

# Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission

Tuesday 22 March 2022

7.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1  
2QH

## Supplemental Agenda One

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7.	<b>Update on CAMHS race equality work</b> A presentation is enclosed on CAMHS to update the commission on race equality work.  A presentation on the impact of substance misuse, particularly Skunk, on Mental Health is also enclosed.	3 - 21
8.	<b>Elective Care Recovery</b> KCH have provided an update on Elective Care recovery.	22 - 23

### Contact

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Date: 17 March 2022



King's College Hospital  
NHS Foundation Trust

## **King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust submission to the Southwark Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission, March 2022.**

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is one of the busiest and biggest Trusts in the country serving an inner-city population of 1.3 million people and acting as a tertiary referral centre for millions more.

This submission below sets out how the Trust, and in particular our Denmark Hill site - which cares for the people of Southwark – is supporting both our staff and members of the public with the symptoms of Long COVID.

### **Long COVID**

King's was one of the first Trusts across the country to deliver support for people living with the symptoms of Long COVID and we continue to work with partners from across the region to provide Long COVID support.

There are three ways in which our Trust is involved in providing Long COVID services:

1. *Joint community service between King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (GSTT).*

Since April 2021, we have been jointly running Long COVID specialist multidisciplinary assessment clinics for residents in South East London at three of our acute sites. For King's, assessment clinics are run from King's College Hospital in Denmark Hill and the Princess Royal Hospital in Bromley. These clinics assess patients who have been experiencing symptoms of Long COVID for three months or more and refer them on as appropriate so that they can receive the best care for their symptoms, in a timely manner. Depending on the severity of their symptoms, people with Long COVID could be referred to our specialist vocational rehabilitation clinic (as set out below) or be signposted to community group support. This assessment service has been co-developed in collaboration with partners across the integrated care system with a strong emphasis on patient and public engagement.

Clinicians from King's and GSTT as well as community healthcare representatives from Southwark and Lambeth and other partners meet regularly to discuss strategic direction and plan and agree the service delivery together on a regular basis. As part of this work, there are plans in place to set up a single point of access service across Southwark and Lambeth, strengthening our community based and specialist care offer. Single point of access services significantly improves patient experience as they streamline the referral processes, making it easier and quicker for people to access the treatment and support they need without multiple appointments and assessments.

2. *Vocational Rehabilitation for people living with Long COVID*

King's was the first specialist vocational rehabilitation service exclusively set up to support members of the public with Long COVID across the country. Vocational rehabilitation is a process which enables people with functional, psychological, development, cognitive and emotional needs or health conditions to overcome barriers to maintaining or returning to employment, volunteering or education.

The symptoms of Long COVID can detrimentally impact on someone's ability to work. We see and treat people referred to our service with the most severe symptoms of Long COVID and following an initial assessment, co-ordinate an individualised programme of support to help them return to work. This includes working directly with the patient's employers to put in place meaningful adjustments so that a return to work, or maintaining their job, is possible.

Since the service began – on charitable, proof of concept funding, we have treated 89 patients, all of whom are either still receiving treatment, have returned successfully to their substantive employment or found alternative employment more suited to them while they continue to manage their symptoms. The pioneering specialist service has now received longer term funding support from the CCG and recruitment is underway to enable us to reduce waiting lists and support more people living in Southwark and South East London.

### *3. Occupational Health support for Trust staff*

Across King's we support all our staff who are managing symptoms of Long COVID. We do not yet know whether the Omicron variant of COVID-19 will cause Long COVID symptoms in people who caught the virus since it emerged in late 2021. This is because it takes three months of persistent symptoms for a diagnosis of Long COVID to be made.

Our support programme for staff includes an occupational health physician, nursing staff, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and involvement from colleagues in psychology. The team supports staff to manage their physical, cognitive and psychological symptoms working towards recovery. It includes implementing adjustments, developing coping with symptom strategies and peer support to enable people to return to work or maintain their current roles.

