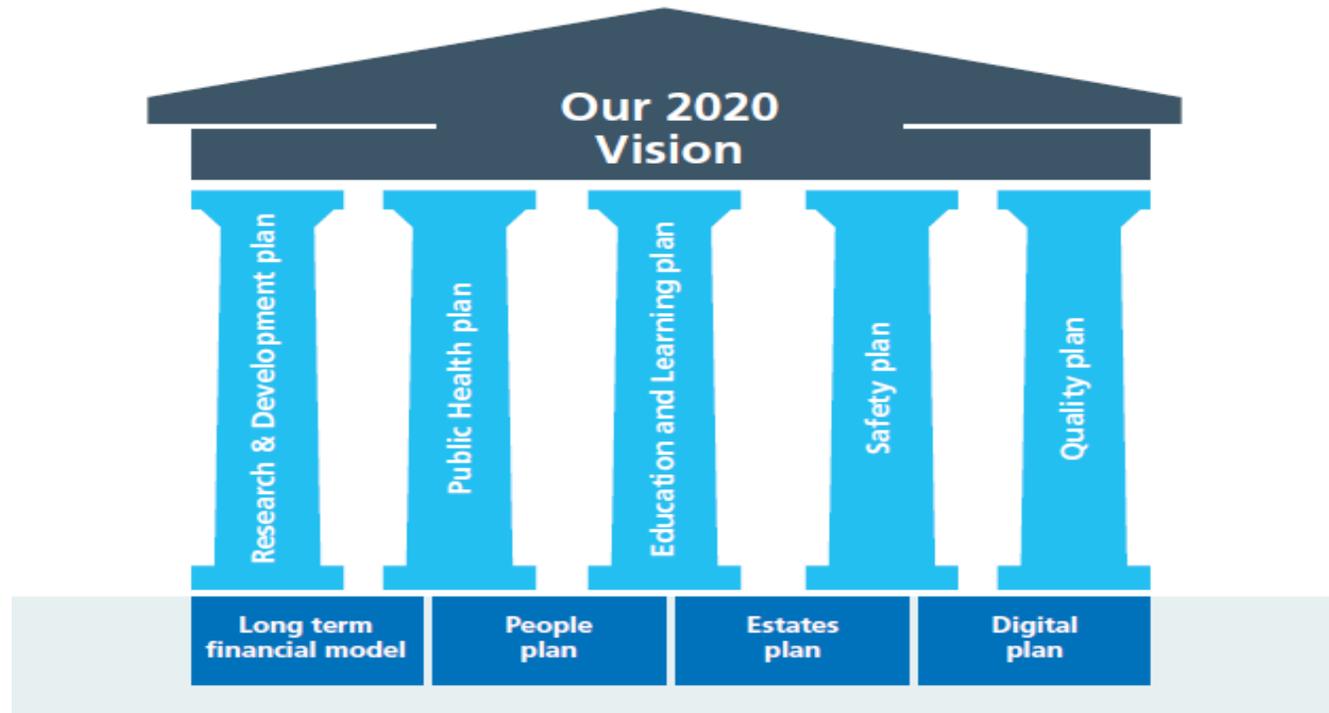


Welcome to SWB TeamTalk

WHILST MANAGING A PANDEMIC, KINDLY

Becoming renowned as the best integrated care system in the NHS...



TeamTalk Agenda

1.00pm: This month's priorities

1.15pm: End of year quiz

1:20pm: Covid-19: Second wave

1:35pm: Your questions answered

1:40pm: End of year quiz answers

1.50pm: Year in review

January priorities: Progressing the new Midland Metropolitan University Hospital

Work continues on the new hospital development in Smethwick with opening still scheduled for 2022. Balfour Beatty have adapted their working practices to meet Covid-19 restrictions to ensure that staff and contractors can work safely on the site.

- Colleagues have worked together to develop the MMUH acute care model recognising that the new hospital means many changes to clinical pathways and many new teams forming. Workshops have taken place in all clinical groups to identify the pathways that need to adapt.
- The Trust is also working with a number of different organisations to look at opportunities to develop the area surrounding the new hospital so that the whole area benefits from regeneration. This includes walking and cycling routes, consideration of a learning campus, community buildings and residential developments.
- Due to more stringent fire safety regulations the hospital has ensured that the options for cladding material have been re-tested. The composition of the final cladding is now selected with decisions to be made in respect of colour and finishing.

