

Council of Governors

Subject:	Exceptional circumstances for allowing Governors to stand for election		Date: 12 th February 2019	
Prepared By:	Shirley A Higginbotham, Director of Corporate Affairs			
Approved By:	Shirley A Higginbotham, Director of Corporate Affairs			
Presented By:	Shirley A Higginbotham, Director of Corporate Affairs			
Purpose				
To seek Council of Governor approval of the exceptional circumstances for allowing Governors to serve longer than 9 years			Approval	X
			Assurance	
			Update	
			Consider	
Strategic Objectives				
To provide outstanding care to our patients	To support each other to do a great job	To inspire excellence	To get the most from our resources	To play a leading role in transforming health and care services
X	X	X	X	X
Overall Level of Assurance				
	Significant	Sufficient	Limited	None
N/A				
Risks/Issues				
Financial	N/A			
Patient Impact	N/A			
Staff Impact	N/A			
Services	N/A			
Reputational	N/A			
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before				
N/A				
Executive Summary				
<p>During 2019 a number of governors reach the end of their current tenure and elections are currently underway for Public, Staff and Volunteer Governors across all constituencies and sites.</p> <p>The Constitution of the Trust states:</p> <p>7.10 Terms of Office</p> <p>7.10.1 Elected Governors</p> <p>7.10.1.1 shall be elected for a period of 3 years</p> <p>7.10.1.2 are, subject to paragraphs 7.10.1.3 and 7.10.1.4 eligible for re-election at the end of the period referred to in paragraph 7.10.1.1</p> <p>7.10.1.3 may hold office for a maximum of 9 years but in exceptional circumstances (as determined by the Council of Governors) may serve longer than 9 years, but any extension beyond 9 years will be subject to annual re-election and, in any event, he shall not serve for a total term longer than 12 years; and</p>				

7.10.1.4 shall cease to hold office if they cease to be a member of the Constituency (or relevant class within a Constituency) by which they were elected or in any other situation specified in this Constitution.

The current Council of Governors has three Governors who have achieved the maximum term of nine years; two governors have not expressed a wish to continue as a governor. However one governor does wish to nominate for election for a further 12 months.

At the Council of Governors forum held on the 15th January 2019, Angie Emmott the Staff Governor for Newark requested exceptional circumstances be agreed to enable her to nominate for election, these were

The other staff governor for Newark is standing down, we have no volunteer governor and I am unaware of any expressions for this seat, two public governors are definitely standing down so out of seven governor positions it only leaves potentially two public governors and no continuity of staff governors in place.

I am aware that the CQC will be inspecting Newark Hospital this year and as part of their remit, will be speaking to Newark Governors as part of our journey to being outstanding.

At the same time, the general climate within healthcare is constantly changing with the Trust's new strategy to be launched, the new NHS ten year plan and the changes within STPs, ICPs and ICSs.

I feel that all the above lead us into exceptional circumstances with a need for continuity within the Council of Governors for Newark Hospital and as such would like the forum to consider this application to extend my term of office.

Those governors in attendance supported the exceptional circumstances. Noting the above statement from Angie Emmott it was agreed that if two or fewer members were nominated for election then Angie would be allowed to nominate, however if more than two members were nominated then Angie would not be allowed to nominate.

It was agreed by the group these exceptional circumstances were only applicable in this circumstance and were therefore not to be established as a principle.

The Council of Governors is asked to discuss and approve these exceptional circumstances.