
MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING – 22nd September 2020

Our 'virtual response' (as they stood in September 2020) to questions received immediately following publication of our series of [Annual Members' Meeting Key Messages \(film-clips\)](#) focused on our 2019/20 Annual Report & Accounts, and, 'Plans for the Future'.

Question: Has the Trust begun identifying one or more of its hospitals to become dedicated Non Covid institutions as requested by the Government?

Answer: Greater Manchester (GM) has identified COVID-secure sites in order to maintain elective programmes, the Trafford Hospital site (within MFT) is designated as one of these sites.

Question: Has preparation begun in readiness for a second spike?

Answer: MFT governance and oversight arrangements to support the management of the ongoing COVID-19 National Emergency, the recovery of critical services, and, planning for further likely phases of the COVID-19 pandemic has remained in place since early 2020.

A bespoke MFT Group-wide COVID-19 Strategic Meeting continues to be chaired by the Group's Chief Operating Officer and is attended by Group and Hospital/Managed Clinical Services/Local Care Organisation Executives and senior leaders. During September and into October/November 2020, and in response to growing numbers of COVID-19 in-patients, the COVID-19 Strategic Group has focused on MFT's response to the second peak in demand and activity; ensuring appropriate hospital & community escalation capacity plans are in place and responding accordingly.

Question: Will this satisfy the needs of people who require to continue their treatments with medical conditions like Stroke, Cancer and Heart Attacks should a second spike occur?

Answer: Each Hospital/Managed Clinical Service escalation capacity plans include key triggers for each level of escalation, and, the ongoing impact on the organisation's elective programme as the level of escalation rises. Plans throughout the Trust aim to balance the requirement for emergency / COVID-19 demand and maintaining the elective programme where possible.

The assumptions that underpin these plans include prioritisation of *Cancer* and *Clinically Urgent* patients, followed by those patients with the longest waits first and foremost.

ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING – 22nd September 2020

Our 'virtual response' (as they stood in September 2020) to questions received immediately following publication of our series of [Annual Members' Meeting Key Messages \(film-clips\)](#) focused on our 2019/20 Annual Report & Accounts, and, 'Plans for the Future'.

Question: The first presentation by the CEO stopped around 6 minutes in. I don't know if that is a problem with my computer or the presentation. During the part of his presentation that I could watch he talked about the challenges of the 1920's which is obviously a mistake and if he has time to re-record he might want to change that.

Answer: We are sorry to hear that you experienced difficulties in viewing the full film that we published (11 minutes 32 seconds). When our CEO is speaking about '19/20' he is referring to the financial year of 2019 and 2020. This is helpful feedback for when we produce future on-line video messages – thank you.

Question: Later in his presentation, the CEO mentions a clinical research organisation called Keygen (not sure how to spell it) and I wondered if there was information about this Company, including whether it is a private company, what their staff get paid, how they recruit etc, we have had a lot of experience recently with private companies. As a Trust we need to be assured that there has been a comprehensive and open assessment involving all stakeholders on our financial arrangements with potentially unsatisfactory contractors.

Answer: Qiagen Limited, is to be the sole tenant in our new facility named **Citylabs 2.0**

Our Trust does not have access to confidential information regarding the employees of tenants on our campus.

The Trust does not have any current clinical trials with the Company concerned, although the expectation is that these may commence when the Company takes occupation in Spring 2021. The Company also provides some diagnostic services to Saint Mary's Hospital.

Further information can be found on the following links:

<https://mft.nhs.uk/2020/07/14/next-stage-of-health-innovation-campus-takes-shape-citylabs-2-0/>

<https://www.qiagen.com/gb/product-categories/discovery-and-translational-research/>

ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING – 22nd September 2020

Our 'virtual response' (as they stood in September 2020) to questions received immediately following publication of our series of [Annual Members' Meeting Key Messages \(film-clips\)](#) focused on our 2019/20 Annual Report & Accounts, and, 'Plans for the Future'.

Question: Has the Nightingale Hospital been put on alert in readiness for use?

Answer: MFT has been working closely with the Greater Manchester and North West systems and the *North West Nightingale Hospital* is once again operational and supporting the second peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Question: The CEO recorded a second presentation. I don't think he needed to introduce himself as he did as he had already done so in the first presentation. His second message included information about the acquisition of the North Manchester Hospital Trust and about consultations with the public and other interested parties. I am keen to know whether staff and their trade union representatives are included in this consultation.

Answer: Updates and information on the Transaction are provided to North Manchester General Hospital (NMGH) staff every month through distribution of a Local Team Brief, and, through the 'live' Team Talk sessions.

MFT has had senior representation at every one of the 'live' Team Talk sessions for the last two years, and this has included presentations from a number of Group Executive Directors, sometimes attracting more than 100 participants .

The 'live' Team Talk sessions have been maintained despite the ongoing COVID-19 National Emergency, and are currently being undertaken on-line. As the Transaction date is getting closer (April 2021), it has been decided to put in place extra Team Talk sessions, so that staff can now be updated on a fortnightly basis.

As well as communicating directly with members of staff at NMGH, there has been close engagement with staff-side organisations (i.e. trade unions and staff associations). Initially, this communication was undertaken by senior managers at PAHT, but MFT managers are now directly involved in all of the normal staff consultation and negotiation mechanisms at NMGH.

Briefing sessions with all affected staff will commence this month and are expected to be completed by the end of December 2020. Local Managers have been provided with guidance and training on how to undertake these discussions, and they will be held in groups or individually, as appropriate. The discussion will inform staff members as to how the transaction affects them, and seek to understand their views and aspirations. Following this engagement process, there will be a formal TUPE consultation exercise.

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING – 22nd September 2020

Our 'virtual response' (as they stood in September 2020) to questions received immediately following publication of our series of [Annual Members' Meeting Key Messages \(film-clips\)](#) focused on our 2019/20 Annual Report & Accounts, and, 'Plans for the Future'.

Question: Every presentation properly praised the staff for their hard work and 'standing up to the mark' during the first wave of creating a bottle-Covid 19. I think it would be appropriate therefore for the Trust to confirm that there will be proper automatic increment progression as a thank you. As the Chairman stated, three staff members lost their lives and there is very likely to be a second wave of this virus.

Answer: As part of the new pay progression system, it was agreed that staff in post before 1st April 2019 would retain their existing pay step date (previously referred to as incremental date) and move automatically through their pay journey during transition (until 1st April 2021).

On their pay step date, they will automatically move to the next pay point reflecting their additional complete year of experience. During the COVID-19 National Emergency, the gateway is open so staff will automatically receive incremental pay progression if appropriate.

Question: One of the partners of the NHS is local GP practices. Many people across Manchester appear to struggle to get appointments, check-ups and advice. I would be grateful to understand what the Trust can do to improve this situation.

Answer: Whilst MFT works very closely with GP practices throughout Manchester & Trafford, particularly through the Local Care Organisation, we do not oversee the GP appointments process, this is the responsibility of Manchester Health & Care Commissioning (MHCC). We will share your feedback with MHCC.
