

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
PART 2 (COMMITTEE SESSION)**

**Notes taken from the formal minutes of the meeting of**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

**Vespasian House, Dorchester and via video-conferencing**

*In light of the Government's guidance to Stay at Home; Save Lives and our concern for the public's health, as well as that of our patients and staff, we have taken the decision to stand-down all public Board meetings until further notice. This is also in line with guidance from NHS England/Improvement. However, we remain committed to ensuring the Trust operates in an open and transparent way, and therefore we will provide summaries of the minutes of the closed Board meetings on the hospital's website.*

**Members Present:**

Alastair Hutchison (Medical Director)  
Paul Goddard (Director of Finance and Resources)  
Nick Johnson (Acting Chief Executive, and Director of Strategy, Transformation and Partnerships)  
Inese Robotham (Chief Operating Officer)  
Stephen Slough (Chief Information Officer)  
Mark Warner (Director of Organisational Development (OD) and Workforce)

**Members Attending Remotely:**

Mark Addison (Chairman)  
Sue Atkinson (Non-Executive Director)  
Judy Gillow (Non-Executive Director) (Vice Chair)  
Victoria Hodges (Non-Executive Director) (Senior Independent Director)  
Nicky Lucey (Director of Nursing and Quality)  
Ian Metcalfe (Non-Executive Director)  
Matthew Rose (Non-Executive Director)  
David Underwood (Non-Executive Director)

**In Attendance:**

Trevor Hughes (Head of Corporate Governance)  
Natalie Violet (Business Manager)

**Apologies:**

Patricia Miller (Chief Executive)

Nick Johnson provided a brief update on the impact of the pandemic locally; recognising the excellent leadership and judgement over the previous month that had resulted in the hospital being in a sound position; being able to continue to effectively respond to the pandemic and not having been overwhelmed. The considerable and sustained efforts of staff were also acknowledged.

Year-end performance had been discussed in detail at the committees of the Board and performance overall had been good with the trust achieving the Control Total and

urgent and cancer care services continuing during the crisis. Consideration was given to the benefits arising from changes in service delivery models which patients and staff would like to see continued when the pandemic was over.

Other discussion included on-going recruitment across a variety of staffing roles, the extension of testing for staff and family members, the nation guidance issued in respect to the potential increased risk to black, Asian and minority ethnic staff from COVID-19, increasing capacity of the Emergency Department and the increased use of digital technology to support clinical and non-clinical working.

Looking to the future, the Board discussed the need to continue to support staff and to plan for recovery from the pandemic; identifying the benefits and social value from changes in working practices. It was recognised that social distancing measures would need to continue for some significant time and consideration was given to the impact that this would have on recovery plans.

Following the circulation of the relevant papers, the Board took the following items without discussion:

- Integrated Performance Report
- Review of actions to reduce the management burden during the crisis in order to release capacity
- March Committee Minutes
  - Finance and Performance Committee
  - Quality Committee
  - Risk and Audit Committee
  - Charitable Funds Committee
  - Workforce Committee

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 via video-conferencing. This meeting will not be open to the public, but notes will be made available after the meeting on the hospital's website.