

CUMBRIA HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting date: 18 May 2022

**From: Richard Sachs, Director of Governance,
University Hospital Morecambe Bay NHS
Foundation Trust**

UROLOGY SERVICES AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF MORECAMBE BAY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

The Trust is on a bold and exciting journey of recovery and quality improvement ensuring that patients, families, communities, Governors, staff and colleagues in the wider integrated health family are assured that the Trust is providing the best possible care in the current challenging circumstances. This starts with getting right all of the things we didn't get right in the past, learning from those mistakes and thinking through how they apply to all services is the basis of this work.

This document brings together into a single overarching action plan of all that we must put right. That is an evolutionary journey where executives, non-executives, care group leaders and nearly 8500 other staff are committed to supporting the changes detailed in the report.

Following concerns raised by a former colleague of the Trust, due to the range and complexity of the allegations in 2019, we asked NHS England/Improvement to provide independent assistance to help us investigate the claims. As a result in 2020 NHS England/Improvement Commissioned Niche Consulting Ltd undertook a detailed investigation, the report was received by the Trust in November 2021.

We fully support and accept the findings of the report. At all times the Trust has endeavoured to be open and honest in wanting to establish the truth behind allegations and counter allegations within the Urology Department.

When reading the report, it is very clear that although the Trust had taken significant action over a period of time to attempt to tackle various concerns that arose, the actions that were taken were not detailed or robust enough to ensure the improvements were sustainable and embedded, and more should have been done.

We have apologised to patients and families who have experienced any kind of harm or distress caused by the events chronicled in the report. We would also like to assure them and our wider communities that our Trust remains committed to ensuring that the work done over the past two years to improve the service continues and becomes embedded.

Richard Sachs
Director of Governance

May 2022