

HSI22/016

GOVERNING BODY

Title of paper	Covid Incident Status Report – Managing a safe winter		
Agenda item	4	Date of meeting	6 April 2022
Director lead	Tessa Harvey, Executive Director of Performance		
Author	Michaela Dyer, Deputy Director of Performance		

Purpose	For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
	To ratify	<input type="checkbox"/>
	To discuss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	To note/receive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Link to strategic objective	Operational service delivery
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Executive Summary
<p>The third significant wave of Covid, linked to the Omicron variant, caused cases to rise across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight from mid-November – with the peak in daily cases on 31st December at 5,500 – we are currently seeing 3-4,000 positive covid cases per day while pressure on urgent care services across the CCG area remain significant.</p> <p>Key factors impacting urgent care remain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9% growth in pressure for Emergency Department, 111 and 999 services compared to the same period in 2019/20 • Increasing number of patients who are medically fit to leave hospital, but who cannot be discharged to an alternative care setting • Staff sickness at higher levels than a normal winter due to covid isolation <p>Covid case rates per 100,000 population across our 4 local authorities currently average 1,122 while cases in hospital remain above the predicted peak, with 560 patients with covid in hospital at 29th March.</p> <p>The paper describes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitalisation rates for Covid across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight ICS area, and how that relates to our models of likely bed surge • The impact of Omicron on general occupancy rates, in particular related to Intensive Care Units • Staff sickness trends • The impact on patients of short notice (on the day) elective cancellations. • The impact on primary care and the ambulance service

Recommendations	The Governing Body are asked to note the report and the issues raised
Publication	Include on public website <input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide details on the impact of following aspects	
Equality and quality impact assessment	None to note
Patient and stakeholder engagement	A range of communications are in place and planned to update the population on the pressures being faced by health and care, urging the public to make appropriate use of health and care services.
Financial and resource implications / impact	A number of bids have been made against national funds that have been made available to support operational delivery through winter
Legal implications	None to note
Principal risk(s) relating to this paper	The system risks/issues in this report have, where relevant, been linked to an associated Governing Body Assurance Framework (GBAF) risk.
Key committees / groups where evidence supporting this paper has been considered.	N/A

Governing Body Members Briefing

Covid Incident / Managing Urgent Care in Winter - Exception Report

Tessa Harvey, Executive Director of Performance

Omicron wave of Covid across HIOW – summary of key position

Case rates

1. Currently we are seeing circa 3-4,000 positive covid cases per day across HSIOW
2. Case rates per 100,000 population across our 4 local authorities are:
 - Hampshire : 1215
 - Southampton : 880
 - Portsmouth : 1082
 - Isle of Wight : 1311

Hospitalisation rates

3. The number of patients in hospital with covid remains above the modelled predicted peak, and has reached 560 (29th March)
4. The number of patients in ITU beds with covid remains below the modelled predicted peak across HIOW. ITU cases across HIOW have grown throughout March from 1 to 11 (29th March)

Staff sickness and Absence Rates – Primary and Secondary Care

5. As at 24 March the staff absence rate for HIOW was 7.4% for all staff absences, with sickness or self-isolation related to Covid-19 at 3.5%. Sickness is now increasing across all Trusts, with some Trusts reporting above 8.0%. Staffing in our Primary Care Practice settings is also extremely pressured.
6. In the period December to March, the sickness absence rate for HIOW increased to a peak of 7.3% in early January before dropping back to 4.1% in late February. However recently the sickness absence rate has increased again to 7.4% in late March. Within Provider Trusts, the highest rates of absence have remained within HHFT, PHU and SHFT.
7. New guidance for testing and IPC are expected imminently and will be reviewed and rolled out as appropriate.

Omicron wave of Covid across HIOW – summary of key position

Impact on Acute Occupancy – General Beds and ITU beds

7. The impact of Omicron, as well as general increase in NEL pressures, and the challenges in ensuring patients can be discharged on time has further increased occupancy rates across acute providers which are (at 26th March) **94%**

8. ITU core occupancy has remained close to or at 100% each day against our 90 core beds (26th March Jan, 87 occupied ITU beds, **97%** occupancy)

Impact on Elective Care

9. As a result, we have cancelled **460 cases** across HIOW from the period 1st to 27th March **on the day of treatment**

Clearly, this has an impact on patient experience, and all patients are re-booked within 28 days. We have not cancelled any critical or cancer cases.

