

Questions to Board in Public

Date of Board meeting in Public

Thursday 13 May 2021

The following questions have been submitted to the Board. Details of the questions together with the Trust response are shown below and an official response will be provided to the originator of the question and all copies on Friday 14 May 2021.

Question to the Board	Trust Response
<p>One of the very positive things to come out of the staff survey is greater Trust engagement with the workforce. But those staff who are working are effectively excluded from listening to Trust Board meetings. Similarly members of the public who might also be working are similarly excluded.</p> <p>When there was an issue with the sound on a previous virtual Trust Board Meeting, the meeting was uploaded onto YouTube, so clearly the technology to do this is readily available.</p> <p>Question: In the interests of inclusion would it be possible to uploading the public content of Trust Board meetings, with a link placed on the Trust's website, after each meeting?</p>	<p>We value this feedback and agree that our meetings should be open to all. We are working on a process to develop a method of recording that not only works when we are on a virtual meeting platform but will enable us to continue to record meetings for a later viewing when we return to face to face meetings.</p>
<p>Question: I appreciate it is difficult to give a precise percentage figure, but can the Board indicate approximately, when it comes to spending the £48m released to the Trust by the Treasury, what percentage will be spent on items specifically for St Mary's and on services to be delivered exclusively by St Mary's, and what percentage of the £48m, if any, will be given to partners, either on the island, or on mainland?</p>	<p>The IWNHST was successful in a bid that it put forwards for an additional £48m of capital to invest in supporting sustainable acute services for the IW. This bid was based on investing £30m in 'off-island' capacity, to benefit island patients, and a further £18m 'on-island' in buildings and IT. As a result of the evolving strategic partnership with Portsmouth and the desire to provide as many services as possible 'on-island' the £30m has now reduced to £10m and the £18m on-island investment has increased to £38m. It is this £10m which is being contributed to ensure improved resilience at the QAH site to care for Island patients.</p>
<p>Question: Way back on the 16th of March I made a FOI request FOI21 073 requesting to know what were the 30 conditions the IW NHS Trust needed to meet for the Treasury to release the £48m. The normal 20 day period for this information has long passed. Please would the Trust explain the delay?</p>	<p>Unfortunately the response to this FOI has taken longer than the 20 day response time due to the Trust having to work with NHSE/I on the level of detail related to the 30 conditions that should be released into the public domain. This has now been resolved and the information has been sent to the originator on 10 May 2021.</p>
<p>Question: One of the most staggering improvements is in ED Performance journey (pages 154 to 157), a positional jump from 29th out 31, in May 2020, to 1st place on the 21st April 2021!! How does the Trust account for such a dramatic change? Is it because fewer patients are being admitted into A&E? Is this a result of paramedics increasingly treating more and more patients in their own homes rather than admitting them to A&E? If so, is the Trust monitoring these patients, and their recovery rates?</p>	<p>Initially gains were made due to reductions in the number of patients presenting at ED and being admitted. This provided space to allow teams to rework all aspects of patients flow through the organisation. Significant changes were made with our discharge processes supported by community and social care which helped reduce lengths of stay. By reducing lengths of stay means that there are beds available for patients when they need admitting. This has stopped congestion within the ED department as patients no longer have to wait for a bed to become available. This means that the ED team have been able to redesign how they deliver care and have the capacity to see patients in a timely manner. Over the past month activity levels have returned to pre-covid levels, however ED performance continues to meet the required standard.</p>
<p>Question: The operational performance referral to treatment 18 weeks incomplete % (page 144), hovering around 55% this month and last month with a target of 92% seems worrying low, what might the reasons be for this?</p>	<p>The reason for the current performance against the RTT standard is due to the backlog created through lockdown. The Trust has a comprehensive plan to address this backlog however the backlog is so significant that the Trust does not anticipated meeting the RTT standard this year.</p>