

Meeting title:	Public Trust Board	Trust Board Paper D
Date of the meeting:	8 October 2026	
Title:	CEO update	
Report presented by:	Julie Hogg – Deputy CEO/ Chief Nurse	
Report written by:	Richard Mitchell – CEO	

Action – this paper is for:	Decision/Approval		Assurance	x	Update	x
Which Group Priorities does this link to	Transform patient care	x	Strengthen our culture	x	Deliver our financial plan	x
Where this report has been discussed previously	The items in the report have been discussed in recent meetings and committees.					

To your knowledge, does the report provide assurance or mitigate any significant risks? If yes, please detail which
The report covers a wide range of risks in the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

Impact assessment
There are no specific impacts because of this report.

Purpose of the Report

The report is an update on the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (UHL).

Recommendation

The Board is asked to receive an update on the below items.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF LEICESTER NHS TRUST

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2026

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT PRESENTED BY JULIE HOGG

Use of Artificial Intelligence in Report Preparation

This report includes content and analysis generated with the assistance of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, used to support drafting, summarising, and formatting. All outputs have been reviewed, validated, and finalised by the report author to ensure accuracy, appropriateness, and alignment with our organisational standards and values. The use of AI is intended to enhance productivity and efficiency, not to replace human oversight or judgement.

Key activities and updates

[Medical care at the Glenfield Hospital has been rated Good](#) overall by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), following its inspection in March. It was rated Good for Safe, Caring, Effective and Responsive, and Outstanding for Well-led — the first time a UHL core service has achieved an Outstanding rating for Well-led.

NHS Oversight Framework ratings ranked UHL 65th out of 134 acute trusts nationally and in Segment 3 for quarter one. Our domain breakdown was Access to Services Quartile 4, Finance Productivity and Innovation Quartile 3, Patient Safety Quartile 2, People and Workforce Quartile 2, Experience of Care Quartile 3 and Effectiveness of Care and Population Health Quartile Q2.

Teams and individuals from UHL were celebrated at the annual **UHL Recognition Awards** on Friday 2 October. This year we had a record-breaking 900 nominations, highlighting the breadth of exceptional work happening at UHL. From the nominations, 19 teams and 43 individuals were shortlisted, with the winners announced at a ceremony at the Athena in Leicester. A panel of internal and external judges selected the winners for their dedication, innovation and unwavering commitment. The UHL Recognition Awards 2026 were made possible thanks to the generous support of sponsors including NTT Data, Cepheid, Softcat, Charles Henry & Sons, Steris, Cubiquity and Ambu.

The **NHS Staff Survey** is now live, and I will provide an update at board about our response rate and the importance of all colleagues completing the survey.

The Respiratory Physiology Unit at the Glenfield Hospital has been renamed in honour of the late **Professor Mike Morgan** in recognition of his outstanding contribution to respiratory medicine across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and beyond. [The unit was officially renamed](#) The Mike Morgan Respiratory

Physiology Unit during a moving ceremony attended by colleagues and members of Professor Morgan's family, including his wife Clare and their two sons Theo and Charlie.

[UHL's Health Equality Partnership](#) met on 30 September. The important partnership exists to drive change, strengthen community links, enhance our cultural competence, and inform the actions we take to achieve equality and equity. Its membership comprises individuals and representatives of groups that are known to experience additional barriers and health inequalities. The meeting, held face to face in the community, gave opportunity for partners to share community experiences of care at UHL and to progress our shared work on tackling inequalities. Thank you to everyone involved in shaping and championing change.

I recently visited the first national holistic care hub in clinical genetics for **Fragile X** families. Fragile X Syndrome causes inherited learning disability, autism and ADHD. At the hub, mothers will have a gynaecology appointment and there is a Relationship Centre led counselling. This is about giving a voice to those that have none as half of the affected children are non-verbal and often these families are under immense strain. If we support the family, we feel we give them the best chance to thrive. Thank you to Professor Julian Barwell and his team for the important service they run.

I also visited an **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) exercise session** held at Leicester Tigers stadium. My father died in 2021 from a ruptured aorta, and I was keen to find out more about our screening programme and the importance of pre surgery prehabilitation. Thank you to the team involved in this important service.

