

# The Brief

May 2026



We are **recognised**  
and **rewarded**

Teaming up  
to tackle MSK  
strain



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NICU goes  
for gold



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Ready2Step  
team using  
TED



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Congratulations  
to our finalists



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*Our nurses. Our future.*  
**Celebrating Team UHD  
on International  
Nurses Day.**

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# The Brief



## Monday 11 May - spread the word

Please use this sheet to communicate the key messages from *The Brief*. Return your form to Siobhan Harrington, CEO, or email it to [uhd.communications@nhs.net](mailto:uhd.communications@nhs.net)

Update	Shared?
<p><b>UHD Staff Awards:</b> From a record-breaking 1200 nominations, we have now reached a shortlist! <a href="#">Head to page 8</a> for this year's finalists.</p> <p><b>International Nurses Day</b> is a way of highlighting global nursing solidarity and community, something that is so important for all professions in our NHS. Join us on 12 May for a series of panel discussions along with nursing award presentations. <a href="#">Find out more on page 5.</a></p> <p><b>New healthcare uniforms:</b> The roll-out of new uniforms across UHD will take place on Monday 11 May. <a href="#">See page 10 for more info.</a></p> <p><b>Thrive support for all:</b> Our transformation journey means a lot of change for staff, and that can impact us in all sorts of ways, but there's a wealth of help and resources available to guide you through. <a href="#">Find out more on page 14.</a></p> <p><b>Our UHD Charity</b> is launching a new version of its lottery to help us make an even greater impact for our patients and staff. To find out more, along with all their latest news, <a href="#">head to page 24.</a></p> <p><b>Transformation:</b> We hope to share a new timescale soon around the completion of the Coast Building at RBH which is central to the big moves, and alongside this we are continuing our winter planning to make sure our next steps are right for our patients and each other. <a href="#">See page 9.</a></p> <p><b>Procurement and logistics colleagues</b> from Dorset Healthcare and Dorset County Hospital have joined the Trust as part of our One Dorset Procurement Service. This will drive greater value through our procurement while standardising products and equipment.</p> <p><b>And finally...we welcome Dr Ian Sturgess</b>, who is supporting our improvement work across urgent and emergency care, to UHD. His role comes at a time of national investment to expand UTC and SDEC capacity, aimed at easing pressure on emergency departments and improving patient flow.</p>	

**Staff questions or comments (continue overleaf where necessary):**

**Department:**

**Signed:**

**Date:**

# Your University Hospitals Dorset

## An update from our Chief Executive, Siobhan Harrington



Welcome to your May edition of *The Brief*. As a nurse, May is always a special time for me as we celebrate both International Day of the Midwife and International Nurses Day, timed with Florence Nightingale's birthday.

These events are a way of highlighting global nursing solidarity and a real sense of community, something that is vitally important for all professions in our NHS. At UHD we'll be holding a series of panel discussions on Nurses Day as well as handing out our nursing awards - but what's important to highlight is that these also recognise our healthcare support workers, student nurses and midwives. That's because our nursing community doesn't thrive in isolation. It thrives on teamwork and learning,

something that anchors us here at UHD.

Just last week on bank holiday Monday we declared a critical incident when we lost power in our obstetrics theatres. This simply could not have been resolved without teams from a wide range of professions pulling together for our patients and each other.

Similarly, teams from across the whole of Dorset came together recently when three cases of meningitis B were confirmed around Weymouth, leading to a mass antibiotics and vaccination programme that was put together in a matter of days.

Teamwork is also a golden thread that runs throughout our record breaking 1,200 nominations for this year's UHD Awards. Our judges all commented on how the judging process was both humbling and inspiring.

So how can we harness the energy from this teamwork to support us through the challenges we face day to day?

Each month we hold senior development reviews with our care group teams and they always include celebration slides. They might include new initiatives that are already having a positive impact on patients, great feedback or accreditation received, service move successes, or staff development opportunities.

With that in mind, we've been looking at our publications and how we communicate key messages across UHD, learning from you and your feedback. *The Brief* will be timed to come out after the Board meetings every other month with key updates to share with your teams. Then in between each of these editions, our Comms Team will be launching '**The Brightside**', starting in June and celebrating Team UHD. Find out more on page 17.

So what would I include in a good news round up?

Looking at our performance, our elective activity continues to increase and we continue to reduce long waits. We are also achieving the target performance for two out of the three national cancer standards.

Our new national healthcare uniform launches today



across UHD, creating a unified approach to healthcare uniforms in England. My thanks to all the teams involved.

We've now welcomed procurement and logistics colleagues from Dorset Healthcare and Dorset County Hospital who have TUPE-ed into the Trust as part of our One Dorset Procurement Service. This will drive greater value through our procurement while standardising products and equipment.

And we also welcome Dr Ian Sturgess who is supporting our improvement work across urgent and emergency care. His role comes at a time of national investment to expand Urgent Treatment Centres and Same Day Emergency Care capacity, aimed at easing pressure on emergency departments and improving patient flow.



*We welcomed the BBC in to see one of our initiatives to improve our pathways in ED*

Getting this right is essential as we look ahead to our Poole Emergency Department moving over to RBH, and us completing our reconfiguration. We hope to share a new timescale soon around the completion of the Coast Building at RBH which is central to the big moves, and alongside this we are continuing our winter planning to make sure our next steps are right for our patients and each other.

For planned care, we're working with our system partners to look at how we use our collective expertise to build resilient services that meet increasing demand, tackle unequal access and outcomes, and enhance value for money.

And we have teams working hard to shine a spotlight on Dying Matters, Deaf Awareness, Mental Health and Dementia Action this May alone, as well as marking National ODP Day and National Staff Networks Day.

All of this work grows from a clear cycle of listening, taking action in our teams and feeding back how things are going. As Florence Nightingale said, "We must be learning all of our lives..." It's something I do every day working here as part of #TeamUHD.

Thank you for everything,

*Siobhan*

## Vital statistics April

- We saw **44,837** patients in our outpatient departments
- ...and an additional **9,143** virtually
- Carried out **1,825** day case procedures
- Supported the birth of more than **300** babies
- Attended to **15,796** patients in our emergency departments
- Cared for **189** patients at the end of their lives
- Started **218** patients on their radiotherapy journey

Thank you **#TeamUHD**

# Our nurses, our future - celebrating Team UHD



Be a great place to work

Held on 12 May each year, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth, International Nurses Day serves to raise awareness and celebrate the nursing profession.

This year's theme, announced by the International Council of Nurses (ICN), is *'Our Nurses. Our Future: Empowered Nurses Save Lives.'* For more information, [head here](#).

