

8 October 2020
Item No 7

Council of Governors: Summary Sheet

Title of Paper: Covid 19: Trust's Response – for assurance

Presented By: Beverley Murphy, Director of Nursing, Professions & Operations

Action Required:	For Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For Ratification	<input type="checkbox"/>	For a decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
	For Feedback	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vote required	<input type="checkbox"/>	For Receipt	<input type="checkbox"/>

To which duty does this refer:

Holding non-executive directors individually and collectively to account for the performance of the Board	X
Appointment, removal and deciding the terms of office of the Chair and non-executive directors	
Determining the remuneration of the Chair and non-executive directors	
Appointing or removing the Trust's auditor	
Approving or not the appointment of the Trust's chief executive	
Receiving the annual report and accounts and Auditor's report	
Representing the interests of members and the public	X
Approving or not increases to non-NHS income of more than 5% of total income	
Approving or not significant transactions including acquisitions, mergers, separations and dissolutions	
Jointly approving changes to the Trust's constitution with the Board	
Expressing a view on the Trust's operational (forward) plans	
Consideration on the use of income from the provision of goods and services from sources other than the NHS in England	
Monitoring the activities of the Trust to ensure that they are being conducted in a manner consistent with its terms of authorisation and the constitution	
Monitoring the Trust's performance against its targets and strategic aims	

How does this item support the functioning of the Council of Governors?

Governors must ensure that the Trust meets its statutory objectives and operates within the best interests of the public

Author of Report: Michelle Fearon

Designation: Director of Operations (System Improvement)

Date: 30th September 2020

Council of Governors

Date: 8 October 2020
Subject: Covid 19: Trust's Response
From: Beverley Murphy, Director of Nursing, Professions and Operations
Authors: Michelle Fearon, Director of Operations (System Improvement)

1. Purpose

<i>For approval</i>	<i>For a collective decision</i>	<i>To report progress</i>	<i>To seek input from</i>	<i>For information/assurance</i>	<i>Other (Please state below)</i>
				X	

This paper provides an update to Council of Governors on the Trust's management of the COVID-19 Pandemic. It builds on the previous report provided at the previous meeting.

2. Summary

Pandemic update

The UK's coronavirus alert level has recently been upgraded from three to four. It means transmission of the virus is now high, or rising at an increasing rate. The current epidemiology impacts are being felt by the younger generation which means at this current time, impact on NHS urgent and critical care services are not at the levels seen in the first wave. At the time of writing this report, the NHS national alert level is therefore at a level three.

Additional restrictions to control the spread of COVID-19 have been introduced by the Government. Local Authorities, since 18th July 2020, have powers to impose additional local restrictions, based on local data and trends. Sheffield is not currently subject to further restrictions; however, the Trust has been contingency planning for local lockdown arrangements.

Incident Control Centre & Command Structures

The Trust has retained its Incident Control Centre which is operational Monday to Friday 9-5pm and out of hours, via the Trust's on-call Executive and Senior Manager rotas. The Incident Control Centre connects with regional and national Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Resilience networks to disseminate all alerts, coordinate daily and exception reporting returns and briefs the Trust's Command Structures of policy, guidance/briefings in response to the pandemic's management.

The Trust has been required to retain its command structures since the pandemic's inception. Gold Command meets weekly, led by Beverley Murphy, and has the overall control of the Trust's response and use of resources. It is the main decision-making forum and connects with other Health & Social Care Gold Command structures.

Silver Command continues to meet 3 times per week and oversees the Trust's tactical and operational response following direction from Gold Command. Silver Command, led by Michelle Fearon, pays particular attention to the daily deployment of Trust resources and services to meet patient need during the pandemic. It also implements and assures compliance of patient and staff testing and safe working practices. It coordinates the assessment of risk, through a COVID19 Risk Register and anticipates the Trusts forward planning, reporting to Gold Command.

Trust Oversight

Staff Risk Assessments - The Trust has clear guidance on the offer and completion of individual risk assessments. These are made available to all staff. Our efforts have been focused on those most clinically vulnerable and from the BAME communities. Our recorded compliance currently stands at:-

Clinically Vulnerable	93% recorded
BAME Staff	88% recorded

Work is underway to ensure that all staff receive an individual risk assessment by end of December 2020.

COVID Building Risk Assessments – all of the Trust's premises have had a COVID risk assessment completed. The Trust has made, and continue to make, changes to our estate to protect our staff and patients. This has included a plan to eradicate dormitories and create isolation facilities on our acute wards; identifying maximum numbers of people to use rooms; using other areas of Trust estate to provide additional capacity for community teams and enabling our workforce with greater digital capability to plan and deliver care to our patients, where appropriate.

Support to Staff – the Trust continues to operate a professional helpline for anyone affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. From October Workplace Wellbeing will be offering lunchtime support sessions, which will be open to all staff via MSTeams. This will complement the existing Health and Wellbeing widget on the Trust's intranet and the COVID Support Hub.

Support to Patients – all of the Trust's health services are operating. As expected, the Trust are seeing an increase in demand to access crisis and urgent mental health services across the age range. Our teams are work together to flexibility deploy staff so they are in the right place, at the right time, to deliver the care to our patients. The Trust is also understanding the impact on waiting times for those teams that have either worked differently or have been unable to see patients in the same way during the first wave. Board will receive a report in October as to the impact for patient waits and plans to address increasing waits as part of our return to business as usual.

Outbreaks in the Trust

Birch Avenue Nursing Home	29 substantive staff and 4 bank/agency 11 residents
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