

**Minutes of:                   JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
FOR PENNINE ACUTE NHS TRUST**

**Date of Meeting:** 30 June 2020

**Present:** Councillor L Robinson (in the Chair)  
Councillors R Walker, S Smith, G McGill, N Briggs, R Surjan,  
L Hamblett, R Dutton, A Dearnley and Susan Smith.

**Also in attendance:** Simon Featherstone, Chief Officer, Bury Care Organisation  
Chloe Ashworth – Democratic Services

**Public Attendance:** No members of the public were present at the meeting.

**Apologies for Absence:**Councillor P Sullivan

---

**1                   APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

It was resolved:

Councillor Linda Robinson was appointed Chair for the Committee for 2020-2021 cycle.

Councillor Dorothy Gunther was appointed as Vice Chair for the Committee for 2020-2021 cycle.

**2                   DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3                   PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

Members of the public present at the meeting were invited to ask questions on any matter relating to the work or performance of the Pennine Acute NHS Trust. A period of up to 30 minutes was set aside for public questions.

There were no public questions submitted at the meeting.

**4                   COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY**

Simon Featherstone, Chief Officer, Bury Care Organisation spoke through a presentation at the meeting.

The Northern Care Alliance (NCA) brings together Salford Royal (SRFT) and Pennine Acute (PAT) Trusts, operating hospitals and community healthcare services in Salford, Oldham, Bury and Rochdale. Since the start of the pandemic we have been operating our Executive Gold and Silver level command and control structure across our hospitals to ensure we are responding to the needs of our staff, our services, and the patients and local communities we serve.

Changes outlined since the pandemic were as follows:

- Gold command established across NCA and across GM

- Expansion in critical care beds to support the sickest patients/cross NCA support
- Discharge of patients from hospital settings – a great response from integrated care teams across Bury, Rochdale, Salford and Oldham
- Successful and sustained procurement of PPE
- NHS staff returned to work at NCA
- Many volunteers recruited
- Donations of gifts received from many local and national organisations and distributed to staff
- Amazing staff response and commitment
- Clinical Advisory Group established that oversaw implementation of new clinical guidelines safely
- Some service moves required to keep patients safe from COVID-19
- National contract with Independent Sector supported capacity (Highfield, Oaklands, Spire and The Alexandra)

Throughout the presentation the Committee asked various questions on the topics discussed.

It was stated that over 11,000 staff and household members across the workforce had been tested for COVID-19. Councillor Srjan questioned who exactly this figure covered. It was confirmed this is Northern Care Alliance Staff and their families.

It was agreed:

1. All questions asked will be sent to Simon to provide written responses
2. Simon be thanked for his presentation.

## **5 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Further to Minute PAT.08, Councillor Briggs asked for his request of a breakdown in legal figures and information on solicitor's fees and insurances rises could be brought to the next meeting.

**It was agreed:**

1. That the minutes of the meetings held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 be approved as correct record.

## **6 WORK PROGRAMME**

It was agreed:

Future items for discussion at the committee were decided as follows:

1. COVID Recovery
2. Ambulance Services – Ability to cope throughout the pandemic including Hospital Transport
3. A&E Systems Update

**7            THANK YOU TO ALL NHS STAFF**

It was agreed:

The committee passed on a universal thank you to all NHS Staff for their tremendous work and risking their lives to help others.

**COUNCILLOR  
Chair**

**(Note: The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 11.47 am)**