Here at UHD we'll be holding a special event on Tuesday 12 May, 9am-12noon, featuring a series of panel presentations and inspiring conversations from nursing colleagues across the Trust. You can join us live in the RBH Lecture Theatre or on [Teams](#). For the full agenda, [click here](#).

The event will also see our Chief Nursing Officer, Sarah Herbert, present a number of CNO Awards to nursing colleagues who have gone above and beyond in their role, so please do join us if you can to celebrate excellence in nursing at UHD.

International Council of Nurses



**OUR NURSES.  
OUR FUTURE.**

**International Nurses Day 2026**

**Empowered Nurses Save Lives**



# Celebrating excellence in nursing

Ahead of International Nurses Day on 12 May, here's a few inspirational stories from some of our Team UHD nursing community.

## **Karen Fernley** Senior Matron for Child Health

*At the age of 17 I was nearing the end of my college studies in economics, English and sociology with a view to going into a career in banking, but decided on a whim to do work experience on the Children's Unit in Poole Hospital.*



*I was very timid and shy but the experience of volunteering on the unit inspired me to pursue a career working with sick children and their families. **I never thought some 48 years later I would be proud to be the Senior Matron on the same Children's Unit!***

*Having worked in London for six years, undertaking a joint adult and children's nursing training in Westminster, I returned to Poole and as my career progressed, I now feel privileged to be leading the nursing team overseeing nursing care of sick children.*

*The unit includes not only bespoke inpatient services but also a dedicated 24/7 Children's Assessment Unit, a High Dependency Unit, a Children's Day Care Unit, and Children's Outpatients. Parallel to our evolving inpatient services has been the development of our dedicated Children's and Young People's Community and Specialist Nursing Service including our Hospital at Home service.*

*Children's nursing skills have extended to include complex technological support, both in hospital and at home, but the core skills of compassionate and holistic child centred care remain integral to care and are the values that drew me to nursing children all those years ago.*

*For me, education and training provide the foundations to continue building the children's workforce fit for the future and we are pleased to be supported by a fantastic Children's Education Team.*

*As we now await our move to the new Children's Unit at RBH I remain as passionate about children's nursing as I did when I first started and would encourage others to take this journey - **it will be a fabulous adventure.***

## **Daniel Fry** Charge Nurse Ward A28 Right, RBH

*This Nurses Day, I am reflecting on my journey from a healthcare assistant to a registered nurse.*

*The path from HCA to registered nurse would not have been possible without the incredible support and belief of my colleagues at all levels. I have had the absolute pleasure of working with so many inspiring nurses that have shown me the strength of character, compassion and kindness required to be an effective nurse, and have helped shape my career by sharing their valuable knowledge with me.*

*I am deeply grateful for their mentorship, past and present, and for seeing my potential and allowing me to transform from a supportive HCA into a clinical decision maker.*

***Thank you for nurturing my passion and helping me become the nurse I am today.** I am incredibly proud to be a nurse and only hope that I am able to inspire and support others to achieve their goals like my mentors did for me.*



## Adeola Adegoke

### Nurse and Anaesthetic Practitioner, Poole

*From a young age, I developed a passion for helping others and bringing comfort to those in distress. I was encouraged by my father to pursue nursing; a decision that gradually became a deeply fulfilling calling for me.*

*Over the years, I have gained experience across various areas of nursing, including paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, medical and surgical wards, outpatient care, emergency care and anaesthesia, as well as nursing education and leadership. This broad exposure has shaped my skills and perspective, preparing me for diverse clinical and professional responsibilities.*

*In 2022, I began my journey to the UK. I joined UHD in June 2023 as a Staff Nurse in PACU, where I had the opportunity to work with a supportive and dedicated team, focusing on patient recovery after anaesthesia and managing post-operative care needs.*

*My growing interest in anaesthesia led me to further training, and I was privileged to transition fully into the role of an anaesthetic practitioner. I find great fulfilment in supporting patients through their surgical journey, helping to ease their fears before procedures and caring for them as they recover safely afterwards.*

*While challenges can arise, especially in areas like pain management, **collaboration and persistence make it possible to achieve positive outcomes for patients.***

*I encourage anyone aspiring to join the nursing profession to remain focused and determined. The journey may not always be easy, but with a positive mindset, it is certainly rewarding. Beyond my professional life, I enjoy writing, singing and dancing, and I am proud to serve as a UK nurse of African origin.*



## Andrea Lucas

### BEAT Practice Educator and Professional Nurse Advocate

*Coming into nursing in my early 40s and qualifying at the outset of the Covid-19 pandemic shaped both my confidence and perspective in ways I could not have anticipated. Beginning my practice during such an intense and uncertain time required rapid adaptation, sustained resilience, and the ability to support patients and families who were often frightened and isolated.*

*A few years after qualifying, I discovered I am neurodiverse, which gave me a new framework for understanding myself. It helped me make sense of how I think, learn, and respond in demanding environments. My brain works differently, and I recognise that this is not a limitation. Traits I once viewed as challenges, such as overthinking, heightened sensitivity, and a strong need for structure, also bring clear strengths to my nursing practice. They contribute to my attention to detail, empathy, persistence, and ability to anticipate patients' needs.*

*Looking back, what once felt like "difference" in thinking or communication now feels like a set of strengths that I consistently draw upon in nursing. **My attention to detail helps me notice subtle changes in patients and colleagues that might otherwise be missed.** My ability to focus deeply enables me to remain calm and methodical in complex or high-pressure situations.*

*In many ways, navigating healthcare settings has reinforced the importance of clear communication, great teamwork, and the value of diverse thinking styles within clinical teams.*

*Despite ongoing pressures within healthcare, teams in UHD continue to support one another, adapt, and find ways to deliver compassionate care in demanding circumstances.*

*I'm proud to contribute to this both in my role as a Practice Educator, helping to shape the future workforce, and as a Professional Nurse Advocate, supporting colleagues through the changes and challenges we face.*



# UHD Awards 2026

Congratulations to all our finalists in the UHD Awards 2026! From over 1,200 submissions, our multidisciplinary judging panel came together and had the difficult job of creating a shortlist for our awards categories.

