



## 1. Headlines and key takeaways



- **Performance:** Based on available FFT data, the significant majority of patients (90.1% in Q3) are satisfied that they have a good or very good experience. This is comparable to Q1 and Q2 2023/24, however overall trajectory through 2023 is slightly downward. Positivity in EDs has overall been declining through 2023 but is above December 2022 levels. Inpatient experience is below national average and has been declining through 2023.
- For UHSx, 50,576 patients provided a review in Q3 with an average response rate of 21%.
- **Complaints**: 295 complaints were received in Q3, a significant reduction to Q2 (345) this is often seen in the approach to Christmas. Currently, c55% of complaints are closed within 60 working days against a Trust target of 80%. This is due to complaints caseloads, delays in obtaining clinical responses, complexity of complaints, and delays in signing letters. More complaints were closed than were received in Q3.
- PALS: 2863 concerns were received by PALS with 244 plaudits.
- Insights: Themes in negative patient feedback continue to relate to waiting (on site and for treatment), clinical treatment (including missed diagnosis in EDs), inpatient care, communication and staff behaviours, and discharge these are the drivers behind the patient experience strategy 2022-25 with further mitigations including the development of discharge hubs and the fundamentals of care programme to improve quality of care on the wards.
- Specific patient engagement work is in place on key developments for the trust, including ED redevelopment at RSCH, stage 2 of the 3Ts programme (the new cancer centre), cancer strategy and speciality reviews.
- Welcome standards programme and training is being rolled out with positive reviews and results.
- Surveys: no new national patient surveys have been received in Q3

average

• Risks: to patient experience: deteriorating patient satisfaction in; waiting times, inpatient care, EDs, communication, discharge; and public confidence. For patient experience teams: caseloads and excessive demand to capacity ratios; providing full service cover within budget/ establishment; changes to reporting systems; changes to process resulting in reduced efficiency of complaints management

Complain	its	open	ily	2023	er	2023		December 2023	Total	new			<u>Ke</u>		d in po	sitive dire	ection s	since pre	vious q	uarter	
		<b>4</b> 39	1	104		117	7	74	<b>V</b> 2	95						tively sindatively sir					
PALS				1020		1124	8	363	Total	UHS Q3	→					itively sindous quarte		quarter			
FFT	ED po	ositivity	rates															Matern	ity		
(averag e% positive ratings for Q3)	WG H	SRH	RSC H	Alex	Eye	PRH	Med RSC H/P RH					Med WG H/S RH	Sur WG H/S RH	Spe c	W& C	Cance r	CS S	WGH	SR H	RS CH	PRH
101 (43)	81 →	79 →	75 <b>↓</b>	86 <b>↓</b>	94 <b>↑</b>	87 →	95 →	93 <b>→</b>				95 <b>→</b>	94 →	96 <b>↑</b>	93 •	94 <b>•</b>	96 <b>↑</b>	98 <b>↓</b>	98 •	94 •	98 <b>↑</b>
National		79% (A	verage S	Septembe	er 2023	3)			94%	6 inpatie	nts 94% o	utpatients	(Septer	mber 23)				94%	% (Septe	ember 2	23)

### 2. Themes: What we do well for many patients



In addition to thank you cards and direct contact with clinical and other teams, **45,450** patients left a positive review about their care in Q3. 5.7% of patients left a negative review.

Patients who experience and report their positive experiences of care do so around a number of dominant themes:

- Treatment by staff, characterised by kindness, helpfulness, friendliness, dedication, efficiency – including >24,000 patients who in addition to their survey left a narrative review praising the staff
- High quality care and treatments
- Clarity of explanation and involvement, including of waits and in decision making
- Attention to basic needs such as refreshments and supplies

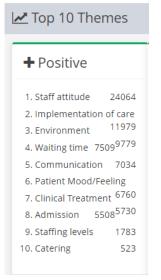
"the staff were very attentive and kept you up to date with what was going on!"

SRH Goodwood Lounge, SRH

"i texted 1 as it says 1 for very good and it was indeed very good! quick, caring and altogether excellent, thank you" Gynaecological Oncology, Worthing "all the staff were kind, considerate and informative. made to feel at ease and cared for from cleaner to surgeon. this was definitely the best side of the nhs.... thank you!"