10. We have sought support from regional colleagues to maintain cardiac treatments requiring high dependency / ITU care, with plans agreed for a number of patients who would previously been treated in Southampton moved to Oxford

Impact on Primary care

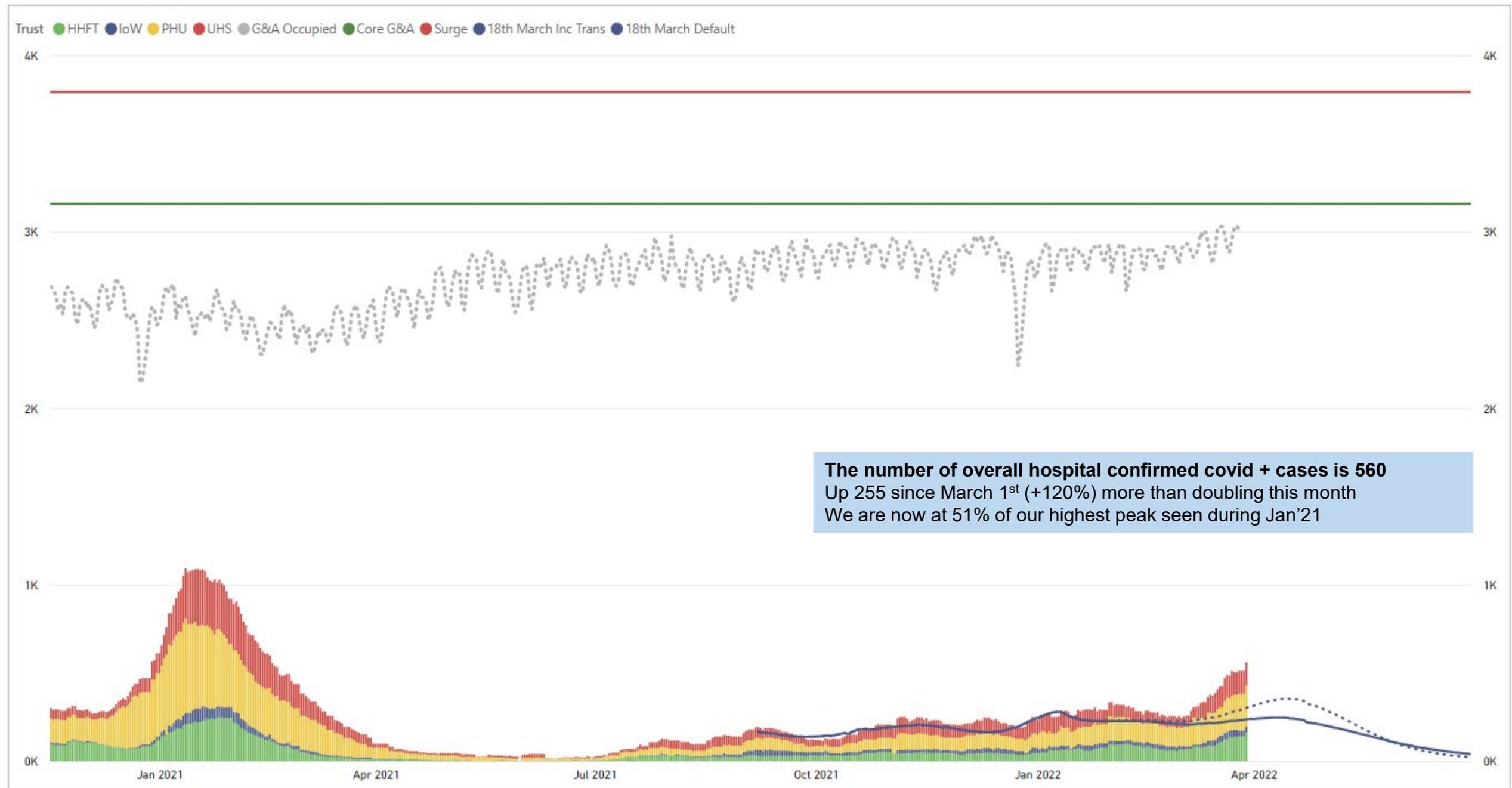
11. In HIOW, there are currently **18 practices** with serious staff shortages reported on 28th March. Numbers have fluctuated over the week, but absences remain high. There are 24 amber rated practices, with mitigating actions in place for 13 of the 42 red and amber rated practices. 101 out of 143 practices are currently rated green.

