

Message from John Mangan, Lead Governor

The most important responsibility I have as an elected Governor is to ensure that services are safe. Every patient attending the hospital should feel that their treatment and care is safe and of high quality.

Above all they should know that the staff can give them the personal attention needed and that the medicines and equipment needed for their care are available.

Now as the coronavirus has spread to all parts of the country the demands on the NHS and your local hospital has increased rapidly. The fact that the virus has become more widespread in our communities several weeks after the big cities has helped the managers and staff at Salisbury Hospital by giving them more time to prepare. Much routine work has been postponed and the hospital reorganised to make more beds including critical care beds with ventilators available. There has been time to increase stocks of equipment and time to provide staff training.

This will help greatly as the number of very ill patients needing specialist care in hospital grows. We can all help the staff at the hospital continue to give care to the highest standards. This is our time to take personal responsibility to keep ourselves and others safe.

Please follow the government advice and keep safe:

Stay at home:

- Only go outside for food, health reasons and work reasons if essential.
- If you do go out stay 2 metres away from other people at all times.
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home.
- Do not meet others including friends and family.

In the coming weeks it will be especially important to follow this advice. If you are over 70 or have underlying health condition you accept offers of help from neighbours and support groups with shopping and collection of prescriptions if you feel able to do these things.

The more people follow the advice the less demand will be on hospital and those who need it will receive the care they need.

Thank you for your support

John Mangan
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