

We are **caring**
one team
listening to understand
open and honest
always improving
inclusive

February 2021

Dear Colleague

A Heartfelt Thank You

Over the past 12 months, we have all felt the profound impact of the Covid-19 global pandemic on our lives, and there is no doubt that this has been the most challenging period ever known in the history of the NHS.

We wish to express our most heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your outstanding courage and tireless efforts during these unprecedented times.

We could not be prouder of our staff. We are humbled by your professionalism and compassion when caring for our patients and their families, as well as your support, warmth, and friendship to one another.

The pandemic has required us to respond creatively and do things differently. It has also reminded us how much we all rely on the work of others to keep our hospitals running. As Chairman and Chief Executive, we have been truly inspired by the innovation and teamwork that has been demonstrated within every ward and department - and across the entire Trust - as staff have responded to sustained periods of extreme pressure.

All of you have contributed in so many different ways to the fight against coronavirus, whether you have been on site, working from home or shielding.

This collective effort is an enduring example of what matters to us and the values we believe are important to **TeamUHD**.

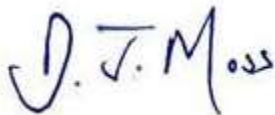
In response we are planning a **series of well-being events** throughout the summer/autumn of 2021, including access to a number of discounted leisure and wellbeing activities that will enable us to continue saying thank you.

In the meantime, we have pin badges as well as a refreshment token to use in our hospital restaurants that we hope you will accept as a small token of appreciation in recognition of your extraordinary service to UHD and the wider NHS during 2020.

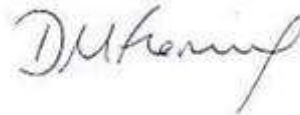
As we emerge from the worst of the pandemic and into a period of recovery, we will provide the space and support for staff to heal and ensure that time is set aside for collective learning and reflection. Our staff will be “front and centre” of our Trust’s recovery programme.

It is an immense privilege to be your Chairman and Chief Executive. We look forward to working alongside you as we build a sustainable and resilient future for all our staff, our patients, and the communities we serve.

With our very best wishes



David Moss
Chairman



Debbie Fleming
Chief Executive