Ansty Ward, PRH

✓ Top 10 Words **+** Positive 1. Staff 12136 2. Good 5156 3. Time 4134 4. Friendly 3722 5. Service 6. Excellent 7. Helpful 3501 3071 8. Seen 2970 9. Thank 10. Attitude 2830



Both your receptionist and the lady who scanned my daughter were absolutely lovely - friendly, warm & welcoming. They made the visit as easy as possible right from when I walked in. An absolute credit to your team & wonderful way to look after your patients. Thank you so much, very impressed! **Alex** 

"excellent. they were kind thoughtful and very professional." Emergency Department, RSCH

## 3. Complaints and PALS

University Hospitals Sussex

- Numbers of enquiries and concerns received by PALS reduced in Q3 despite an overall upward trajectory for concerns received.
- ▶ PALS teams continue to work with clinical services when clusters of concerns are received to support early mitigating action, in particular relating to communication with patients. The highest number of contacts were for Trust wide issues, Emergency Department at SRH, Neurology, dates for appointments and surgery, and discharges.
- ▶ 295 complaints were received in Q3, and more complaints were closed (343) than were received. Currently 55% of complaints are closed in 60 working days against a trust target of 80%. This is due to complaints caseloads, delays in obtaining clinical responses, complexity of complaints, and delays in signing letters.

## New/Reopen and Closed complaints Q3



"i waited for over 6 hrs with no update and no one checking in, on me. a simple hourly update as to what the score was and if seeing an anyone was going to be so long a time, a choice to come back another time"

Same Day Emergency Care Unit, PRH

I found the doctor unsympathetic and disinterested and felt myself to be dismissed as quickly as possible. It was an embarrassing experience which made me feel upset for the rest of the day... **Gynae, SRH** 

Opportunities for improvement to enhance patient experience across FFT, PALS, complaints and other engagement are:

- Reducing waits for interventions/appointments
- Reducing waits on arrival for treatment and to be relocated including pain management whilst waiting, strengthening communication to manage expectations and waits and concerns from patients who are boarded or moving to other sites
- Issues relating to clinical treatment, including reducing cases where diagnosis is missed in ED
- Communication about treatment plans and follow ups
- Addressing staff behaviours and engagement, including doctors, nurses and receptions
- Improving coordination, timing and planning of discharge
- Accessing appointments and contacting clinical teams

Many of the above are influenced by flow, discharge and waits in EDs – as such the patient experience tracks the performance of the organisation against key performance indicators. Metrics relating to key contributors to patient experience are reporting via the patient experience strategy with risks noted regarding 4 hour ED waits, median hour of discharge, and waiting for appointments.

# 5. Patient Engagement in Service Improvements - New Specialist Cancer Service

Bespoke engagement of patients in the design and planning of the new specialist Cancer Centre for the region. Based on feedback from the first engagement workshop a second one took place on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in partnership with Healthwatch Brighton and Hove and MacMillan, participants included patients, Healthwatch volunteers, community organisations, Cancer Alliance, Sussex Cancer Fund, NHS staff including clinicians representing a range of protected characteristics.

At the October workshop participants visited the following areas that are comparable to the main patient areas planned within the new Sussex Cancer Centre:

- > Entrance and waiting areas
- Day Unit treatment area
- > Inpatient bedrooms

#### Feedback and comments focused around:

How to make a clinical area feel:

Reassuring

Comfortable

Peaceful

Personal

The value of:

- A feeling of privacy
- Opportunity for social interaction
- Clear visibility of staff
- Clear views to outside

A living report capturing feedback from both workshops is being used to inform service improvements