Impact on the Ambulance Service

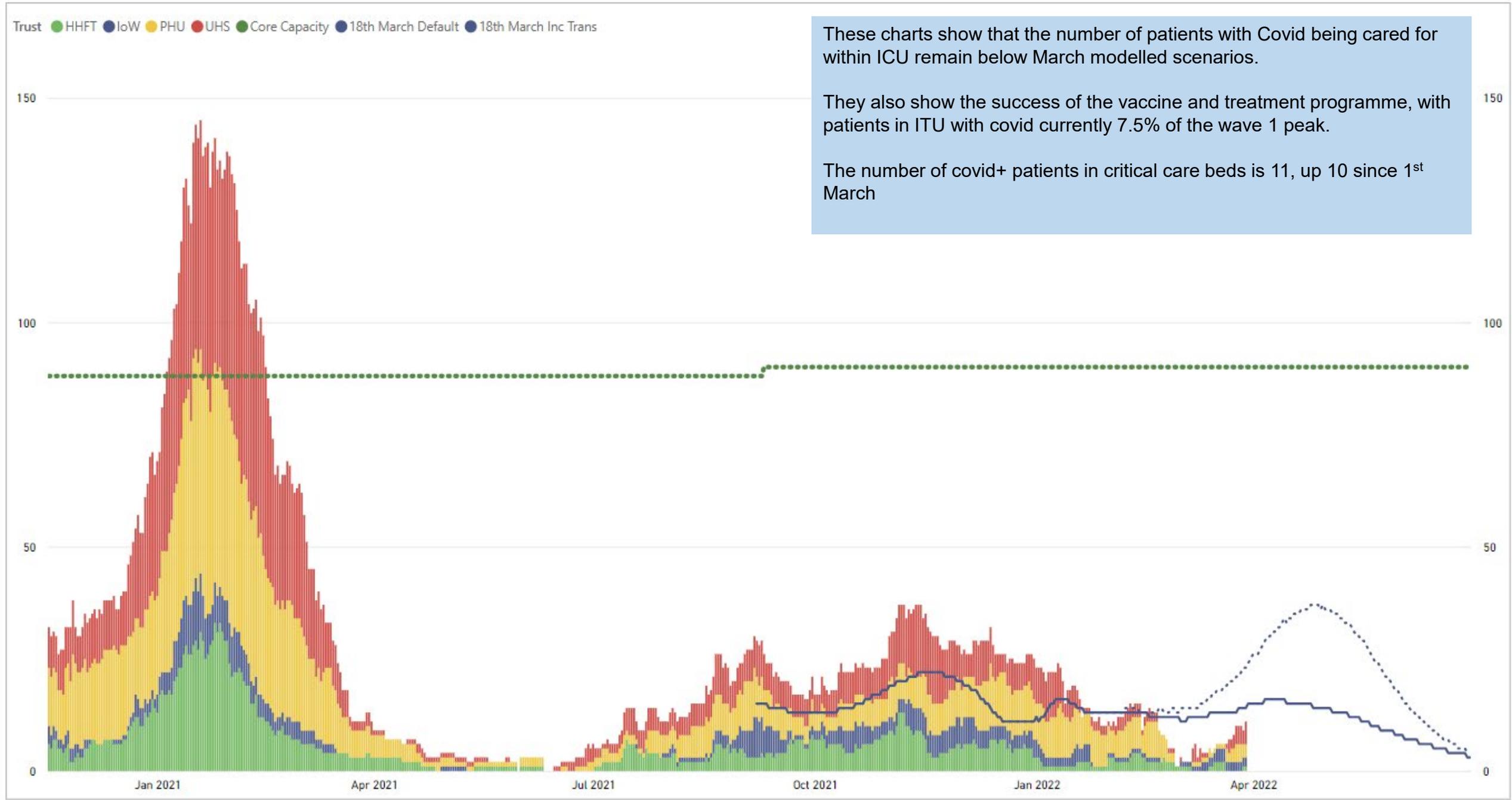
12. The 999 service stood up the Enhanced Patient Safety Procedure four times during w.c 21st March due to severe demand, sickness and handover delays. The procedure has been designed to ensure that Category 1 and Category 2 patients as the highest clinical priorities will receive an ambulance response within a timely manner.

13. Staff sickness and isolation are contributing significantly to performance issues as of 29th March with overall sickness at around 13%, with covid sickness at 7%. This is affecting both call answering and response times. A Call Centre Recovery Plan has been submitted to NHSE&I.

HSIOW: Covid+ Patients in All Hospital beds and latest modelling scenarios



HSIOW: Covid+ Patients in Critical Care Beds and Latest Modelling Scenarios



These charts show that the number of patients with Covid being cared for within ICU remain below March modelled scenarios.

They also show the success of the vaccine and treatment programme, with patients in ITU with covid currently 7.5% of the wave 1 peak.

The number of covid+ patients in critical care beds is 11, up 10 since 1st March