## One Team

- UHD Endoscopy Teams
- Treatment Investigation Unit
- Security Team RBH
- UHD Mortuary services

## Support Staff Member of the Year

- Susan Murphy, Clinical Measurement Department
- Valarie Hodgkyns, A9L RBH
- Viktorija Pereira, Catering RBH
- Lisa Comfort, A27L RBH

## Inclusive

- Emma Wicks, Breast Cancer Nurse Specialist
- Tessa Vaughan, Education
- Homeless Care Team
- Lixia Wang, A24 RBH

## Patient Choice

- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Rob Wiltshire, AMU
- Jason Bowie, Cancer Care
- Fiona Hignett, Child Health

## Clinician of the Year

- Sam Dell, Maternity
- Georgios Tskolas, Macular Department
- Dr Sarah James, Older People's Services
- Jessica Wiggins, Anaesthetics

## Open and Honest

- Aquila Arokiadas, Education
- Emma Jones, Clinical Measurement
- Ben Higgins, Finance
- Jane Bruccoleri-Aitchison, Communications

## Volunteer of the Year

- Ernest Dobson
- Jackie Ree
- Christine Moyes
- Andy Shaw
- David Bacall

## Always Improving

- Ellie Bradford, Gynaecology
- Vaccination in Pregnancy Team
- UHD Recruitment Team
- Jerald Saligumba, Cancer Care

## Above and Beyond

- David Stephenson, Dementia and Delirium
- Allysha Weston, Play Team
- Steve Hammond, Environmental Control
- Oisín Conroy, Emergency Department



A big thank you to our judges for their time and commitment. The final placings will be revealed for the first time at the awards evening on 11 June. After the ceremony we will publish everyone's nominations. Good luck to everyone on the night!

## Caring

- Laura Johns, Therapies
- Emilia Sims, B4
- Cheryl Richardson, Cardiology
- OASIS Team

## Partnership

- Juliet Browning, Youth Worker Service
- British Red Cross and Transfer of Care Hub
- Sharni Carr and Emily Briston, Domestic Abuse Advocates
- Careers and Apprenticeship Team

## Listening to Understand

- Coordinators and Administrators of the MS Service
- Amy Beauchamp, UHD Charity
- Safeguarding Team
- Medicine and OPS Rota Coordination

## Leadership

- See Inn (Jasmine) Toh, Surgical Assessment Unit
- Helen Parker, Speech and Language Therapy
- Katrina Jones, Endoscopy
- Joseph Hinlayagan, Surgical SDEC

## Digital Improvement

- Burcu Senoglu, Cellular Pathology
- Dr Suzannah August and UHD Dermatology Advice
- Cameron Dent, Upper GI RBH
- Jen Vickers, IT



Be a great place to work



We are **recognised** and **rewarded**

# New surgical robot arrives at Poole

We have received a brand-new surgical robot at Poole Hospital - the Da Vinci 5 (DV5), making UHD the first Trust in the South West to have access to this state-of-the-art technology.

The DV5 is one of the most advanced surgical robots available in the world, introducing new Force Feedback technology - the first of its kind.

It also features more than 150 design innovations and 10,000x the computing power of the previous model.

UHD now has three surgical robots in total, with two at Poole Hospital and one at RBH.

This is a significant milestone in the advancement of the robotics programme at UHD, which was made possible by securing national funding, as well as generous support from our UHD Charity Team.

Thank you to everyone who was involved in this piece of work.



## Benefits of robotic surgery

An additional 300 patients per year will now be able to benefit from robotic surgery.

Approximately 70% of these will be cancer patients.

Some of the benefits of robotic surgery include:

- reduced surgery times, therefore reduced waiting times
- improved recovery times, therefore reduced length of stay
- improved clinical outcomes for patients, reducing re-admissions
- improved theatre utilisation through our dedicated robotic hub, with specialist robotic teams
- improved ergonomics for surgeons, improving working conditions
- alignment with the Government's 10 Year Health Plan and national guidance for best practice

## Next steps

Following installation and staff training, the team hopes to start using the new robot by the end of May 2026. You can find out more about the robot [here](#).



## Join our Ask Me Transformation Special

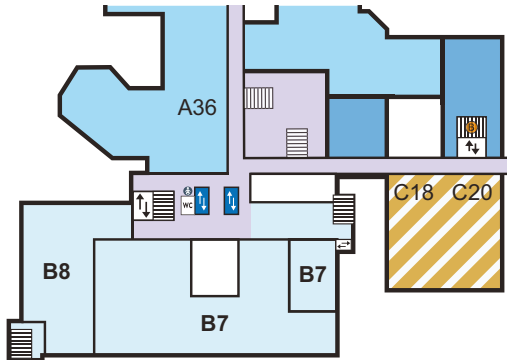
Join us on **Thursday 21 May, 12-1pm**, for our Ask Me Transformation Special, hosted by our Medical Director for Strategy and Transformation, Dr Isabel Smith.

It's a great opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns or share your views about all things transformation, in an informal setting. You can pop any questions in advance to [uhd.communications@nhs.net](mailto:uhd.communications@nhs.net)

# Rest space for all at RBH

There is a staff rest room on Level 1 of the BEACH, just a short walk from the Atrium. It has tables and chairs for dining at and comfortable high back seating for relaxing. Plus, a large television, Wi-Fi and adjustable/dimmable lighting.

From the Atrium just follow the wayfinding signage for B8 and you'll see it on your left, on the corner before the double doors. Access is via your ID badge. Location: 25.1101.



# New uniform launch

The launch of the new national healthcare uniform across UHD will take place on **Monday 11 May**.

A big thank you to the uniform, logistic and corporate nursing teams for their efforts over the past few weeks to ensure all staff have had the opportunity to receive their new uniform.

If you have attended a sizing event over the past few weeks and are having your uniform ordered, you will be contacted when this arrives to the Trust.

The new standardised uniform will apply to all staff in uniformed roles in the following groups:

- Nursing and Midwifery
- Additional Clinical Services
- Additional Prof Scientific and Technic
- Allied Health Professionals
- Healthcare Scientists
- Students (not including students via external organisations)

## Delay to the launch of white therapist tunics

As previously shared, there is an issue with the white therapist tunics. Following discussions with therapy leads, physiotherapy and occupational therapy staff across the Trust, it has been decided to pause the launch of the new uniform roll-out for these staff groups.

We will continue to engage with these colleagues, NHS England, and the supplier of the uniform over the coming months to ensure a suitable, alternative tunic is provided. Please continue to wear your current tunics or polos in the interim while this solution is worked through.





[Click here to learn more](#)

## Endoscopy Team launches Improvement Huddle

The Endoscopy Team at RBH has launched their Patient First Improvement Huddle, creating a dedicated space for staff to identify risks, share ideas, and drive continuous improvement in patient care. Although the huddle is still in its early stages, it is already generating practical, safety-focused changes that are making a real difference.