Of the staff referred to our service for support managing their Long COVID symptoms, 63% were currently off sick from their role and 36% were working adjusted hours. The service has made a substantive contribution to meaningfully supporting staff – working in a range of roles, at varying levels of seniority – back into the jobs they enjoy and want to do. We will continue to ensure that this support is available to all staff who need it.

**For more information, please contact:** Rachael Truswell, Head of Stakeholder Relations, on [Rachael.Truswell@nhs.net](mailto:Rachael.Truswell@nhs.net)







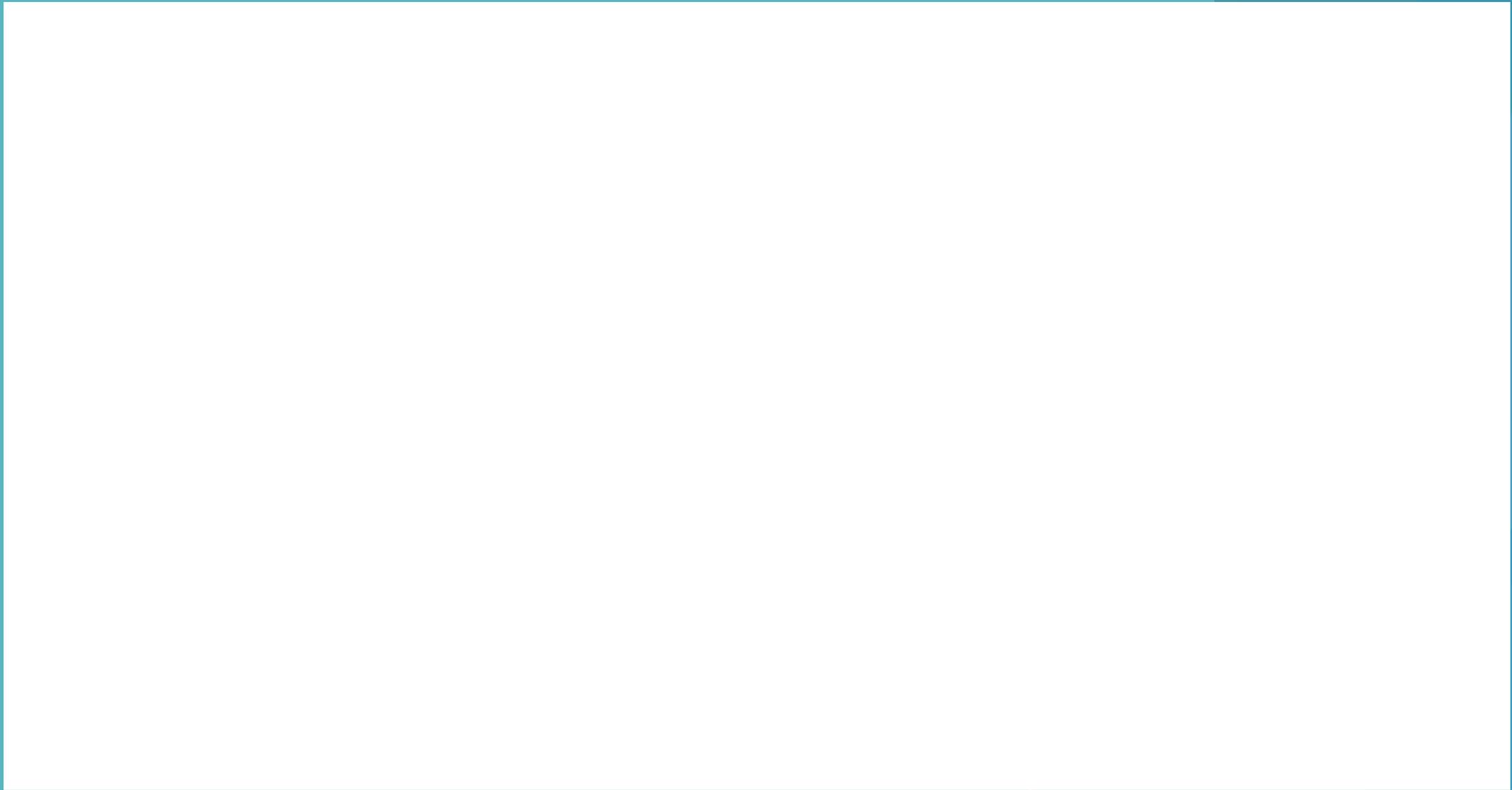


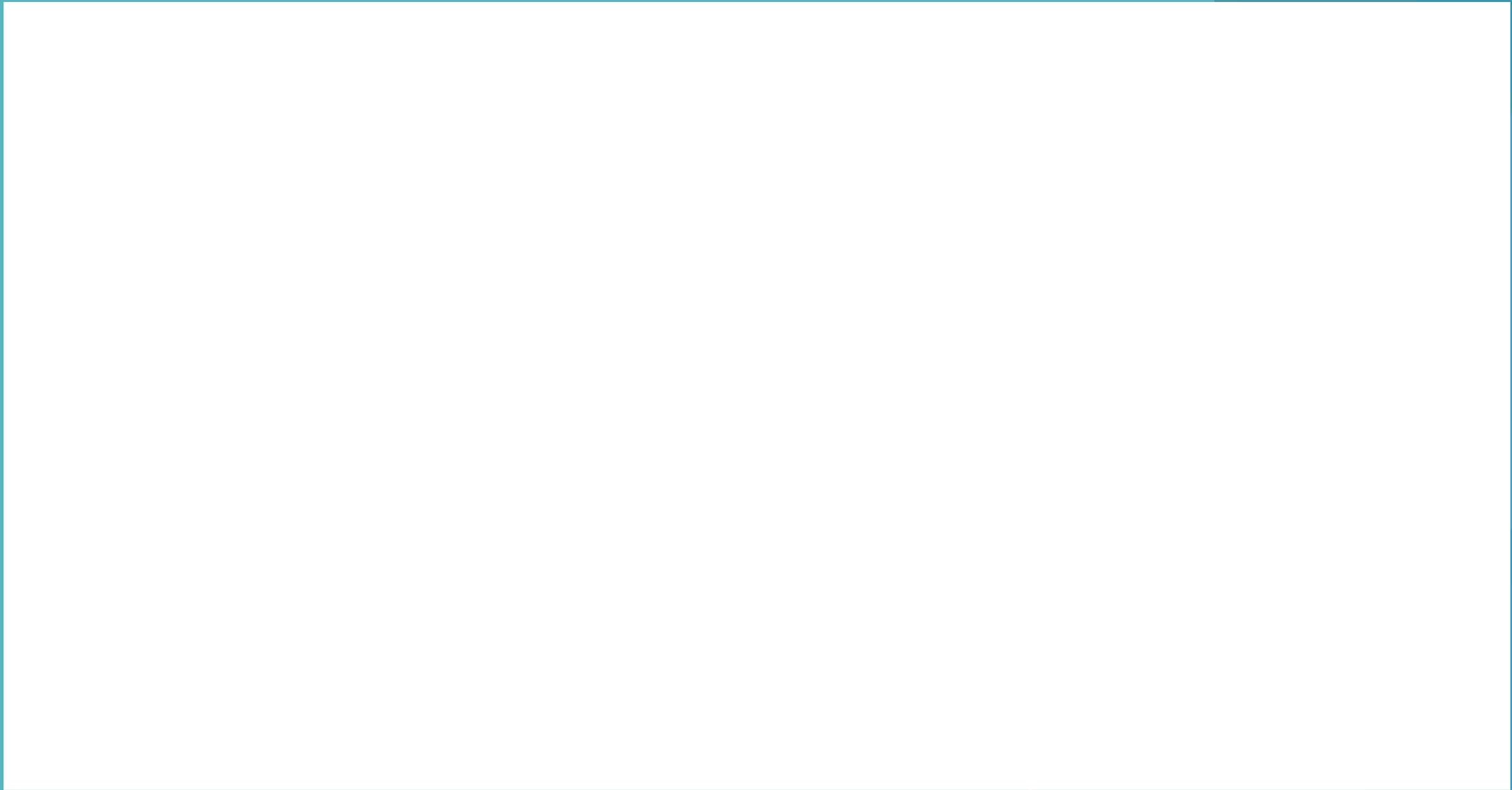