Workshop 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

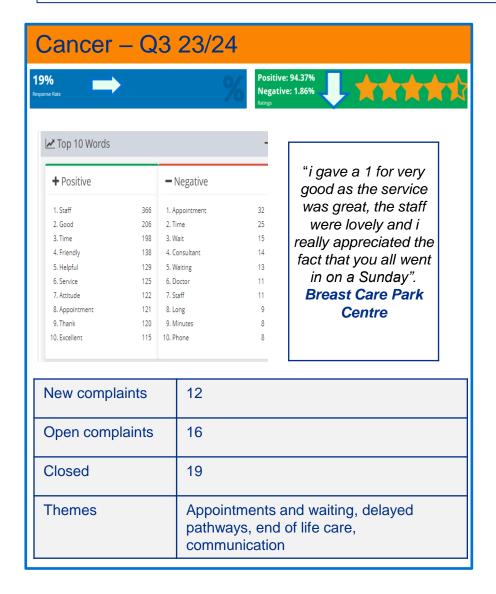


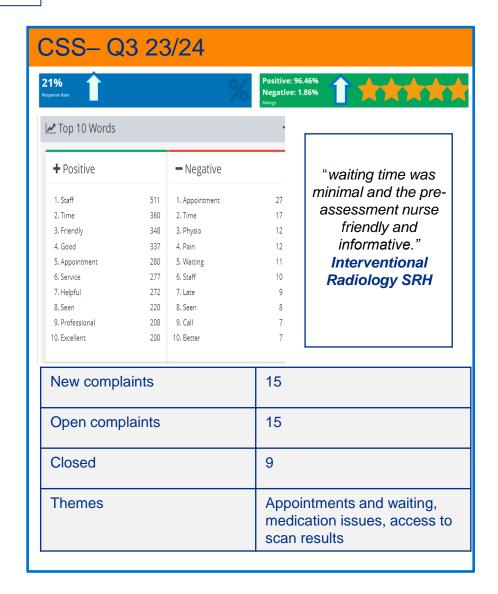
"You don't want [the Cancer Centre] to look like what it is."

Patient (when viewing the Sanctuary)

