

# Report to the Meeting of the

# Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

**BOD 12/2022**

(Agenda item: 7)

# Board of Directors

**30 March 2022**

**Memorandum of Understanding DRAFT – Oxfordshire NHS**

**Provider Collaborative for Integrated Care**

**For: Information and Approval**

**Executive Summary**

Oxford Health NHS FT and Oxford University Hospitals NHS FT have been working together to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to support closer working between the two trusts, enabling delivery of greater collective value for the Oxfordshire patients and communities.

This brief cover paper sets out the context for the MoU which follows. In March, both organisation’s Boards have been asked to provide any feedback on the draft MoU to enable the document to be finalised and signed on behalf of the Trusts by the Chief Executives in April 2022.

**Governance Route/Escalation Process**

This report has been prepared specifically for the Oxford Health NHS FT Board of Directors meeting of 30th March 2022 and the March 2022 Oxford University Hospitals Board of Directors meeting.

**Recommendation**

The Board is asked to provide any feedback on the draft MoU to enable the document to be finalised and then signed on behalf of the Trust by the Chief Executive over April 2022.

**Lead Executive Director: Nick Broughton, Chief Executive**

**Author: Ben Cahill, Strategy & System Partnerships manager**

1. *A risk assessment has been undertaken around the legal issues that this report presents and there are no issues that need to be referred to the Trust Solicitors*
2. ***Strategic Objectives/Priorities*** *– this report relates to or provides assurance and evidence against the following Strategic Priorities of the Trust:*

*1) Quality - Deliver the best possible care and health outcomes*

*2) People - Be a great place to work*

*3) Sustainability – Make best use of our resources and protect the environment*

**BACKGROUND**

Following a meeting between the two Trust Boards in December 2021, drafting of the MoU began in January 2022 building on discussions between Executive leads at the Trusts identifying options for collaboration of specific service areas. The MoU has been developed collaboratively by representatives from both Trusts, jointly led by the two Chief Executives, and will enable the two organisations to work together within a provider collaborative arrangement.

The MoU seeks to overcome historic barriers to joint working between the two Trusts through establishing a practical platform for collaboration. The development of the MoU aligns with NHS England & Improvement policy for NHS providers – specifically the development of Integrated Care Systems (due for formal establishment in July 2022) and ambitions for the creation of provider collaboratives.

**PURPOSE AND GOVERNANCE OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

The purpose of the MoU is to develop a practical platform for collaboration and integrated care, in particular to remove day-to-day barriers (such as workforce collaboration, use of estates, sharing data) that prevent the two organisations from working together more effectively to provide high-quality, person-centred care for patients and getting the best value from shared resources.

The MoU is structured around: a vision, principles, and priorities; a proposed shared work programme; and detail on key enablers such as governance, and confidentiality and data protection

The MoU identifies urgent care, end of life care as early priorities for collaboration and seeks to create momentum for any future areas of collaboration.

The MoU is not legally binding, and the Trusts will continue to operate within current governance frameworks. The only exception to this relates to confidentiality and data protection. Governance of the collaboration will evolve as required and Board will be kept informed of and engaged with any governance changes relating to the MoU.

**NEXT STEPS**

Subject to approval by both Trust Boards in late March 2022, the next steps for the MoU will be to be signed by the Trust Chief Executives over April 2022 and the development of a shared work programme for identified services and corporate enablers. Both Boards will receive updates on progress of the MoU and collaborative working later in 2022

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Board is asked to provide any feedback on the draft MoU to enable the document to be finalised and then signed on behalf of the Trust by the Chief Executive over April 2022.