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Media Release

Praise for RUH's Maternity screening service

The RUH has been praised for the standards of its antenatal and newborn screening service.

Despite the challenges brought by Covid, during the last 18 months the service met all of Public Health England's service standards, ensuring all appointments took place within set timeframes.

The team provides a range of services, including screening for infectious diseases and fetal anomalies antenatally, tracking of the newborn physical examination and hearing screen for newborns.

Inspectors from the Screening Quality Assurance Service said: "The team identified that your service is very well engaged with quality assurance and with changes and developments to the screening programmes. It was evident that staff are dedicated to ensuring a high level of service for pregnant women and babies.

"As a team we would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for your continued commitment to screening and to thank you for participating in this process at this challenging time."

In their report, inspectors highlighted the increased level of digital information available for parents.

Sharon Wilson, Deputy Screening Coordinator, said "Every three to five years the Quality Assurance Team (QA) carries out an inspection of all the screening services provided by the trust to assess what we are doing well and areas requiring improvement.

"Following the latest inspection, QA reported it was really impressed with the services we provide and made no recommendations at all on where we could improve – though here at the RUH we are always looking at ways we can further improve the service we provide to our patients.



"This is a huge achievement for the whole screening team and we would like to thank them all for their commitment and hard work."

Ends

Notes to Editor:

The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust provides acute treatment and care for a catchment population of around 500,000 people in Bath, and the surrounding towns and villages in North East Somerset and Western Wiltshire. The hospital provides healthcare to the population served by four Clinical Commissioning Groups: Bath & North East Somerset CCG, Wiltshire CCG, Somerset CCG and South Gloucestershire CCG.

The Trust provides 759 beds and a comprehensive range of acute services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

In 2015 The Royal United Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust acquired the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD) NHS Foundation Trust. The RNHRD treats patients from across the country offering services in rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME, cancer related fatigue and fatigue linked to other long term conditions such as multiple sclerosis.

The RUH is changing - we have an exciting programme of redevelopment underway transforming our site and further improving the services we provide. The Trust has opened the purpose-built RNHRD and Brownsword Therapies Centre and is now working towards the new Dyson Cancer Centre. For more details visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk/about/fit_for_the_future

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk

