



Financial position update

The Month 10 position is a deficit of £15.534 million, £397k behind our forecasted plan-to-date.

Whilst elective income was over £1 million less than plan, our emergency income has improved this position, with total income in January being the highest recorded all year at around £30 million.

Our underlying expenditure rate continues to be lower than expected, however, due to opening additional capacity, spend on nursing increased slightly by around £180k which was covered by increased emergency income.

The Trust's financial position is finely balanced and in order to earn the £11.5m bonus payments (STF) we need to continue the past month's strong performance.

With just four weeks of the financial year left to go, we want to thank Team DBTH for your hard work throughout the past 12 months, especially over the winter, and ask you all to continue to concentrate on achieving our financial goals, making best use of resources and working as efficiently as possible.

Through our combined efforts, and if everything goes to plan, we are on target to achieve our control total of a deficit of £16.4 million. Earlier in the year this looked like a very difficult task but by carefully managing our Emergency Department's performance, as well as maintaining a strong focus on cost improvements, we have a better position to achieve this year's plans.

As you will all know, failure to deliver would have significant consequences for the Trust and some freedoms to act may be restricted - meaning we will have less control of our own destiny as an organisation.

Therefore, we want to thank you in advance for your continued help and support for the next four weeks. In practical terms, this means ensuring we deliver strong operational performance, maximise the use of our Theatres, work together to improve our Outpatient performance by increasing the number of new appointments, reduce the number of follow-up appointments wherever possible, discharge patients safely at the earliest possible time and do whatever we can to keep a tight grip on the use of temporary staffing and non-pay spend.

It's vital that we continue to think about every penny that we spend as an organisation and do not look to spend any 'spare budget' that we may think we have. Hitting our control total for this financial year will mean we will start in a better position as we head into 2018/19, which will in itself bring its own challenges.

Remember, you can follow our Efficiency and Effectiveness journey by reading the latest newsletter here, while an information stand will be held outside of DRI's East Dining Room from 20 to 23 March describing the year's cost-saving efforts as well as plans for the next financial year. Plans for Bassetlaw and Montagu will be communicated in the Buzz in the coming days.

Thank you once again for your hard work. As a Trust, we have been on a long road to recovery over the past number of years and, happily, we are just days away from completing a significant portion of that journey. Let's push ahead together.