### Improvement idea: Strengthening safety in the discharge area

One of the first issues raised was a patient-safety concern in the discharge area, where only one registered nurse had been allocated. When that nurse needed to leave the area to complete discharge paperwork, the risk to patients increased significantly. To address this, the team has now allocated two staff members to the discharge area at all times. This ensures that one nurse can remain present and observant while the other completes essential tasks, reducing risk and improving patient oversight.

### Improvement idea: Reducing vaso-vagal risk in admissions

The team is also exploring the introduction of special reclining chairs in the admissions area. These chairs are already used effectively in similar clinical environments to reduce the risk of vaso-vagal episodes, offering safer positioning and quicker recovery for patients who may become faint. Learning forms have been submitted to support this improvement, and the team is working through the next steps to bring this equipment into the department.

### Improvement idea: Improving access to medication cupboards

Another practical improvement focuses on reducing delays when accessing the main drug cupboard. Currently, staff must locate a master key set when topping up medication, which can interrupt workflow and cause unnecessary waiting. The team is now looking to create additional copies of key items from the master set and attach them to individual room keys. This simple change will streamline access, reduce time waste, and support smoother patient flow.

## 5s in the Workplace and Standard Work: Organising and reviewing legacy documentation

The team has also identified the need to review the store cupboard containing over 10 years of archived CD books and room procedure books. Before reorganising the space, the team will confirm the correct retention periods - particularly as some documents may require extended storage due to potential CJD-related considerations.

Once confirmed, the team plans to implement a rotating filing system to ensure the cupboard remains organised, compliant, and easy to navigate when historical information is needed.



## Next steps: Tackling inefficiencies and waste on the inpatient list - looking at what adds value.

The huddle has also begun gathering slips highlighting inefficiencies on the inpatient list. These will be reviewed in upcoming sessions to identify further opportunities for improvement.

While the team describes these early changes as *“nothing really big yet,”* they represent exactly what the Patient First approach is about: frontline staff identifying real issues, taking ownership, and making meaningful improvements that enhance safety, efficiency, and patient experience.

The Endoscopy Team’s commitment to continuous improvement is already clear, and this huddle is set to become a valuable driver of positive change across the department.

Find out how Patient First can make an improvement to your team [here](#).

# Putting patients first - improvement starts with you

Patient First is a practical improvement approach that helps everyone working in the NHS make care better, safer and easier.

Whether you’re patient-facing or working in a support or enabling role, you can spot problems, test simple changes and make day-to-day work run more smoothly.

## Day-to-day Patient First Improvement System (PFIS) Training

This one-day course is ideal if:

You already have Improvement and Driver Boards in your area (physical or virtual), and colleagues in your team have attended PFIS training previously.

You can self-enrol via ESR. [153 UHD Patient First Everyday Improvement](#)

There are multiple dates available, so you can choose what works best for you.

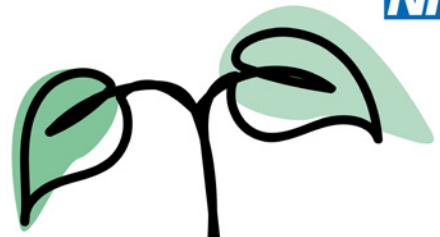
The day:

- 9am-4pm, with breaks included
- Lunch isn't provided, but the Fairway Café is open from 9am-2pm
- Christchurch Hospital - Patient First Improvement Hub

What we'll cover:

- Lean ways of working
- Identifying waste using the Waste Wheel
- Standard Work
- Visual Management
- Improvement Huddles
- Driver Boards
- 5S

If you're looking to build confidence in improvement and make everyday work easier, this training is a great place to start.



People Promise

We are **always learning**

## Waste Wheel

- Defects
- Over production
- Waiting
- Non-utilised intellect
- Transportation
- Inventory
- Motion
- Excess processing

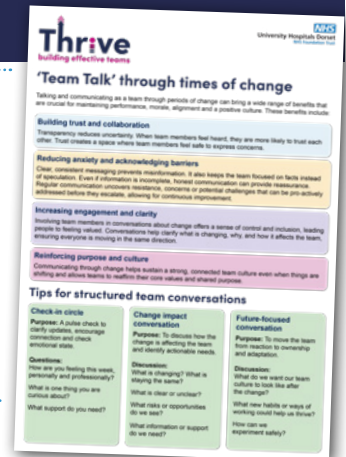


Working through times of change and uncertainty can impact people in lots of different ways. It is important that we all feel able to effectively support ourselves and others through this period of transition. One way of doing this is to stay informed by checking our [Trust communications](#) and sharing them with your colleagues. Below is a summary of other resources available to help you. Please share this with your colleagues.

## Support for all staff

### Team development resources [Click here](#)

These one-pagers give you tips, ideas, and information about a range of topics, including celebrating success, team problem solving, and team effectiveness. These bitesize resources are a great way to strengthen relationships, have insightful conversations, and reflect on your team together.



### Coaching [Click here](#)

Coaching provides a safe space to proactively talk through work-related matters. Our trained coaches will help you to reflect on different perspectives and possibilities and consider your next steps. Coaching is self-directed, meaning that a coach uses a variety of tools and techniques to support you to work through your own challenge.

### Navigating change [Click here](#)

This e-Learning will help you feel confident and capable to support yourself and others through periods of change and uncertainty. It will also encourage you to reflect on your own reactions to change and help you apply your learning to your personal experiences. There are follow-up slides that can be used as a whole team to collectively reflect on the learning and plan next steps. [This resource also has tips to help you.](#)



### Health and Wellbeing [Click here](#)

During transformational change, it is normal to feel a whole range of emotions, including uncertainty, anxiety, frustration or feeling overwhelmed. However, it is important that you reach out for support if you feel persistent anxiety or low mood, struggle day-to-day, experience sleep problems or physical stress symptoms, feel isolated or unable to cope. You can access help through [Occupational Health](#), [VivUp](#), and the [Psychological Support and Counselling Service](#). You can also find the full list of internal and external support [here](#). If you notice these symptoms in a colleague, please encourage them to seek support.



We are **safe** and **healthy**

# Support for team leaders

## Leadership resources [Click here](#)

Our leadership resources include some useful tips and self-reflective exercises for a variety of topics, including resilience and conflict resolution. Our [Leadership Behaviour Framework](#) self-assessment tool can support you to think about your strength areas and areas that you might want to develop further.



