

Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust

Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting Date: 28 February 2018

Title and Author of Paper: Chief Executive's Report
John Lawlor, Chief Executive

Paper for Debate, Decision or Information: Information

Key Points to Note:

Trust updates

1. Long Service Awards
2. Physical Health Conference

Regional updates

3. STP Arrangements in Cumbria and the North East

National updates

4. Planning Guidance and Financial Allocations 2018/19
5. 2017 Quarter 3 Finance and Performance

Outcome required: For information

Chief Executive's Report

28 February 2018

Trust updates

1. Long Service Awards

The Chairman and I had the privilege of presenting Long Service Awards to staff with over 25 years of service, with a small number of staff clocking up over 40 years working for the NHS.

Over the two Awards events staged, I estimate that the staff involved had provided nearly 2,000 years of service with the NHS. This is an incredible achievement and I am sure there will be many thousands of former service users, their carers and families who would wish to thank them for everything they have done over many years.

2. Physical Health Conference

Following the huge success of previous events, our 4th annual conference promoting and valuing physical and mental health, equally, is taking place on Tuesday 27th February 2018 at the Stadium of Light, Sunderland.

The conference is open to NTW Staff and our external partners. The focus this year will be on Prevention, Management of Long Term Conditions and Collaborative Working to improve the physical health outcomes for patients with a mental health and learning disability. We also aim to demonstrate how working across the STP is improving parity for our patients.

As well as number of speakers from within the Trust, there are a number of external speakers attending this year's event, including:

- Anthony Deery, Clinical Lead, Mental Health Programme, NHS England & NHS Improvement
- Dr Nick Lewis-Barned, Consultant Physician, Northumbria Healthcare
- Professor Nicholas John Linker, Consultant Cardiologist, The James Cook University Hospital, South Tees

300 delegates have registered across all disciplines and from external partners, with a waiting list of staff that we haven't yet been able to accommodate.

Regional updates

3. STP Arrangements in Cumbria and the North East

In 2014 NHS England published the Five Year Forward View (5YFV) – a national plan that set out a vision for a better NHS and the steps needed to deliver that vision by 2020-21.

To accelerate delivery of the vision every health and social care system in the country has come together in geographic areas to create their own ambitious blueprint to rapidly implement the 5 Year Forward View.

These blueprints - Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs) - aim to set out a clear approach to how the challenges in the 5YFV will be delivered locally by 2020-21. These challenges are grouped into the following categories:

- Improving the health and well-being of the population
- Improving the quality of care people receive
- Ensuring local services are efficient.

The STP across the North East and North Cumbria has now been established, with a set of 14 workstreams and governance arrangements now largely firmed up. I will brief the Board further on developments over the coming months.

National updates

4. Planning Guidance and Financial Allocations 2018/19

The planning guidance 'Refreshing NHS Plans for 2018/19' was issued on 2 February 2018. The NHS already has 2 year contracts and improvement priorities set for the period 2017/19. These were based on the NHS Operational Planning and Contracting Guidance 2017-2019 published in September 2016 and reflected in the March 2017 document Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View.

The November 2017 budget announced additional NHS revenue funding of £1.6 billion for 2018/19, which will increase funding for emergency & urgent care and elective surgery. In addition, for other core frontline services such as mental health and primary care, the Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC) is making a further £540 million available through the Mandate over the coming financial year. This £2.1m provides funding growth of 2.4% in real terms compared to 2.1% in 17/18.

The joint NHS England and NHS Improvement updated guidance sets out how these funds will be distributed and the expectations for commissioners and providers in updating their operational plans for 2018/19.

The guidance sets out the objective to build on the progress made in 2017/18 and protect investment in mental health, cancer services and primary care in line with the available resources and agreed plans. It states that, recognising the scale of unmet need in mental health, the importance of cancer services and the intense pressures on primary care "it would be unacceptable to compromise progress on these services". This means a continued commitment by every CCG of the Mental Health Investment Standard, service expansions set out by the Mental Health Taskforce consistent with the expectations already set out in the 2017-19 planning guidance.

5. 2017 Quarter 3 Finance and Performance

NHSI released the quarter 3 figures for NHS performance on 21st February. These show a deterioration of £308m in the forecast financial outturn for NHS providers of £931m, compared to the £623m forecast at quarter 2. Perhaps more worryingly, the year to date position shows a deficit of £1.28bn, meaning that the sector run rate of £142m deficit per month needs to be turned round into a £116m per month surplus in the last quarter, a turnaround of £258m per month on the run rate for the year to date. The net deficit position is also worse than the position reported at the end of last year despite around £330M of additional winter pressure investment this year. NHSI has also reported vacancy figures for the first time showing 100,159 vacancies across the NHS provider sector or 8.7% of the workforce. This includes 39,000 nursing vacancies and 10,000 medical vacancies.

Overall expenditure on staffing is up from the previous year and despite the forecast achievement of CIPs of 3.8% this is below the targeted figure of 4.3%. Implied productivity figures have also been published for the first time which show a 1.8% gain in productivity across the sector.

Appendix 1: On the Day Briefing by NHS Providers, which provides a useful summary of the key issues