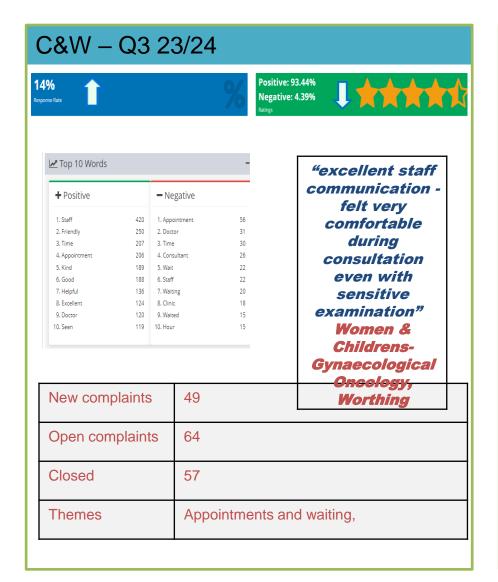
### 5. Divisional dashboards

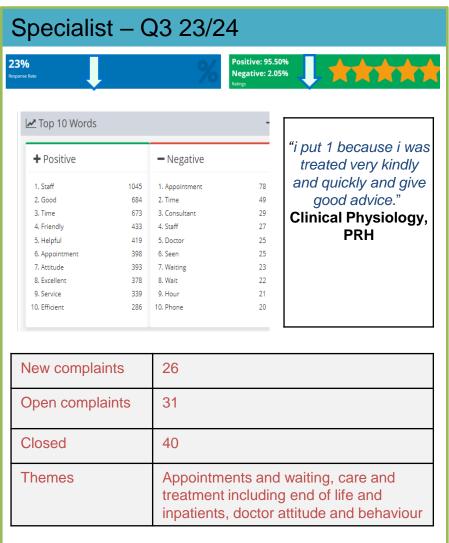




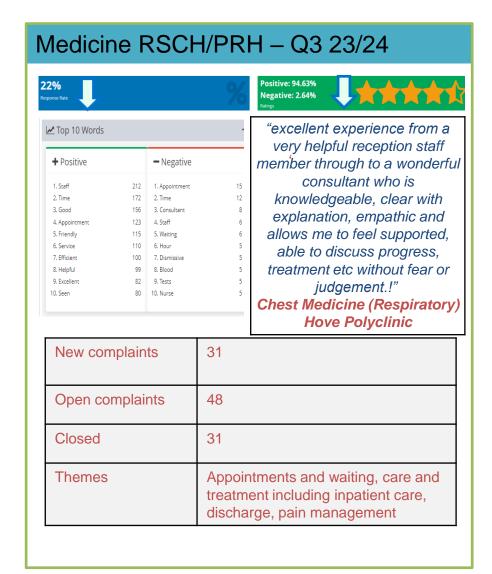


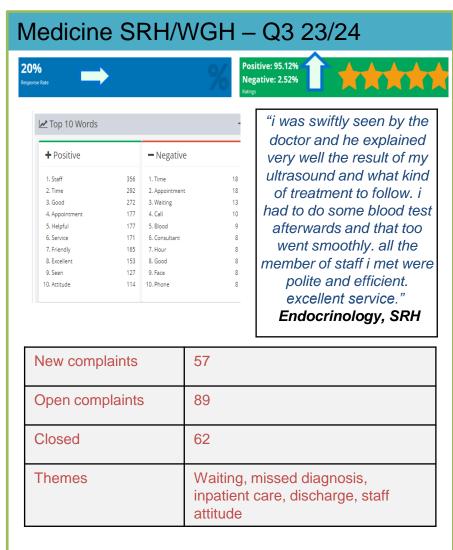
#### **Divisional dashboards**





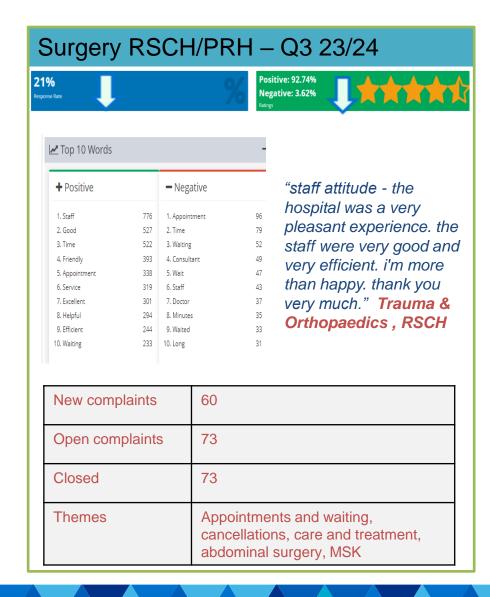
#### **Divisional dashboards**

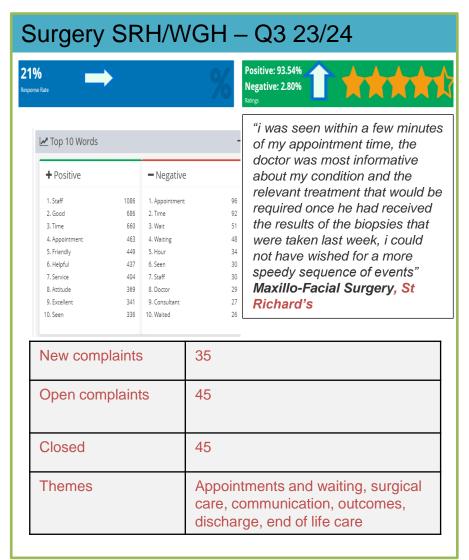




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#### **Divisional dashboards**