## Team development toolkit [Click here](#)

If you would like to self-facilitate team development sessions, we have created a toolkit with exercises, resources, and guidance on how to design and run a successful session. Encouraging you to think about your team purpose and objectives, you will be supported to build a session tailored to the needs of your team.



**TED tool** [TED \(Team Engagement and Development\)](#) is a continuous improvement approach designed to help teams take control of their own engagement. At its most basic level, it is a diagnostic survey that prompts structured team conversations about the issues that are important to them. Team leaders would be required to attend an initial two hour online training session where they will find out more about how to use the tool with the teams and get set up on the platform.



Many teams across UHD are now using TED. **The Ready2Step team** share their experiences so far...



### What felt different about conversations once you started using TED?

*They felt much more open and honest. TED gave us a way to bring up some deep-rooted issues that had been sitting in the background. Even though some of the conversations were tough, they were necessary, and we wouldn't have been able to move past those issues without them.*

### What would you say to another team thinking about using TED during change?

*Don't be afraid to try it or to tackle the bigger issues. TED helps you clearly see where support is needed and what needs addressing, and it gives you the structure and tools to work through those challenges constructively.*

### What has changed in the team since using TED?

*The team works much more collaboratively. People support each other more, communication is stronger, and it genuinely feels like a great team to work in.*

### If you had to describe the value of TED in one sentence, what would you say?

*TED is invaluable - our team has shown so many improvements since we started using it, and it has helped us grow much stronger, more open, and more supportive as a team.*

# Teaming up to tackle MSK strain

Colleagues from our Musculoskeletal (MSK) Occupational Health team have been working with our Ultrasound Department to help reduce MSK strain and improve comfort for staff when scanning.

The team has been working with the Sonography Team to deliver practical workshop sessions focused on posture, movement, and environmental setup. These sessions help staff recognise posture risks and have the opportunity to practice small adjustments that can make a noticeable difference for day-to-day comfort.

**Sarah Jenkins**, Ultrasound Clinical Lead, said:

*“The input from Helen and the team has been invaluable in helping the Ultrasound Team become more aware of*

*risky postures, how to protect themselves from work-related MSK injuries and steps they can take to relieve aches and pains before they become chronic.*

*“The sessions with the physios were really enjoyable as well as informative.”*

Early feedback has been very positive, with sonography staff reporting increased confidence in safer working practices:

*“It was great to have reminders of posture and I have been much more aware of mine today so thank you again.”*

*“The best thing about the sessions was having the opportunity as a group to share experiences, and comparing how we sit/stand which might influence RSI.”*



**Anne-Marie Shepherd**, OH MSK Physiotherapist, said:

*“Staff have engaged brilliantly. It’s been great to work alongside our sonography colleagues, and a real insight into higher risk clinical tasks.”*



We are **safe** and **healthy**



# Always look on The Brightside

There is so much to celebrate here at UHD. From new initiatives that are having a positive impact on patients, to staff development opportunities, service move successes, individual awards and team accreditations - good news flows through our Trust constantly, and it's time for us to share your stories more widely.

In June, we'll be launching *The Brightside*, a new magazine inspired by the themes of the NHS People Promise. It will be dedicated to shining the spotlight on your news and

achievements, showcasing the very best of Team UHD.

*The Brightside* will come out every other month, with *The Brief* appearing in between to time with our Board meetings, ensuring you get the most up-to-date information to share with your teams.

So, if you're proud of a project, pleased with patient feedback, part of an innovative new idea, or celebrating your long service to our hospitals, we want to hear from you!

Drop us an email to [uhd.communications@nhs.net](mailto:uhd.communications@nhs.net) and we'll be in touch.



## People Promise



## Green UHD

# Green success for Forest Holme

Forest Holme Hospice has received the Greener Palliative Care Silver Award, recognising its commitment to reducing environmental impact while delivering high-quality, compassionate care. It is currently the only organisation to achieve silver status, with the award presented at the Palliative Care Congress in Brighton.

The hospice's staff-led Green Group has introduced practical changes including reducing unnecessary glove use, improving energy efficiency through automatic lighting, and using recycled materials for charity running vests.



# Get rewarded for your sustainable efforts

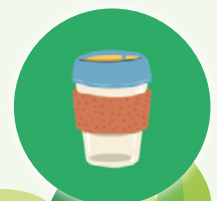
[Ecoearn](#) is our website and app that rewards positive, earth-friendly actions. Record your sustainable actions, earn 'green points', and compete against colleagues to earn prizes such as vouchers from Love 2 Shop, Cherry Tree Nurseries and more.

You can earn points for using your reusable cups, taking outside breaks, cycling to work, or calculating your carbon footprint.

Ecoearn offers an excellent opportunity to be rewarded for making positive changes in your life. [Join online now](#) or search 'EcoEarn' on your app store.



Use every NHS pound wisely



# NICU goes for gold

## Congratulations to our NICU Team on achieving the Gold Clinical Accreditation Award.

The review panel commended the whole multidisciplinary team's welcome for their family centred, joined up care and connectivity both within and external to UHD.

Key highlights were the award-winning creative work with parents, collaborating with Maternity colleagues to focus on keeping mum and baby together in the first hour of life. Although there were some small areas found for improvement, it is clear that the team is working at a high standard and striving to improve on the care they deliver.

The accreditation panel also noted:

There is **strong leadership at all levels** with a focus on a learning and empowerment of staff rather than a 'blame culture'. Small lives really do matter to this team as does enabling parents to be parents, supporting families to leave hospital confident in managing their lives together.

The number of Patient Choice nominations for this year's UHD Awards is one demonstration of how much the NICU Team is valued.

Despite huge changes in the last year since the move to the new site and unit as well as some significant challenges, the team was able to articulate their pride in how they have adapted and thrived, not just survived. Going forward it is important to ensure that the evidence of all the great work being undertaken is documented and can be easily found by internal and external reviewers.

**The collaboration, communication, cohesion, mutual respect and inclusive team working across the whole NICU workforce, clinical and non-clinical is a shining example. To read the full report, [click here](#)**



We are **recognised**  
and **rewarded**



# Fundamentals of Care



As part of our Fundamentals of Care Project, we recently held a patient engagement event sponsored by our Chief Nurse, Sarah Herbert, and facilitated by Vivian Alividza, Deputy Chief Nurse, to hear directly from our patients.

Patients, carers and loved ones shared their stories and explained to us what matters most to them when in our care,

reminding us how important it is to actively listen, show compassion and treat people with dignity.

Their feedback will help shape our work in the Fundamentals of Care Project and strengthen the way we deliver person-centred care every day in our hospitals.



