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Sent via email

Dear Cathy

### **NHS Nightingale Hospital (Yorkshire and the Humber) next phase**

I'm writing to update you on the latest position regarding the NHS Nightingale Hospital Yorkshire and the Humber and to thank you for your continued support throughout this period.

The development and mobilisation of this facility has been a huge regional effort with the involvement of over 25 NHS organisations and further collaboration with the private sector, construction industry and Armed Forces.

The Chief Executives and HR nominated leads for each participating organisation have received a letter from our Nightingale team providing an operational update. As the Chair of the host organisation for the new temporary hospital I also wanted to take the opportunity to share with you some details about the assurance process, which has been a very thorough process.

The Nightingale Executive team has worked to a structured programme management approach throughout with a range of internal assurance mechanisms built into every step of the planning and delivery process.

Working with the Armed Forces, the Nightingale team has undertaken detailed Rehearsal of Concept (ROC) drills and 'live' simulations to rigorously test and re-test the clinical and operating models to ensure that every scenario had been considered and accounted for. This included the real-time simulation of a 'live' transfer from a hospital via ambulance to the new Nightingale hospital, a 'black start' test of the power systems, and resuscitation simulations plus much more.

A comprehensive go-live checklist was developed and tested at a ROC drill with the Leeds Teaching Hospitals' Executive Team and external 'critical friends' Simon Morritt, the Chief Executive of York Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and Kirsten Major, Chief Executive for Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

**Chair Linda Pollard CBE DL Hon LLD Chief Executive Julian Hartley**

The National Nightingale Assurance Panel was held on Monday 20 April, led by Amanda Pritchard the Chief Operating Officer for NHS England and Improvement. The Panel included NHS England and Improvement's Chief Nurse, Ruth May, Mark Brandreth, the National Nightingale Expansion Programme Director, Mike Prentice who has been seconded to the role of Chair for the national clinical model panel and representatives of the Care Quality Commission.

Four sub-groups were held to discuss and test assurance against the workforce model, clinical governance, the clinical operating model, and leadership and corporate governance.

Amanda's official response thanked the team for the "rapid, but detailed and thoughtful work" undertaken to bring the NHS Nightingale Hospital to fruition.

Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust held its own extraordinary Board meeting shortly after to seek assurance - on behalf of the region - that the temporary hospital was ready to provide safe care to patients.

As you'll know, this temporary hospital is one of a range of initiatives being undertaken across health and social care in our region to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The measures taken by our Trusts, in combination with the social distancing measures, mean that at this moment in time, our Nightingale Hospital is not needed.

I am delighted to say that the facility passed all of the necessary checks and has been registered as a temporary critical care facility with the Care Quality Commission. We are therefore in a position for the hospital to be stood up within five to seven days should its services be needed over the coming weeks and are working to a constraints model developed by NHS Nightingale London to inform decisions on capacity increases.

Our collaboration across the region continues to be paramount and I know I speak on behalf of the NHS Nightingale Hospital team when I say that the positive and proactive engagement from Trusts has made this very challenging task more manageable.

Through our hosting arrangements, Leeds Teaching Hospitals and the Nightingale team will continue to work with Chief Executives and HR directors at the partner Trusts to ensure that we remain in this state of readiness until further notice.

I trust that this information provides a comprehensive overview with which to assure your Boards. We are working closely with NHS England and Improvement and will communicate out to all key stakeholders including Health and Wellbeing Boards and local MPs in the next few weeks.

Thank you once again for your continued support of the NHS Nightingale Hospital. I will write to you again if there is any further update on the facility.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

**Linda Pollard CBE DL Hon LLD**  
**CHAIR – LEEDS TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS TRUST**

**Chair Linda Pollard CBE DL Hon LLD Chief Executive Julian Hartley**

**The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust incorporating:** Chapel Allerton Hospital, Leeds Cancer Centre, Leeds Children's Hospital, Leeds Dental Institute, Leeds General Infirmary, Seacroft Hospital, St James's University Hospital, Wharfedale Hospital.