# 6. Q3 2023/24 and Q4 2023/24 Priorities and Improvement - update

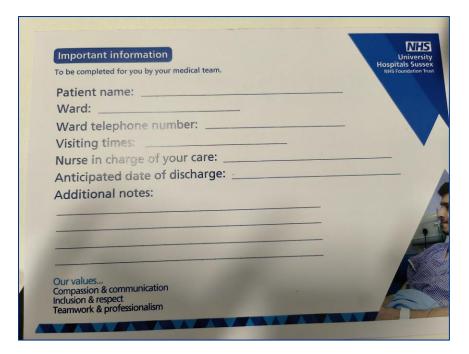
Quarter 3 Priorities (Q2 report 2023/24)	Update on Q3 priorities	Q4 Priorities 2023/24
<ul> <li>Enact mitigations within budget to improve deteriorating complaints position</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Enacted mitigations within budget to improve deteriorating complaints position and improved efficiency of new signing process</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continue to enact all possible efficiencies in complaints process</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Modernise operational delivery for new bereavement teams</li> </ul>	New bereavement teams process in place and efficiency and co-working with mortuaries	Commence validation of Welcome Standards  The grown as weaking with
<ul> <li>Mobilise patient experience workstream for stage 2 and host</li> </ul>	<ul><li>improved</li><li>Hosted further patient engagement workshops for</li></ul>	programme working with Healthwatch
further patient engagement workshops for the cancer centre	<ul> <li>the stage 2 cancer centre</li> <li>Re-convened the patient panel supporting RSCH</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Complete QSIP compliance and assurance framework and</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Re-convene the patient panel supporting RSCH ED</li> </ul>	ED redevelopment and identified next steps for patient engagement	refresh Trust quality governance manual
<ul><li>redevelopment</li><li>Support health inequalities strategic</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Supported health inequalities strategic oversight group and reporting with a growing coalition of</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Support divisional focus on improvement</li> </ul>
oversight group and reporting	partners	Roll out patient admission
<ul> <li>Complete training of all ED receptions and main receptions through Welcome Standards</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Complete training of ED receptions and main receptions through Welcome Standards programme including volunteers</li> </ul>	postcard and above bed boards with 'all about me' information
<ul><li> rogramme</li><li> Report maternity survey outcomes</li></ul>	<ul> <li>New FFT hierarchies in place improving reporting at site and ward level</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Implement and report patient surveys</li> </ul>
	Produced new admissions postcard and patient information	<ul> <li>Enable patient voice in shaping specialty reviews and cancer strategy</li> </ul>

# 7. New admission postcard and online information



- A new patient information postcard has been developed, co-designed with patients, linked to the 'Improving length of stay' corporate project
- With the aim of providing critical information and supporting efficient and timely discharge, the postcard includes estimated date of discharge, ward information and additional information
- In response to patient feedback, a QR code takes the patient or their representative to a designated online page providing information about the stay. Providing additional information online reduces the number of documents presented to patients on admission.





### Patient Experience Strategy on a Page 2022-2025

More than 90% of UHS patients report receiving What our patients good or better care say (Friends and family test, 2021)

**UHS** patient feedback consistently identifies the following themes which provide opportunities for improvement....

'Waitina' 'Communication' **University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust** 

'Staff attitudes and behaviour'

What we want to achieve and how we will achieve it



Our True North = >95% experiences good or very good

#### **Ambitions** Principles

#### Better engagement nothing about me without me

#### and influence for the least heard

#### **Learning and action on patient** experience



Data and insight led



Patient centred



Active listening



Place-oriented



Fairness and equality



Solution focused



Prevention/ early action



Accountable

- 1. Nothing about me without me
- 2. We will increase response rates to patient surveys
- 3. We will increase engagement through visible and accessible digital methods
- 4. We will improve experience of discharge home for lunch
- 5. We will embrace technology to improve patient experience

Addressing inequalities – voice

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- 6. We will engage differently and better with less heard groups and communities
- **7.** We will improve how those with barriers to services navigate places and services
- **Promoting positive experience** - prevention and early intervention
- 8. We will improve staff wellbeing
- 9. We will implement a new approach to concerns and complaints responses
- 10. We will improve the experience of 'waiting' patients

- 13. We will embed learning from patient experience to shape improvement
- 14. We will listen to and learn from patients on key themes
- **15.** We will ensure there is accountability for patient experience
- 11. We will strengthen the role of volunteers in improving patient experience
- 12. We will implement patient-led customer service excellence programme

#### How we will know if we have made a difference

- FFT % -ve comments waiting, comms
- Reduction concerns: discharge/ dates
- FFT take up
- SDM (to be confirmed

- FFT satisfaction
- Complaints re-opened
- Complaints responses on time
- Internal patient information up to date
- PFIS unit with patient driver metric
- Influence on service developments case studies
- Volunteers hours
  - Discharge time median <12pm
  - %recommending trust as a place to work