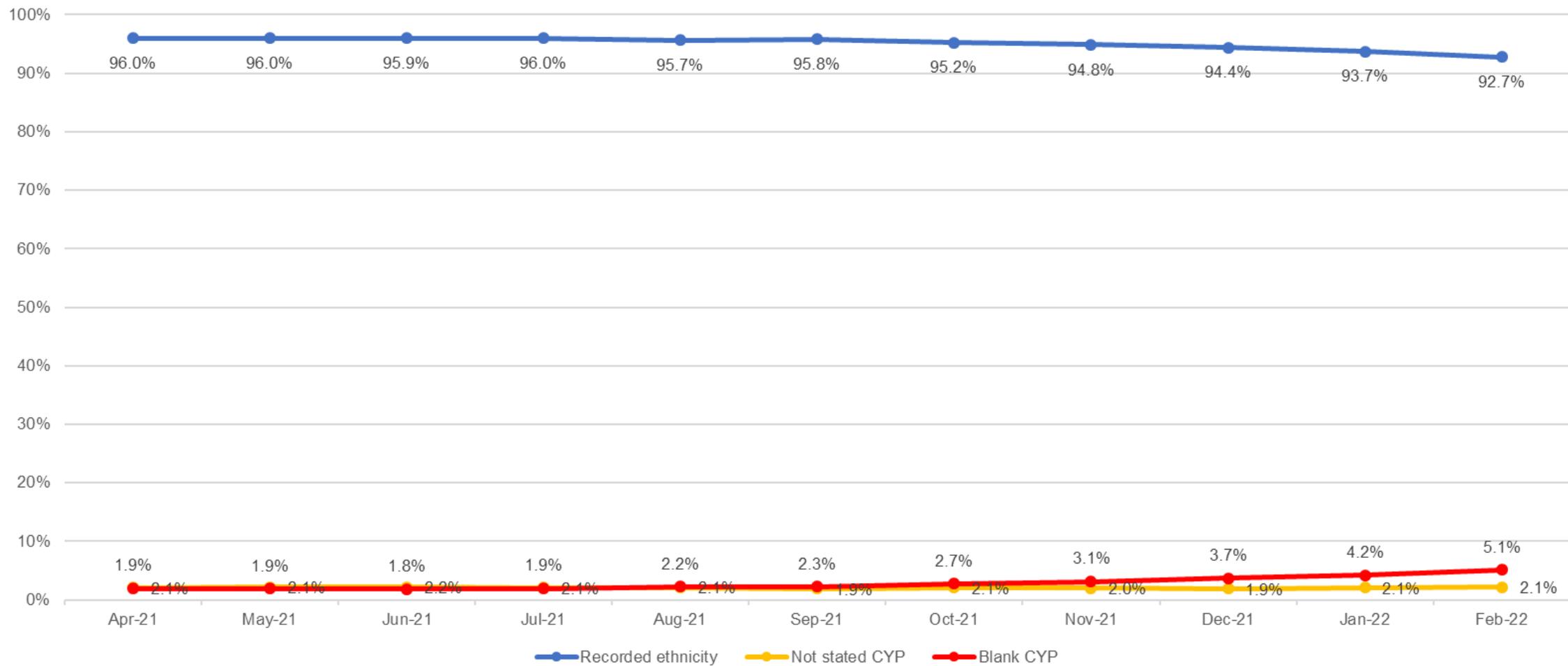








### Ethnicity recording in Southwark CAMHS





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King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is one of the busiest and biggest Trusts in the country serving an inner-city population of 1.3 million people and acting as a tertiary referral centre for millions more.

