Strategic Priorities:	Prevention - We will continue to grow high-quality, integrated services delivered by an innovative and sustainable workforce
Key Enablers:	Quality - We will provide the highest quality, safe and effective services
Sustainability:	Share learning and best practice
Resource Implications:	No
Funding Source:	N/A
Diversity & Inclusion Implications	There is no direct impact on the protected characteristics as part of the completion of this report.
ICS Alignment / Implications:	Strategic fit with system priorities
Recommendation / Required Action	For information and assurance
Executive Summary	<p>The report updates the Board on strategic activity undertaken since the last meeting and draws the Board's attention to any other issues of significance or interest.</p> <p>This included:</p> <p>The NHS 10 Year Plan</p>

Chair's report July 2025

The NHS 10 Year Plan

There have already been thousands of words written about the NHS 10 Year Plan and it is only a few days old although heavily trailed by the media in the days running up to its publication and there will be many more to come as the plan evolves. It is helpful to reflect on where we are against the priorities of the plan for our services.

In terms of the three key shifts, we are familiar and experienced in Mental Health provision with the concept of hospital to community and have been operating this successfully for many years. Mental health provision is an exemplar of how to do this well and provides an opportunity for mental health providers to share their experience and expertise with other sectors. It is great to see we have had more recognition of our transformative use of data and analytics to improve patient care, and we already meet one of the specific requirements for mental health of ensuring there are apps and platforms to allow self-referral to Talking Therapies. We are also active in the other mental health priority areas; working with our local emergency department to provide mental health support and our 24/7 crisis support team, our work in schools supporting children and young people and working in partnership with our Local Authority in caring for the most vulnerable children particularly those in care. We are acutely aware of the impact of health inequalities on people's mental wellbeing and are active in our communities in support of those most impacted and of the importance of co-production with our staff and our service users and patients. The work we have done in the past few years has set us up well to align with the 10 Year Plan and we await with interest the delivery and workforce plans to support its aspirations which are yet to be published.

It is good to have this stable platform from which to move forward as many other elements of the NHS are moving around us providing both challenges and opportunities. There is a significant amount of work to be done in developing comprehensive Neighbourhood Health Services which will require collaboration between all those involved including local authorities in which ever form they end up, other NHS Providers, GPs and PCNs, the voluntary sector and other Government departments. It will require us to be creative and flexible on how budgets are deployed, staffing and professional supervision arrangements, estates and more. In the meantime, the familiar roles within the ICB will change as will the footprints of many including Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent as it is clustered with Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin ICB.

So much change can be overwhelming and confusing, and I can identify with that, and know that for many of our staff, there will be concerns about where this is all going. Some of you will have heard me say this before but at times like these focussing on the basics can be helpful. It's a 10 year plan and while we must get on with it, not everything will change at once and we have the day to day to deliver in the meantime; safe and compassionate care to our patients and service users, our financial targets as a Trust and the well-being of our staff, listening to concerns and communicating well.

As ever, I want to thank the executive teams and all our staff for their continued hard work and for all that you do every day.

Janet Dawson

Chair