

Chief Executive's Report
Public Board
Thursday 30th January 2025

Presented for:	Information and Discussion
Presented by:	Professor Phil Wood, Chief Executive
Author:	Professor Phil Wood, Chief Executive
Previous Committees:	NONE.

Our Annual Commitments for 2024/25 are:	
Reduce wait for patients	✓
Reduce Healthcare Acquired Infections by 15%	✓
Reduce our carbon footprint through greener care	✓
Use our existing digital systems to their full potential	✓
Strengthen participation and growth in research and innovation	✓
Deliver the financial plan	✓
Be in the top 25% performing Trusts for staff retention	✓

Trust Risks (Type & Category)

Level 1 Risk		Level 2 Risks	(Risk Appetite Scale)	Risk
External Risk	✓	Legal & Governance Risk We will operate the Trust in a compliance with the Law and UK Corporate Governance Code, where applicable	Averse	↔ (same)
External Risk	✓	Partnership Working Risk We will maintain well-established stakeholder partnerships which will mitigate the threats to the achievement of the organisation's strategic goals.	Open	↔ (same)
External Risk	✓	Regulatory Risk We will comply with or exceed all regulations, retain its CQC registration and always operate within the law	Averse	↔ (same)
External Risk	✓	Strategic Planning Risk We will deliver Our Vision 'to be the best for specialist and integrated care' through the delivery of a set of Strategic Goals and operating in line with Our Values	Cautious	↔ (same)

Key points	
1. To provide an update on news across the Trust and the actions and activity of the Chief Executive since the last	Discussion and information

Board meeting	
2. To ratify the delegated authority for the appointment of consultants	To ratify the delegated authority for the appointment of consultants

1. Highlights from the last two months

Winter is always an operationally challenging time of year and in the last two months we have seen high numbers of covid, flu and RSV. I would like to thank all our staff that are working tirelessly to keep our services running safely and smoothly for our patients despite these pressures, in particular to those colleagues who were working over the festive period. I would also like to thank our partners at the Leeds Hospitals Charity for once again generously donating tea and coffee supplies for our staff as a thank you for all their hard work.

Ahead of Christmas myself and my Executive Team spent time visiting various wards and departments across the Trust and delivering some treats for teams. It never fails to impress us just how dedicated and caring our workforce is, a sentiment I know was shared by Tom Riordan the Second Permanent Secretary for the Department of Health and Social Care, who joined me on a visit to the LGI on the 20th of December.

Earlier this month we were honoured to have MP Katie White officially open our elective recovery Hub at Wharfedale. We are seeing a steady increase in the number of surgeries taking place at Wharfedale as our teams settle into the new site and the fantastic new facilities.

I was shocked and saddened by the incident at Royal Oldham Hospital this month, where a Nurse was stabbed. I know this will have been unsettling for our staff to read and I would like to reiterate the Trust's zero tolerance for any form of abuse or aggression towards staff. It is essential that all our staff can operate in a safe environment and carry out their jobs without fear. We have a dedicated 24/7 security team to respond to any instances of violence and aggression as well as our report for support campaign on our staff intranet.

2. Focus on care quality, effectiveness & patient experience

The Auditor Panel in November, formally reported to the Board on the conclusion of their procurement process with a recommendation to appoint the External Auditors as the current contract will expire on 31st March 2025. The Board approved the re-appointment of Forvis Mazars for a further three years, noting there was scope for two extensions for a 12- month duration each.

On the 12th of December I had the pleasure of visiting the Armley Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC). In just a few months it's had a great impact on the community and patient experience. Collectively across our 3 CDC sites (Seacroft and Beeston being the other two) we have delivered over 65,747 tests and aim to deliver over 110,000 per year once fully operational.

3. Develop integrated partnership services

On Friday 17th January I chaired the Leeds Partnership Leadership Team meeting. This is a regular forum made up of the senior leaders from across the health and care sector in the city. All of those organisations, like us, are facing financial challenges but I am reassured that all our partners despite these pressures remain committed to collaborative system working and recognise it will only be through our partnerships that we will be able to provide the best services and care for the populations we serve.

On 16th December the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government published an English Devolution White Paper. Whilst this will not lead to any immediate changes for the system it does set out a vision for greater powers for elected Mayoral areas including duties relating to health improvement and health inequalities as well as an expectation that they are appointed to Integrated Care Partnerships. We already have great working relationships with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Mayor Tracey Brabin. One of the strengths of the Leeds Health and Care Partnership is its adaptability so I am confident any future devolution plans will be received well and worked through in our existing collaborative way.

On the 10th of January I was pleased to take part in a meeting to promote liver health in the city, organised by one of our liver consultants, Dr Richard Parker. Together with colleagues from the Liver Unit, we hosted three Leeds MPs, The Rt Hon Hilary Benn, Fabian Hamilton and Richard Burgon, and we were joined by Cllr Fiona Venner and Dr Pippa Bird from Leeds City Council along with representatives from Forward Leeds and the British Liver Trust. The focus was to raise awareness of liver disease and the links to poor diet, obesity and alcohol abuse, calling for support from the MPs around public health messaging.