## 8. Patient Experience Strategy Metrics Reporting



				University He	enitale Cue				
Outcome	Commit- ments	Narrative	Metrics/ performance	Progress	RAG				
A1 - fewer negative comments related to	1,3,8,13,14	Actions include:	i. Number negative comments re waiting in FFT	1824 (Q3)					
waiting		<ul> <li>True norths for S&amp;P (65 week waiters and ED seen within 4 hours);</li> <li>Breakthrough objective for S&amp;P</li> </ul>	ii. Patients waiting no more than 65 weeks by March 2024	•					
		<ul> <li>(Median hour of discharge to be between 10 and 10:59am)</li> <li>Duty of candour letter pilot in EDs</li> <li>Revelopment of ED</li> </ul>	iii. Median hour of discharge (aim <12pm)	Trust % discharges < midday decreased to 23% (Oct.23)					
			iv. Patients waiting >4 hours in ED.	31% (Oct 23)					
A2 – fewer negative comments relating to communications	1,3,8,13,14	Actions include:     Patient BO programme/ welcome standards     patient access transformation corporate project commenced	i. Number negative comments re communications in FFT	1229 (Q3)					
A3 – fewer negative comments relating to staff attitude	1,3,8,13,14	1,3,8,13,14	1,3,8,13,14	1,3,8,13,14	1,3,8,13,14	Actions include:  • Welcome standards, including customer service training	i. Number negative comments re staff attitude in FFT	2220 (Q3)	
		<ul> <li>Sharing of positive patient feedback to support staff wellbeing and motivation</li> <li>Welcome standards –independent validation contract signed</li> </ul>	ii. Number participating in customer service training	Training for staff and volunteers at 3 of the 4 ED completed on schedule					
31 reduced percentage of concerns citing dates for	1,13,14	• See A1	i. % complaints citing dates for appointments (bench mark is 3.63% based on Q1-3)	4.7% (Q3)					
appointments			ii. % PALS citing dates for appointments (20.15% (Q2-3) bench mark)	23% (Q3)					
32 reduced percentage of concerns citing discharge	1,4,13,14	<ul> <li>Actions include:</li> <li>Breakthrough objective – reducing median hour of discharge – home for lunch</li> </ul>	i. % complaints citing discharge 5% (Q1-3) bench mark	3.7% (Q3)					
		<ul> <li>Implement electronic discharge planning and safer discharge</li> </ul>	ii % PALS citing discharge 4% (Q1-3) bench mark	3.5% (Q3)					

Outcome	Commitme nts	Narrative	Metrics/ performance	Progress	RAG
C1. FFT response levels	1,2,3,6,7	Actions include:	i. FFT: response rates – ED	21% (Q3)	
		<ul> <li>New FFT provider commissioned and is using SMS and IVM (interactive voice</li> </ul>	ii. FFT: response rates – maternity	23% (Q3)	
		messaging) for patients without access to a mobile phone.	iii. FFT: response rates – inpatients	22% (Q3)	
		<ul> <li>In all touchpoints/ sites response rates are increasing with the new provider</li> </ul>	iv. FFT: response rates – outpatients	20% (Q3)	
		<ul><li>TARGET: &gt;33%</li><li>Benchmark: 24% November 22</li></ul>	v. FFT: response rates – Surgery RSCH/PRH	21% (Q3)	
			vi. FFT: response rates – Medicine RSCH/PRH	22% (Q3)	
			vii. FFT: response rates – Medicine WGH/SRH	20% (Q3)	
			viii. FFT: response rates – Surgery WGH/SRH	21% (Q3)	
			ix. FFT: response rates – Women's and children's	14% (Q3)	
			x. FFT: response rates – CSS	21% (Q3)	
			xi. FFT: response rates – Specialist	23% (Q3)	
			xii. FFT: response rates – Cancer	19% (Q3)	
D. FFT positive ratings (95% or above)	1,2,3,6,7, 10, 11,13,14	Actions include:  • Implementation of the trust strategy,	i. FFT: positive rates – Surgery RSCH/PRH	93% (Q3)	
(5576 61 45646)	11,10,14	<ul> <li>including those detailed in section A above</li> <li>Divisional governance and improvement</li> </ul>	ii. FFT: positive rates – Medicine RSCH/PRH	95% (Q3)	
		initiatives	vii. FFT: positive rates – Medicine WGH/SRH	95% (Q3)	
			viii. FFT: positive rates – Surgery WGH/SRH	94% (Q3)	
			ix. FFT: positive rates – Women's and children's	93% (Q3)	
			x. FFT: positive rates – CSS	96% (Q3)	
			xi. FFT: positive rates – Specialist	96% (Q3)	
			xii. FFT: positive rates – Cancer	94% (Q3)	

