

## **Lead Governor Role Description**

### **Accountability:**

**The Lead Governor is accountable to the Council of Governors collectively as a serving Member of the Council.**

**The Lead Governor is an office holder not an employee of the Foundation Trust.**

### **The Role:**

- To be an external point of contact for NHSE where it may be considered inappropriate for the Chair or their nominated deputy to deal with a particular matter.
- To chair meetings of Council of Governors where the Trust Chair, Vice-Chair or other Non-Executive Director cannot chair the meeting due to a conflict of interest.
- Facilitate communications and a good working relationship between the Governors and the Board of Directors including acting as the principle independent channel for communications between the Governors and Board of Directors through the Chair, Chief Executive or Senior Independent Director.
- To consult routinely with the Governors, Chair and Director of Corporate Affairs regarding the planning and preparation of the Council of Governors agenda.
- To be a member of the Remuneration Committee.
- Contribute to the appraisal of the Chair by the Senior Independent Director in accordance with the process determined by the Council of Governors including the collation of input from other Governors and the Remuneration Committee on the performance of the Chair.
- Contribute to the appraisal process of the Non-executive Directors in conjunction with the Chair and supported by the Remuneration Committee.
- To recommend to the Council of Governors any appointments/reappointments of Chair and/or Non-executive Directors
- To take an active role in the activities of the Council of Governors
- Meet with the Chair on a regular basis to discuss relevant issues.
- Support the Chair in any action to remove a Governor due to unconstitutional behaviour.
- To be involved in the induction process for any newly appointed Public Governor.
- The Lead Governor may call upon the support of the other Governors, the Chair, the Director of Corporate Affairs and the Senior Independent Director to carry out their role effectively to the benefit of the Council of Governors.

- In liaison with the Chair, support the development of the skills and strength of the Council of Governors and raise public awareness of all Governors.
- Other duties as requested by the Council of Governors or the Chair.

**The Person:**

To fulfil this role effectively, the Lead Governor will need to:

- Be an elected Public Governor
- Have the confidence of Governor colleagues and members of the Board of Directors
- Understand NHSE's role, the available guidance and the basis upon which NHSE may take regulatory action
- Be committed to the success of the Foundation Trust
- Understand the Trust's Constitution
- Have the ability to influence and negotiate
- Be able to present a well-reasoned argument