4. Deliver continuous improvement, Inclusive Research and Innovation

December saw the Trust focus on our Digital Resource commitment where there were 26 events run to help colleagues get the most from their systems and access the right support when they need it. Thank you to everyone involved and to all who engaged with it, making sure our Trust is as digitally effective as possible is crucial for continual improvement, efficiencies and ultimately effective patient care.

I would also like to extend a congratulations to Aldrin Soriano and the Interventional Radiology Theatres Clinical Nurse Specialist team for their exceptional work in developing and launching the NOPAC (No Pre-Assessment Clinic) pathway, which has significantly reduced referral to treatment times (RTT) for patients with chronic limb-threatening ischemia. Between June and October 2023, the NOPAC pathway achieved an average RTT of just 16.5 days, compared with 61.87 days prior to the pathway implementation. This outstanding achievement has been recognized with a Cavell Star.

I was very pleased in December to unveil the name of the new pharmacy dispensary robot. The robot is a fantastic piece of technology which stores and picks a significant chunk of the medicines supplied to patients on wards, and almost all the medicines supplied on Edans. At a cost of £500k, it's an impressive system that helps reduce picking errors and saves thousands of hours. Following a competition the robot has been affectionately named 'Jimmy'.

5. Support and Developing our People

In December we celebrated the success of our 6th Cohort on the 'Moving Forward Programme', congratulations to all who completed the programme.

Whilst our formal training and development is an important offer to our staff support comes in many forms, for example, the new calming space opened for colleagues in our Speciality and Integrated Medicines team. This brightly refurbished space provides an essential place for staff to de-stress and de-compress.

Before Christmas I was also reminded of how powerful and important kindness and staff support for each other is. The team on J92 came together to help one of their colleagues who was struggling to fund her family's Christmas sharing decorations and ensuring her children had a tree and presents to open on Christmas Day.

On the 16th January I attended the NHS National Improvement Board in London with colleagues from across the country. The forum is a great opportunity to share knowledge and learn from other areas of the NHS. What I took from it most was the impressive strength of scale of national uptake of a continuous improvement approach across the NHS.

6. Sharing Success

As always there has been a wealth of success across the Trust's workforce I can't possibly capture it all but below are some selected highlights from the last few months:

Congratulations to Dr Kerrie Ann Davies who was recognised in the 2025 New Year's honours List, receiving an MBE for her services to Healthcare Science.

Back in December our Estates and Facilities PFI Projects team had a fantastic night at the Inaugural Operational Public Private Partnership Summit (OPPPS), where they won three of the five awards they were shortlisted for- well done all a fantastic result!

The Trust had other fantastic wins at the Nursing Times Awards with the New to care Team winning team of the year and two wins for the Trust at the Healthcare Financial Management Association Awards. Stuart Pearson, Head of Nursing in Speciality & Integrated Medicine was victorious in the 'Working with Finance – Clinician of the Year Award' category and the Trust as a whole also won the 'Delivering Value with Digital Technologies Award', which recognises innovative projects which improve value with the aid of digital technologies.

Finally, I'd like to give a special mention to all our staff who participated in Movember, including our Chief Medical officer Magnus, as well as our Medicines Management and Pharmacy Services team who raised over £2800.

7. Consultant Appointments

I am pleased to report that I have, under delegated authority, approved the following appointments:

New Posts:

Dr Carmelo Corallo POST OF Consultant in RADIOLOGY (GI/HPB)
Dr Yuan Kheng, POST OF Consultant in NEURORADIOLOGY

Replacement Posts:

Dr Nicole Abdul POST OF Consultant in ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY (FOOT & ANKLE)
Dr Arka Das- POST OF Consultant in CARDIORESPIRATORY (pci/mri)
Dr Sachini Dharmaratne POST OF Consultant in INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE
Dr Daniel Kusumawidjaja POST OF Consultant in RADIOLOGY (VASCULAR INTERVENTION)
Dr Claire Nissenbaum POST OF Consultant in PAEDIATRIC RESPIRATORY
Dr Alexandra Pike POST OF Consultant in HAEMATOLOGY (MYELOID)
Dr Victoria Rusius POST OF Consultant in BREAST SURGERY
Dr Subbarayalu Balaji POST OF Consultant in PAEDIATRIC CARDIAC ANAESTHETICS
Dr Louise Booker, POST OF Consultant in GENERAL PAEDIATRICS
Dr Sarah El-Sheikha, POST OF Consultant in PAEDIATRIC ANAESTHETICS
Dr Simona Gonnella, POST OF Consultant in PAEDIATRIC CARDIAC ANAESTHETICS
Dr Laura Hughes, POST OF Consultant in GENERAL PAEDIATRICS
Dr Yasser Safdar, POST OF Consultant in OMFS

8. Publication under the Freedom of Information Act

This paper has been made available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

9. Recommendation

The Board is asked to receive this paper for information, and to ratify the delegated authority for the appointment of consultants.

**Professor Phil Wood
Chief Executive**