January 2020

January priorities: Progressing the new Midland Metropolitan University Hospital

Looking forward:

January to February

- Clinical groups set up MMUH governance structures
- Complete bed modelling and allocate wards by February
- Complete theatre activity modelling across MMUH and the treatment centres
- Start acute care transformation projects

April – May

- Recruit clinical and operational 'move' leads
- Start ordering equipment
- Start review of operational policies – i.e. how we will work in the building
- Review the order of services moves for the 'move in'

January priorities: ENGIE provision of facilities management for SWB from 5 April 2021

Following a tender process in 2019, the Trust has awarded the contract for hard facilities management (buildings maintenance, helpdesk, grounds and gardens etc.) to ENGIE.

- ENGIE are an experienced supplier of these types of services and already provide them to over 35 NHS organisations/hospitals across the country.
- All of the estates and facilities management staff who are affected have been communicated with about this change. Colleagues affected will TUPE into ENGIE and retain their existing terms and conditions.
- This means that from April you may experience a difference in how you make contact with the estates department. The staff will be the same but their employer will be ENGIE.
- We will share with you more information on the service that ENGIE provide for the Trust, how to make contact and what you can expect over the coming months.

For more information contact warren.grigg@nhs.net

January priorities: Getting ready for Brexit

The Trust is continuing to prepare for leaving the European Union following the transition period coming to a close on 31 December.

Message for EU colleagues

- All colleagues who are identified via ESR as being an EU national are being written to, confirming that your employment remains with the Trust and is unaffected by this change.
- However, in order to remain living and working in the UK, EU nationals must apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to acquire either settled or pre-settled status.
- The deadline for application is 30 June 2021. Further details are available at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

If you have a question or would like more information or help please email swbh-gm-hr-enquiries@nhs.net and put “EU Withdrawal” in the subject heading.

January priorities: Getting ready for Brexit

Supply of goods

- While significant work has been undertaken at both a national and Trust level to gain assurance from suppliers that they have prepared appropriately, nonetheless there is an inherent risk to all supply of goods that they may be held at ports for longer than currently.
- This delay is expected to be between 24 - 72 hours.
- It would therefore be sensible for all departments, for goods that you order yourselves and not through the materials management service, to take into consideration the expected delays and ensure that orders are placed 72 hours prior to when they usually would be.
- Trusts have been asked not to stockpile, so we shouldn't be looking to over-order above usual levels, just to take into consideration the potential delays.
- For key lines you purchase, it would also be sensible to consider the alternatives to those products, in case unforeseen supply issues occur and items need to be purchased elsewhere.

For more information please contact Mike Hanson, Director of Procurement at mike.hanson@nhs.net.

For everything Brexit at the Trust, please [click here](#) to visit our dedicated Brexit pages.

January priorities: Carrying over your annual leave

We recognise that during the pandemic, many colleagues have been unable to take annual leave, and have been very flexible to meet service needs during this challenging time. The Trust is extremely grateful for everyone's flexibility and commitment. However, despite the ongoing challenges, the health and wellbeing of our staff remains a priority and it is vitally important to us that you get the rest you need and the opportunity to spend time with loved ones.

- We continue to encourage all staff to plan how they intend to take their leave throughout the remainder of the financial year, i.e., until the end of March 2021, and to discuss and agree this with their manager by the end of December, if possible; this applies equally to all staff regardless of whether they are shielding, working remotely or in the workplace, and regardless of their role or banding.
- Colleagues who have different leave years (other than April – April) should also have the discussion with their line managers.
- The carry over of annual leave may be agreed, by exception, and managers will have the discretion to allow colleagues to carry over up to 10 days or two working weeks only.
- Managers will escalate any individual/local issues to the group director of operations for further consideration by the senior team.

End of Year Quiz

COVID-19: Second wave

COVID-19: Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust has been announced as the first site in the Black Country and West Birmingham to start administering the vaccination. The order in which people will receive the vaccine is decided by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) and they have advised that age is the single greatest risk of mortality from COVID-19. Patients aged 80 and above who are already attending hospital as an outpatient, and those who are being discharged home after a hospital stay, will be among the first to be vaccinated.

- Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust are working with care home providers to book their staff in to vaccination clinics.
- Appointments not used for these groups will be used for healthcare workers who are at highest risk of serious illness from COVID.
- SWB colleagues can now be booked in for some of these limited unused slots.
- Occupational health have contacted colleagues who were deemed very high or high risk as part of their COVID risk assessment.
- Colleagues will need an NHS Number to book – which you can find on any letter or document you have received from the NHS, including prescriptions, test results, and hospital referral or appointment letters. If you cannot find your NHS Number at home, you can ask your GP practice to help you.
- If you believe you are very high or high risk and have not been contacted by occupational health, you can contact the team on swbh.occyhealthcovidvaccine@nhs.net
- If you have not completed your COVID risk assessment you can still do so via this link <http://sw-web04/CovidRiskAssessment/CovidRA.aspx>

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust have produced guidance on the vaccination programme which you [can see on Connect](#). Further information is also available in the FAQs.