## Learn at Lunch: How to complete an adult safeguarding referral form 14 May at 12.15pm

Join Christina Peacock and Lisa Midgley to find out more...



See the intranet for the Teams link

Save lives, improve safety

# Art Space: Art in our maternity and neonatal wards



Thanks to support from local talent, we're delighted to share a meaningful project that's transforming our Maternity and Neonatal environment at RBH.

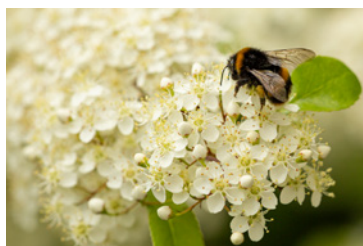


Families are taking moments to pause, and staff are benefiting from a more uplifting environment.

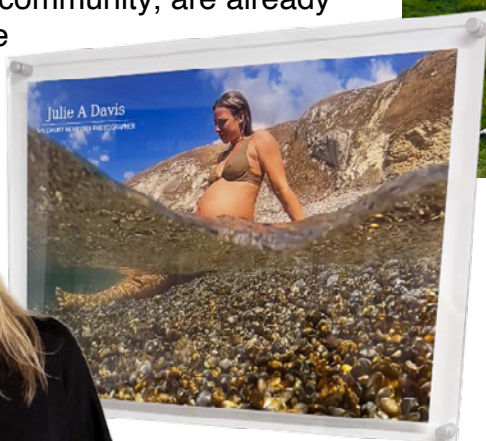
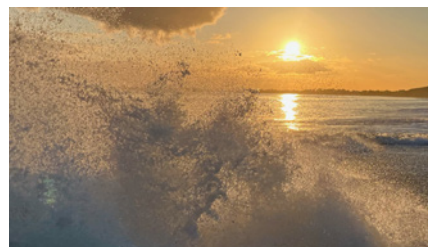
Julie worked in close collaboration with staff leads and UHD Arts Manager, Laura Joy, to ensure the parents and babies featured reflect the diversity of our service users at UHD and also incorporate the beautiful Dorset landscape. Many of the 'bump' photo shoots took place at our local beaches!

In their first year in the BEACH Building, the MatNeo Team has employed a number of Patient First initiatives such as this, responding swiftly to ideas and suggestions from the [Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnership](#). The team has worked with Laura to come up with creative, cost-free solutions to enhancing their environment for staff, patients and visitors.

Julie A Davis, a specialist newborn photographer, generously donated her time, creativity and the cost of printing and framing a stunning collection of photos that celebrate families, diversity and the beauty of our local scenery.



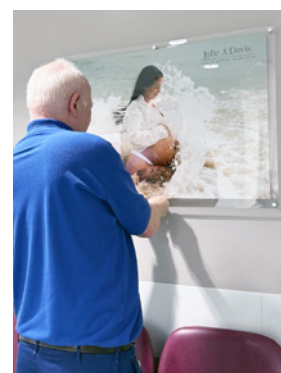
These images, which have been put up in the antenatal and postnatal clinics, parent rooms and waiting areas, were thoughtfully curated to reflect the service and our community, are already having a positive impact.



Reception staff in the unit said 'everyone going out of the clinic stops to look at the photos and comments how lovely they are' and a midwife on Mulberry said 'the women think the images are beautiful'.

As well as Julie's photography, the department features 'A touch of nature' photos taken by staff members which celebrate the Dorset landscape.

**Art Space** is funded by our UHD Charity. Visit [our website](#) to find out more.





# Your May blog...

with Sarah Herbert,  
Chief Nursing Officer

May gives us a special opportunity to pause and recognise the extraordinary contribution of nurses across University Hospitals Dorset. On 12 May, International Nurses Day, we celebrate not only what nursing is, but what it continues to become.

This year's theme, *'Our Nurses. Our Future. Empowered Nurses Save Lives'*, speaks directly to the heart of our work. Every day, in every setting, our nurses make decisions, advocate for patients, lead teams, and deliver care that quite literally saves lives. That impact is not abstract, it is felt in every ward, clinic, community visit, and conversation.

Nursing is a profession built on skill, compassion, and courage. But empowerment is what allows those qualities to truly flourish. When nurses feel supported to speak up, to lead, to question, and to innovate, patient care is safer, stronger, and more responsive. Empowerment is not a slogan, it is something we all help create through our actions, behaviours, and culture.

Safety sits at the centre of this year's theme. It is easy to think of safety as a set of processes or checklists, but in reality, it is a shared responsibility and a lived experience. Every member of staff, clinical and non-clinical, plays a vital role in creating environments where harm is prevented and lives are protected.

I know these times are not without their challenges, and the pressures our teams face are real. Yet, what stands out to me, time and again, is the extraordinary spirit of

collaboration and support across UHD. I'm incredibly proud to share a recent example: During a particularly busy shift last month, I saw nurses from different departments come together seamlessly to support one another and ensure every patient received the care they needed. It was truly inspiring to witness how each person's initiative and teamwork made a tangible difference.

For our nursing teams, this means continuing to use your expertise, your judgement, and your voice. For leaders, it means listening, removing barriers, and creating the conditions where people feel confident to act. For all of us, it means looking out for one another, speaking up when something isn't right, and recognising that even small actions can have life-saving consequences. We all have a role.

Building on this, I want to take a moment to say thank you. Thank you to every nurse across UHD for your professionalism, your resilience, and your unwavering commitment to patients and families. Whether you are new to UHD or a long serving colleague, your voice matters and your contribution does not go unnoticed. I also want to thank all those who work alongside nurses. Everyone who knows me, knows one of my favourite

sayings is "it's a team sport", and nurses can only do great things when working with colleagues who collaborate, support, and challenge, essentially everyone in UHD.

But I also want to acknowledge that empowerment requires ongoing effort. It requires us to keep investing in our people, to nurture talent, to support wellbeing, and to ensure that every nurse and member of staff at UHD, regardless of role or experience, feels valued and heard.

As we mark International Nurses Day, I encourage all of us to reflect on two simple questions: **How do we continue to empower our nurses and all those around us? What more can we each do to strengthen safety in our daily work?**

I also invite you to share your stories or suggestions. Your experiences and insights are invaluable as we continue to learn and grow together. We will be celebrating nurses through a number of events during the week, do get involved and become part of the debate on the future of nursing that we hope to have.

The future of healthcare depends on the strength, confidence, and capability of our workforce, and on the collective commitment of every one of us to support each other. Our nurses. Our future. And together, we save lives.

