

To all staff at the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals

Dear Colleagues

I should like to let you know that Trevor Campbell Davis, the Trust's Chief Executive, has been offered the opportunity to work in a new international healthcare role and I have agreed a period of leave with him while he puts the necessary arrangements in place. I hope that these plans will be finalised in the near future.

To provide continuity, Chris Hurst, the Deputy Chief Executive, has agreed with the Board to assume the role of Acting Chief Executive of the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust from August 1.

It is also important to let you know that during the past week, Chris Hurst has learned that he has been successful in his application to become the national Finance Director for Health and Social Care in Wales. We expect Chris to take up this role in the autumn and we shall now begin the process of recruiting a new Finance Director. An interim Finance Director will be appointed to support Chris whilst he is Acting Chief Executive and, depending on timescales, I will also be exploring other interim options in case they are required.

During this period it would not be appropriate to appoint a new Medical Director and Dr James Morris has kindly agreed to remain in post for the time being. We are considering with James the additional support that he requires, given the wide range of his current responsibilities and our decision to resubmit our application to become an Academic Health Science Centre.

I realise that the coming months will be a time of uncertainty and change, when we are also facing many financial and operational challenges. I have been greatly impressed by the resilience and commitment of the executive team and staff to provide patients with the best possible care, and I have every confidence that these management changes will not undermine this determination.

Members of the Board and I hope over the next few months to have an opportunity to meet staff groups throughout the organisation and to hear directly from you about the ways in which you continue to maintain the high quality of patient care that you provide in a complex and challenging environment.

With my warmest thanks for your contribution to the work of the Trust

Fiona Caldicott
Chairman