Outcome	Commit- ments	Narrative	Metrics/ performance	Progress	RAG
E. Reduce number of complaints re-opened	4,9,13,15	Actions include:  New complaints process and quality assurance implemented	Number of complaints re-opened (annual) – 153 for 2022-23 (benchmark 21-22 = 108)	22 (6.37%)	
F. % of patients receiving a first formal response < 60 days	9,15	Actions include:         New complaints process and quality assurance implemented         New complaints metric set at 60 days	Complaints closed <60 working days for Q3 was 53%	New metric	
G. number of PFIS units selecting patient experience as a driver metric	9,13,14,15	Actions include:     Divisional catch ball sessions and SDRs to assign watch and driver metrics.	All 9 divisions have the True North as a watch metric and 5 division have it as a driver for the breakthrough objective		
H. the needs of potential and existing patients whose voices are currently less heard will have demonstrably led to improvements in services	3,8,11,12,15	<ul> <li>Actions include:</li> <li>Working with the system on targeted engagement</li> <li>Using FFT to undertake inequalities focused reports</li> <li>Working with the Equalities Team – new EDI head in post</li> <li>Applying an equalities lens to the Patient First Improvement System</li> </ul>	Less heard groups are routinely engaged in improvement activities, including on LoS, ED redevelopment and stage 2  Voice of less heard patients reflected in Welcome Standards training		
I. Number of volunteering hours increases	8,11,15	Volunteer Strategy in development – due 2023	Metrics TBD		

Outcome	Commit- ments	Narrative	Metrics/ performance	Progress	RAG
J. Shared decision making and digital engagement – my nealth and care record registrations	6,7,15	Actions include:  • Digital strategy  • Roll out of PKB (my health and care record) include enhancing content available to patients  • Promotion through staff and patient engagement  • Ensuring divisions offer patients digital methods of communication and management such as messaging and PIFU	Number of specialities and patients registered via this tool for proactive remote patient management (the rationale here is that with/without PIFU it's valid and valuable – the benefit it reduction in F2F appts, early intervention, better patient. experience and outcomes, potential reduction in DNA rates, prevention/avoidance of unplanned admissions)	Current registration of patients is 31% (434,657) of adult(16+ years old) ) population in Sussex. National figures is 25%	
K. 'Staff voice that counts' Staff are confidence that the organisation would address their concerns when raised.	8, 12,13,15	National Staff survey Ongoing work continues to encourage low response rate cost centres to complete the national survey ahead of the closure on 24th November Divisional Action plans 155 actions directly relating to the BTO across divisions of which 104 have been implemented and 40 started and on track CSS: All listening events are now complete with more planned for the new year. Nominations received for Divisional Employee of the Months, winners to be announced in November Medicine RSCH/PRH: HWB support in ED – local counselling, well-being drop-ins for HCAs/all. Setting up of the Communications Working Group by the Chief to support listening and acting on feedback to drive improvement. Cancer The first Cancer Divisional Newsletter issued was issued 30th October 2023 Surgery RSCH/PRH: A Divisional Communication Plan has been agreed, which will include a bi-monthly Teams Briefing led by the Triumvirate Management Team; a Quarterly Newsletter, which will provide key messages in a more informal style; and increased communication and interaction between senior leaders and staff via Gembas, Huddles and Team Meetings. Surgery WGH/SRH: First coffee and cake mornings have been scheduled for all 3 sites F&E 3 cohorts through the Leadership academy and the Directors going out regularly talking and listening to staff – well received. Medicine WGH/SRH – Regular face to face listening events held by Triumvirate for all colleagues within the division are now booked in the diary	Pulse survey:Upgrade of IRIS caused survey tool responses not to be date stamped making it difficult to extract the relevant data/responses. This is currently with the supplier to see if they can import the data back into IRIS or alternatives to produce figures.  National Staff Survey:49% completion rate as of 21st November (8313 substantive staff)  Trust wide intranet changes: Working at UHSx page (People directorate): 3310 (Most visited page in week 2 of launch of new site) Polices page: 529 visits,Wellbeing: 510 visits Managers resources: 476  Guardian Service: new Service have had 28 referrals in October which is a decrease of 3 referrals from September. There has been 79 referrals since its launch on 7th August  Speaking up resources: Raising concerns/speaking up pathways: 88 visits in October *Change to the google analytics so it's no longer possible to identify number of visits to each intranet site  Closure of People BTO proposal for Dec 23. The exit plan to be shared with the Exec Sponsor and SRO		