Sarah



# Freedom to Speak Up Ambassador Spotlight



**Name:** Laura Prigent

**Job role:** Nuclear Medicine Radiographer based at Poole



## Why you wanted to be an FTSU ambassador:

I am a passionate person who promotes patient and staff safety ensuring everyone feels empowered to speak up. I believe in learning from experiences and continuously enhancing the work environment. I am committed to supporting an open and positive culture where voices are heard, and I believe that feedback can lead to meaningful change leading to better outcomes.

## How you think speaking up improves UHD:

FTSU encourages staff and patients to directly speak up improving the overall quality of care. By learning from near misses and concerns we open the suggestion for improvements, whereby the hospital can prevent harm before it occurs. When staff and patients know their voices are heard and acted upon it enables a circle of trust to be made creating a responsive environment ultimately leading to stronger, safer hospitals.



# AMaT (Audit Management and Tracking) is now live

AMaT is the platform that will be used to register and facilitate all clinical audit activity across the Trust.

Any staff member can register to use the system - just follow [this link](#) and complete the simple form. Over 640 staff members have already done so!

A link to AMaT can also be found within Managed Bookmarks/ Workforce Systems.

To register a single cycle audit, click on the 'Clinical Audit Projects' icon (see below) and then click 'Register an Audit'.



Clinical Audit Projects

To enter data for a monthly audit, such as the Hand Hygiene, Emergency Trolley or Fridge Temperature audits, click on the 'Ward and Team Assurance' icon (see below) and search for your ward/clinical area. Then hit the 'click to audit' button for the relevant audit and enter your data.



Ward and Team Assurance

Join us for an online training session on Tuesday 12 May, 1.30-2pm via [this link](#)

You can also view various video tutorials by clicking on the 'AMaT Academy' icon within the system:



Please do not hesitate to contact the Clinical Audit Team with any queries. You can call us on **8748** or send an email to: [uhd.clinical.audit@nhs.net](mailto:uhd.clinical.audit@nhs.net)

Our intranet site also contains more information: [Clinical Audit](#).

## Moving Forwards Together: A Day of Shared Learning, Innovation and Impact

Around 170 colleagues from across Dorset's health and academic system came together recently for Moving Forwards Together, a joint conference celebrating collaboration, innovation and learning.

The event was co organised by representatives from Bournemouth University (BU), Dorset HealthCare NHS Foundation Trust, Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, and UHD, reflecting the strength of partnership working across our organisations.

The programme featured three keynote speakers alongside over 50 presentations showcasing local research, quality improvement initiatives and clinical audit projects. Together, these highlighted the breadth of work happening across Dorset to improve patient care, staff experience and system outcomes.



### Keynote highlights

Professor Niamh Downing, Deputy Vice Chancellor and Provost at BU, welcomed delegates for the event alongside cohosts Chief Medical Officers Dr Peter Wilson and Alastair Hutchison. In her keynote session she shared details of the new BU2035 strategy and vision for future research at BU, emphasising the focus on working in partnership to create real impact.



A standout keynote session was delivered by **Beverley Bryant**, UHD's Chief Digital Officer, who spoke about 'The Future of Healthcare in Dorset powered by Digital and Data.' Beverley shared the vision behind the Our Dorset Digital Strategy, emphasising how digital and data can enable more joined up care, empower patients, and free up time for staff to focus on what matters most. Real world examples, including population health initiatives and improvements driven by better use of data, brought the strategy to life and showed the tangible impact digital transformation can have across services.



### Showcasing local excellence

In addition to the keynote sessions, attendees could choose from a wide range of parallel presentations covering local research, quality improvement and clinical audit work. The variety and quality of projects on display reflected the enthusiasm, creativity and expertise of staff across the system, as well as a shared commitment to continuous improvement.

Moving Forwards Together was a strong reminder of what can be achieved when we learn from one another and work across boundaries. The conference not only celebrated current achievements but also set a positive direction for future collaboration across Dorset's health and academic partnerships. Thank you to BU for hosting and our UHD Charity for sponsoring the event.

To find out more about the BU-UHD partnership please contact [susan.varley2@nhs.net](mailto:susan.varley2@nhs.net)

For a copy of the programme, all presentations and a list of award winners from the event go to [NHS Futures](#) and for the presentation slide decks, head [here](#).



We are **always learning**



## 26.2 miles of pure heart for our hospitals

A massive round of applause to our incredible team of London Marathon runners, who raced across the capital city on Sunday 27 April to support our hospitals. James, Emma, Laura, Liam, Emily and David pounded the London pavement from the start line in Blackheath to the St James's Park finish line as crowds cheered them along.

Together, they raised over **£21,400** (with a final total accounting in those last-minute donations coming soon), to support our Emergency Department, Dementia and Delirium Team, Neonatal Unit, Children's Unit and Critical Care. Every pound raised will go straight to supporting these NHS teams and their patients, funding equipment and projects that go above and beyond standard NHS provision.

Feeling inspired or a little bit competitive? Our University Hospitals Dorset NHS Charity London Marathon ballot for 2027 is officially open: [www.UHDcharity.org/LondonMarathon](http://www.UHDcharity.org/LondonMarathon)

We want your application, whether you're a seasoned running pro or just passionate about going the extra mile for your patients and their loved ones. Enter the ballot before **Monday 13 July 2026** for your chance to run one of the most iconic marathons in the world!

## The Urology Department is having a summer party for a good cause, and you're invited

Our Urology Team is hosting a fun get-together on Friday 19 June at The Bell Pub in Pokesdown, and everyone at UHD is invited to have a good time for a great cause!

There will be live performances from *The Rhythm Method* and *DJ Bad Manners* with our Urology consultants making a guest appearance. Plus, there will be loads of fun, all in support of University Hospitals Dorset NHS Charity's music therapy services for children.

The doors open at 6pm, and the party finishes at 1am. It's just £2 at the door to get in so save the date!



## Wykestock Music Festival: Get ready to rock in support of cancer care services

On Saturday 6 June, the Wykestock music festival is hitting the Wyke Regis Social Club stage, and they've picked our Cancer Care teams as the lead act for their fundraising. Every ticket sold and every song played helps raise life-changing funds for patients, their loved ones and our NHS colleagues working on our Cancer Care teams. It's going to be an unbeatable day of live music and community spirit.

Tickets are just £6 for non-members of the Wyke Regis Social Club. Grab your tickets online [here](#).



# Get ready to glow at Twilight

Our Twilight Walk is just around the corner, and we need you to help us glow and shine on **Friday 15 May, 7pm** in support of breast cancer patients and their loved ones. We're walking and fundraising to create a brighter future for every person impacted by breast cancer in our community.