COVID-19: We still love Santa round here

Rest assured Christmas at SWB is not cancelled and we have arrangements in place to ensure that we celebrate safely this year.

Safe decorations this Christmas

Due to infection prevention and control, the traditional Christmas decorations we all enjoy each year cannot be put up as there are difficulties with cleaning them. However, we will be providing areas with laminated Christmas posters that are able to be cleaned.

Please do not:

- Bring in your own decorations
- Put any decorations up that are not laminated or cleanable

Please do:

- Restrict touching of posters other than for cleaning or moving only.

Christmas visiting

We are expecting to relax our visiting restrictions between 23 and 27 December, in line with government easing of restrictions over Christmas. However, this will depend on community cases and hospital COVID cases. Our visiting arrangements over Christmas will therefore be published nearer the time.

COVID-19: We still love Santa round here

Christmas food

- You must not share any food with colleagues due to the risks of spreading infections.
- As always, good hand hygiene should be maintained before and after eating.
- You must ensure social distancing in staff areas during breaks.
- A free takeaway Christmas brunch will be available for staff working on Christmas Day at our retail outlets. Please check Connect [here](#) for more detail on opening hours and how to claim.

Christmas services

Whilst religious services are normally a big part of the Trust's Chaplaincy over the festive period, like every other service they are restricted this year by Coronavirus, lockdown and the guidelines currently in place to keep us all safe. However, there will be a Christmas service, performed by our chaplain Rev Mary Causer.

Like so many gatherings it will be going virtual; with the service being broadcast on the Trust's YouTube channel and on the Chaplaincy service's Facebook page on Christmas Day with an expected live time of 9am. After which the video will be available on demand. Please keep an eye out through your regular daily bulletins for further updates nearer to the time.

COVID-19: Our IPC guidance has been updated

We have updated our guidance around PPE which includes clarification around when and where you should be bare below the elbows.

Amber and red posters displaying the new guidance have been produced and put up on ward doors.

Key changes to the guidance include:

- Colleagues carrying out a single Aerosol Generated Procedure (AGP), for example intubation, extubation, tracheostomy, suctioning or those having close contact with a patient, should wear a **single use gown with full sleeves** with a plastic apron over the gown. Please remove the gown after the task is completed.
- For sessional work within a VERY HIGH RISK area or an AGP area (for example D17), a sessional gown with **rolled up sleeves (BARE BELOW THE ELBOWS)** should be worn. Colleagues should wear a disposable plastic apron over the sessional use gown and change this in between patients. Please wash your hands and arms in between patients.
- Eye protection should be worn for sessional use in both Amber and High Risk areas.

COVID-19: Our IPC guidance has been updated

This guidance is for ward areas only (**not** critical care) and for patient-facing clinical colleagues.

- If you are visiting the ward from another area, a minimum requirement when entering the unit will be to wear a mask (please note: staff must follow their individual risk assessment for PPE).
- The new guidance must be followed so as we maintain strong infection prevention and control measures across all our sites.

You are able to view the full guidance on PPE [here](#), including a document which explains the new policy on PPE.

These are the new posters



COVID-19: Wellbeing – It's all about you

The organisation offers a range of services to help you manage your wellbeing

- **Stress risk assessments and mental wellbeing assessments** - Completing a simple confidential assessment can provide the opportunity to explore how you feel and how you feel about your working life. Simple to complete and supported by the wellbeing hub to guide you to accessing the wide range of feel good support. Look out for your email invite or complete now through the wellbeing pages on Connect.
- **Our NHS People** – This is a website providing support to NHS colleagues helping them to manage their own health and wellbeing whilst looking after others. The website has a range of useful tips and guidance www.people.nhs.uk
- **REACT** – The REACT process is a simple way that colleagues can look out for one another at work. Across the organisation staff members have had approximately four hours of training in how to have a wellbeing conversation with any colleague who wishes to have one. Although REACT isn't a form of therapy in itself, many people find a REACT conversation very helpful as it allows them to talk out loud about how their mental wellbeing is affecting their life and form a plan to try and improve things.
- **Wellbeing Sanctuary** - The sanctuary gives colleagues a chance to de-stress and relax in a confidential safe place. Bookings are available for a range of therapies including massage and meditation. Call 0121 507 5886.
- **Counselling** - Occupational health are able to arrange counselling . Please call them on extension 3306.

Further information about all these services is available on Connect.

Your questions answered

End of Year Quiz

How many did you get right?

Year in review