Outcome	Commit- ments	Narrative	Metrics/ performance	Progress	RAG
L. internally produced patient education materials will receive patient input, will be up-to-date, and will be available in print or via the Trust website (conforming with the accessible information standard).	6,7,15	Actions include: The Health Information Point in the Louisa Martindale Building opened in November 2023. It is currently staffed Monday to Friday 1pm to 5pm by patient education knowledge specialists. The opening hours will be extended in January to 10am to 5pm. 22 enquiries were received in November – 16 were health related and 6 were directional. This was a soft launch - further promotion of it is planned for the new year.	The audit of patient education materials across UHSussex was begun in November, starting with Respiratory. A report will be sent to each department following their audit	There are 700 leaflets on the Trust website and 100% of those meet the web accessibility requirements. 70% of known leaflets have been reviewed within the last three years.	



# 8. Risk register: patient experience functions

			Date	Initial	Current	reviewe			
Risk ID	Risk Title	Risk Description	Opened	Rating	rating	d	All controls in place	Selected service	<b>Selected Location</b>
		The number of complaints managers falls short of that necessary to respond to the					recruitment undertaken, caseloads remain high, revised metrics		
		complaints being received and operational pressures are reducing responsiveness.					proposed however increased complaints received and increased		
	Complaints team	The risk is that complaints responses are significantly delayed or impacted, or the					complexity resulting in quality impacts. Efficiencies in process		
1	capacity	quality reduced	10.05.22	16	16	8 1 24	implemented	Patient experience	All sites
		Despite being near establishment, the PALS team is lean and full cover is not possible							
		on all sites during office hours. Along with increased demand there is a risk that					Staff recruited, however increased demand and lean staffing results in		
2	PALS team capacity	patients don't receive timely responses to their enquiries	16.04.22	12	12	8 1 24	some contacts not being responded to in a timely way	Patient experience	All sites
		PALS. Use of different datix systems on two former trusts and limited reporting					DCIQ module being implemented/ improved in line with incidents go		
		capability combined with the team not receiving BI support risks the reliability and					live and power BI being mobilised. Pilot to commence with plaudits Jan		
3	BI and data	availability of data for key reports	05.01.22	9	6	8124	24	Patient experience	All sites
		·						·	
	Bereavement	Bereavement staffing establishment does not provide sufficient capacity to provide a					increased demand, in particular at Worthing, impacting on statutory		
	structure, capacity	full service on all sites, with a risk to adherence with statutory timescales for death					timescales for death certificates. Capacity over winter at SRH		
11	and practice	certificates	19 12 22	9	12	8 1 24	dependent on ank support	Bereavement	All sites
		Increased demand from staff/patients for support due to decreasing public							
12	PALS and complaints		4 12 23	9	9	8 1 24	Script for responses applied	Patient experience	All sites
	Increase in verbal	0 1 7						'	
	abuse and	All services experiencing an increase in verbal abuse and aggression from patients,					People BO on staff wellbeing; increasing levels of abuse, additional	All patient	
13	aggression from	including those with mental illness, resulting in impact on staff wellbeing	19 12 22	12	12	8 1 24	security measure shad to be undertaken to protect PALS staff	experience	All sites
	Divisional								
	operational	Operational pressures on clinical teams resulting in reduced timeliness of response to					Complaints reps attending divisional meetings to support where	Divisions/ patient	
14	pressures	complaints	9 1 23	9	9	8124	possible	experience	All sites