Every pound raised and step taken along our 3km, 5km and 10km routes will go directly to supporting meaningful projects that make a world of difference to our breast cancer services.

**Don't miss out! You can still grab your tickets on the University Hospitals Dorset NHS Charity website:**

[www.UHDcharity.org/Twilight](http://www.UHDcharity.org/Twilight)

Alternatively, you can purchase your Twilight Walk tickets and make a donation on the evening.



**TWILIGHT WALK** 3KM 5KM 10KM  
Friday 15 May 2026 + 7pm  
Bournemouth Pier Approach

## Win big and make big changes to our hospitals

**Our relaunched Charity Lottery is now live. For every £1 played, 73p goes directly to the charity, so it's an amazing opportunity to help us do even more for our patients and staff across UHD.**

Every lottery play will help our UHD charity to enhance patient care, invest in state-of-the-art equipment and support staff wellbeing and training. By offering the lottery we're providing supporters with another way to give; a low-cost, regular gift with the added excitement of prizes up to £25,000 up for grabs.

You will notice our fundraisers around the hospital. They're recruited as an extension of our Charity Team, helping us raise awareness of the charity and lottery, and ultimately helping us fund more projects that matter to our staff and patients. In the past we've been able to help fund items like:

- a new surgical eye simulator to train students at Bournemouth hospital
- refurbishment of the cancer care garden at Poole hospital
- staff training and team development days

Have you got an idea we can help you bring to life with charity funding? [Submit a CFA here.](#)

### Please note:

- Fundraisers will not engage with you if clearly on shift.
- If you don't want to engage - you can reply by saying 'staff' and all conversations will stop.
- No vulnerable or visibly stressed patients or visitors will be approached.

For more information about the lottery fundraisers in the hospital, including the strict standards they adhere to, [see the FAQs on the intranet](#). If you'd like more information or have any questions please contact: Senior Charity Manager, David James: [david.james32@nhs.net](mailto:david.james32@nhs.net) or Fundraising Manager, Amy Beauchamp: [amy.beauchamp@nhs.net](mailto:amy.beauchamp@nhs.net)

The lottery will help us to make sure your hospital charity is always here to support you and your colleagues. Remember that staff can enter too! Visit the UHD [charity website](#).



£25,000 could be won every week

Only £1 a ticket!

Charity LOTTERY

If you are interested in finding out more about how you can support the charity:

Follow @UHDCharity on Facebook Instagram and X (Twitter) Visit [UHDcharity.org](http://UHDcharity.org), or contact the office on 0300 019 4060/8449



# Let's talk about IT

## ICE Paperless Programme roll-out

Following a successful pilot, the ICE Paperless Programme is now moving into its next phase, with a full Trust-wide rollout set to begin soon.

This marks a significant step forward in modernising how diagnostic tests are requested and reported across UHD.

The ICE system will become the primary method for digital requesting and reporting in Haematology, Biochemistry, Immunology and Microbiology. By moving away from paper-based processes, the programme aims to improve patient safety, reduce delays, and provide clinical teams with timely decision-making and real-time access to results.

Over the next few months new equipment that is aligned to ICE and EPIC workflows will begin to be delivered to clinical areas. A roll-out plan will be

published on the intranet so you can see when your equipment is coming.

### What to do now:

- Familiarise yourself with the SOP: [Policy Code](#)
- Do the training now, no need to wait: [EPR and ICE training](#)
- Report any faults with legacy equipment now as this can still be used alongside new equipment: [IT Service Desk](#)



**Save lives, improve safety**

This is a pivotal moment for our hospitals, aligning with EPIC and moving us firmly toward, safer, digitally enabled services.

## eMED3 Medical Fit Note Form - sick note

If you are a doctor, physio, nurse or pharmacist who currently issues paper sick note forms, you should have the ability to use eForm immediately.

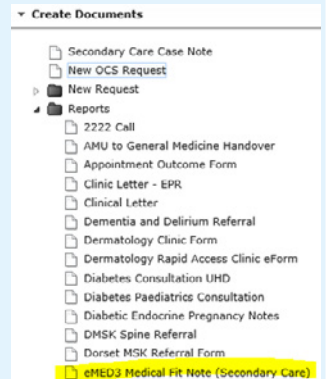
If you do not already have access, please log a job with Service Desk requesting access to eMED3 Medical Fit

Note eForm via the white rabbit '[Log a job](#)'.

When logging into EPR in the 'Create Documents' section look for 'Reports' then click on eMED3 Medical Fit Note (Secondary Care). This will then open the eform. Fill out the form and submit.

You will then be able to print off your completed eForm sick note and hand to the patient as needed.

Once the eForm has been completed and submitted it will then automatically feed through to local GPs and sent via our Synertec print and post service to out of area GPs.



## IT Training

The latest edition of the IT Training newsletter is now live!

You can read this edition, along with previous versions, here:

[What's New.](#)

Have an idea for future content? We'd love to hear from you at [uhd.it.trainers@nhs.net](mailto:uhd.it.trainers@nhs.net).

## Data Quality top tips

For support on booking clinic appointments using the eOutcome form in EPR as well as information on using the DrDoctor app to send digital letters, [click here](#).

### Data Quality top tips

#### Have all clinic appointments been outcomed?

We use the eOutcome form in EPR, which improves efficiency and significantly reduces risk. A final end-of-day check helps ensure that no appointments are missed.

#### How to check:

- In eCaMIS Outpatient Clinic Management, click the **Clinic Structure** icon and select the **All Summary** tab to confirm that all patient lists have been processed and finished.
- In EPR, completed eOutcome forms can be viewed in the patient tree.
- You can also run the eOutcome **Cosmos** report to identify any missing forms (shown as black entries) and take action to resolve them.

#### Digital letters

Sending letters digitally reduces printing and postage costs and gets information to patients faster.

We use the **DrDoctor** app to send outpatient, cardiac and X-ray appointment letters, as well as EPR Clinical letters, anticoagulation and admission-related correspondence.

Patients will only receive messages if they have:

- Opted in to DrDoctor
- A consented, up-to-date mobile number on eCaMIS.

#### Please help by:

- Checking and updating mobile numbers on eCaMIS at every contact
- Confirming patients are opted in to DrDoctor
- Selecting the **Prism Virtual Printer** (letter templates with "1.0" or "Prism" in the title) when sending appointment letters.

#### Why it matters:

A single printed and posted letter can cost £2 or more. Across thousands of appointments each year, digital delivery saves significant time and money.