This submission below sets out how the Trust, and in particular our Denmark Hill site - which cares for the people of Southwark - has managed the most recent surge of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 and the next steps in recovering from the impact of the pandemic.

**Operational recovery from COVID-19***The impact of Omicron*

Over the Christmas period and in the early months of 2022, our services and staff were managing the surge of patients presenting with the Omicron variant of COVID-19 as well as the high numbers of staff sickness and isolation that occurred because of the transmissibility of the strain. Despite these ongoing challenges, our staff have shown outstanding professionalism and agility to provide the very best care to all.

As at 15 March 2022, our current Trust position is:

- Trust wide: 21 patients in critical care, 156 patients in general and acute beds.
- King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill site: 18 patients in critical care, 85 patients in general and acute beds.

Across our hospitals, including our Denmark Hill site, we have stood down the gold and silver command and control structures, used for rapid decision making and escalation. We continue to actively monitor the local and national COVID-19 situation so that we are ready to respond to any emerging trends.

*Elective recovery*

We are continuing to make progress with our elective recovery. While some elective care was paused during previous waves, we are now carrying out planned elective care at all our sites and returning to face-to-face appointments where clinically appropriate.

Last year our waiting lists dropped from 8,000 to 1,000, for people who had been waiting longer than one year for treatment. We are routinely exceeding 100% of our business-as-usual pre-pandemic baseline (2019/2020) for outpatients and day case surgery.

We are also increasing our capacity, both in terms of staffing and facilities, to be able to continue to reduce waiting times and see and treat more people across Southwark and South East London. At King's College Hospital in Denmark Hill, we have opened two new theatres in neurosurgery which will enable us to carry out an extra 750 neurosurgical procedures this year. In radiology, we have purchased two new scanners which are quicker than the equipment they have replaced, and we now have more scanners in total across all our sites. This team are also running a seven-day service to scan and diagnose more people, at an earlier stage. We are mid-way through construction for a new outpatient's facility which will house 48 consultation rooms and eight procedure rooms which will be open to patients in the summer.

**Living with COVID – the UK Government's roadmap for recovery**

Following the Prime Minister's announcement setting out the roadmap for living with COVID on 21 February, King's has taken time to understand the full implications of the relaxation of measures including social distancing on our patients, services and staff.

*What the changes mean for the NHS*

Many of our infection prevention and control measures will remain in place, in some format, so that we can protect our patients, visitors and staff working across our sites. Face masks continue to remain mandatory as soon as people enter our buildings and appropriate PPE will be required on wards. For red pathways – on COVID-19 positive inpatient wards for example – staff will continue to be provided with FFP3 masks and eye protection to provide them with the highest level of protection against the transmission of COVID-19. For all other interactions with patients and visitors, staff will be required to wear surgical masks – with eye protection being required to carry out some tasks and procedures. There are no changes to these policies – they remain the same as the policies we put in place throughout the pandemic.

It is of paramount importance to the Trust that all our staff, patients and visitors' safety is prioritised. We will be continuing to take a cautious, risk assessed approach to all infection prevention and control decisions which are made across the Trust.

**For more information, please contact:** Rachael Truswell, Head of Stakeholder Relations, on [Rachael.Truswell@nhs.net](mailto:Rachael.Truswell@nhs.net)



**Health & Social Care Scrutiny Commission****MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021-22****AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)****NOTE:** Original held by Scrutiny Team; all amendments/queries to Fitzroy Williams Tel: 020 7525 7102

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