



Jan's Weekly Update

Jan Ditheridge, Chief Executive

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Happy New Year

Are you still working your way through Christmas treats or has the healthy eating and exercise kicked back in. I'm certainly in the second camp and I've seen plenty of people out running, power walking or in gym kit despite the weather. Our office fridge also seems to be full of healthy soups, yoghurts and good carbs!

Urgent Care

It's been a really busy week in the system, our Acute hospitals are under a lot of pressure and our Urgent Care teams both in our Community hospitals and within our Community teams are very busy, supporting people to stay at home, or get home safely and promptly to make sure they have good outcomes and we create space for those who are ill.

We are seeing flu cases going up - please make sure you have had your flu jab if you haven't yet. I've asked the team to make it easy for you to get vaccinated if you need to be.

Some great news to start the New Year!

One of our staff has been named in the New Years Honours! Judith Haycocks an HCA at Whitchurch Community Hospital has received the British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to older people - I saw it in a reputable national paper over the New Year weekend. I won't go into detail because we're doing a piece in Inform, if Judith is happy with that. But what great news - Judith's name was sandwiched between some very senior nurses and doctors with big titles - a great and well deserved accolade for Judith, Health Care Assistants and community services in Whitchurch! Lovely news look out for the article on why this award was so well deserved.

I also learned that one of our members of the League of Friends, the Vice President, Margaret Veal also received an award in the New Years honours for her personal contribution to raising money and many other ways she has supported Bridgnorth hospital and community services locally.

On that note I also got to see the winners of our Staff Awards this year - top secret obviously but really pleased we had so many nominations. I'm looking forward to the event on 1st February 2018. All of you who have been nominated or won an award will be overwhelmed by what your nominators have said about you. Again all well deserved but really good we are taking time to celebrate the good things you all do.



And now it's Friday again

I'm meeting with our Board today - it's our first chance to discuss the bids for our new organisation together since we received them over Christmas, so I'm looking forward to that.

I'm then off to meet with other Chief Executives to discuss if there is anything else we can do to support the urgent care system while it's under so much pressure and then to Ludlow to join Holly Bowles and Catherine Shepherd at a meeting of the Health Forum, Chaired by Phillip Dunne attended by local community representatives.

I must now start the day.

So until next week

Jan Ditheridge
Chief Executive



You can contact me at: Jan.Ditheridge@shropcom.nhs.uk or on 01743 277688