Agenda Item 23

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn
NHS Foundation Trust

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (PUBLIC)

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:	REPORT FOR:		IMPACT ON BUSINESS:		
Dr Frankie Swords, Medical Director	Decision		High	Med	Low
	Consideration		√		
	Information	√			
LEAD MANAGER:	**REPORT TYPE:**		**BAF REFERENCES & RAG:**		
	Strategic	√			
	Operational	√			
	Governance				
	IMPLICATIONS:		**RELATED WORK: (PREVIOUS PAPERS TO BOARD/COMMITTEE)**		
	Patient Care/Safety/ Experience	√			
	Finance	√			
	Workforce	√			
	Policy	√			
PEER ASSIST (inc. clinical engagement):	**PEER REVIEW:**				
CQC Domain: (safe, caring, effective, responsive, well-led, use of resources)	All Five Domains				

Meeting Date: Tuesday 4 February 2020

Report Title: Coronavirus Update – staff awareness

PURPOSE:

The paper is to inform the Board of:

- Activity carried out across the Trust to inform staff of the advice and information available regarding Coronavirus.

SUMMARY:

This report summarises the activity which has taken place by the Communications Team, Emergency Planning, Response and Resilience and Infection Prevention & Control leads to inform staff of the Coronavirus and its potential impact on the QEH.

Implications: Financial / Quality / Workforce / Policy:

Strategic / External	Operational	Financial	Clinical	Legal/ Regulatory	Reputational / Patient Experience	Workforce
√	√	√	√	√	√	√

RECOMMENDATION/S:

- To note the report

REPORT

1. Background

On 31 December 2019, the World Health Organisation (WHO) was informed of a cluster of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. On 12 January 2020, it was announced that a novel Coronavirus had been identified in samples obtained from cases. Since then 131 people have died in China. There are no confirmed cases in the UK from the 97 tested.

2. Communications activity

- EPRR lead generated email sending links to all IPAC and ED staff and clinical leaders, Divisional Leadership Teams and Ward Managers
- Update of Infection Prevention and Control pages on the intranet linking to the WHO, Department of Health information and advice, and relevant contact details
- An awareness piece in 'In The Know' signposting to the intranet for details on the properties of the virus, symptoms and advice to staff on what to tell patients and actions to take
- Attendance at internal Coronavirus management meetings taking place as and when – currently every other day
- All media enquiries are to be referred to the Department of Health and sent to NHSE/I Regional team for awareness. None have been received to date (as at 29 January)
- No patients or families have raised any questions to date (as at 29 January)

3. Links

- Management of suspected cases of Wuhan Novel Coronavirus - please click below **Documents/Wuhan_Coronavirus_Flowchart.pdf**
- Chief Medical Officer Alert - **Documents/Wuhan_Coronavirus_.pdf**
- All suspect cases of Wuhan WN-CoV should be discussed with the duty/on-call Virologist via the switchboard. Our approach will be guided by the PHE guidelines:- **Information on Wuhan [China] novel coronavirus, including assessment and management of suspected UK cases**
- **For IP&C guidance please click on the link:- Infection, prevention and control guidance for suspected/confirmed cases of Wuhan [China] novel coronavirus**

Our teams in the three hospitals in Norfolk must take a travel history from patients presenting to respective EDs and direct admission areas.

4. Next steps

- Continue to attend Coronavirus management meetings, including reviewing guidance received via the WHO, NHSI/E and DHSC.
- Increase prominence of Coronavirus on the intranet
- Regular targeted emails to go out to clinical areas, as necessary