In September we welcomed our fifth cohort of **Project Search** interns from Ellesmere College. Project Search is a national initiative which supports young people with learning disabilities and / or autism as they transition from education into employment. UHL works with Ellesmere College and Gateway College to provide one-year supported internships to year 13 students, allowing them build their skills and confidence through meaningful work experience. Students from this year's Project Search group at Ellesmere College will complete their supported internship at UHL in roles with medical records, medical physics and our domestic service. Other students from the college will be placed at Hotel Voco and the Nuffield Health Leicester Hospital. A cohort of students from Gateway College will also begin their placements at UHL later this year. With the support of a workplace mentor, plus an instructor and job coach from their college, all interns develop transferable skills such as communication, IT, work values, and patient and customer care; this is coupled with an employability bridge programme from UHL. At the end of the programme, interns will be offered role-fit conversations where vacancies exist, to help retain their talents within the UHL workforce.

In September we celebrated **World Pharmacists Day**, and on 20 October we will celebrate Pharmacy Technicians Day. These occasions are a chance to thank everyone who works in pharmacy services, including pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, support workers, and administrative colleagues, for the vital contribution they make. This year's celebratory day is about 'Empowering pharmacists for healthier futures'. UHL pharmacists qualify as independent prescribers from the outset, make significant contributions towards papers in peer-reviewed journals and at conferences, and work across the Trust with other colleagues to strengthen antimicrobial stewardship by promoting the optimal use of these medicines – right time, right dose, right route, and right duration. **Chief Pharmacist Mohamed Rahman** was [recently appointed as a Fellow of the Royal College of Pharmacy](#). Mo was one of only 34 pharmacy professionals recognised for their outstanding contributions to the profession. [Building has begun for a major new Aseptic Suite](#) in the Osborne Building at the Leicester Royal Infirmary. The new pharmacy facility will mean we can prepare more sterile medicines for

cancer treatment and clinical research and gives us the opportunity to offer patients more innovative treatments through early phase clinical trials. As well as this, the team continues to lead important digital developments and push forward with technological advances, including the roll-out of Optimed (unit dose closed loop medicines solution) to more wards.

In September we also celebrated **National Quality Improvement (QI) Week** with a range of events and workshops celebrating the people, projects, and partnerships that help deliver better care for our patients and make UHL a better place to work. Five hundred colleagues have now completed a myQI course, a fantastic milestone that will help embed a culture of continuous improvement across UHL.

In September we recognised **National Inclusion Week**, I joined UHL executive colleagues in a short video about what inclusion means to us. For me, inclusion means everyone should have a seat at the table, and every voice should matter and be heard. In my career, I have not always felt included, but when I have, I have been able to do my best work and have been at my happiest, both in work and outside of it. We want every colleague to feel included, and the video encouraged action during inclusion week and beyond to support this.

In September [we joined colleagues at The Secret Garden Glenfield to recognise the National Suicide Memorial Day for Healthcare Workers](#). The powerful event, which took place as part of the national awareness day launched by Practitioner Health and Doctors in Distress in 2024, provided an opportunity for colleagues to remember healthcare workers lost to suicide, reflect on the challenges faced by those working in health and care, and highlight the importance of supporting colleague wellbeing.

The **East Midlands Planned Care Centre** at the Leicester General Hospital has been awarded Elective Surgical Hub accreditation by NHS England in recognition of the high clinical and operational standards it provides.

On 14 October we will celebrate **Allied Health Professions (AHPs) Day**, providing an opportunity to recognise the extraordinary contribution of the many AHP professions working across UHL, including physiotherapists, occupational therapists, radiographers, dietitians, speech and language therapists, operating department practitioners and many others. AHPs play a vital role in supporting patients to recover, regain independence and live healthier lives, while also leading innovation, research, education and service improvement. Across UHL, AHP colleagues are driving improvements in safe staffing, developing the next generation of professionals through apprenticeships and education programmes, advancing research and clinical academic practice, and helping to shape new models of care that improve outcomes for our patients. Their expertise, compassion and commitment are fundamental to delivering high-quality care every day.