

Council of Governors

SUMMARY REPORT

Meeting Date: 26 April 2022

Agenda Item: 11

Report Title:	Governor Election Update	
Author(s):	Amber Wild, Corporate Assurance Manager	
Accountable Director:	Deborah Lawrenson, Director of Corporate Governance	
Other Meetings presented to or previously agreed at:	Committee/Group:	N/A
	Date:	N/A

Summary of key points in report

The term of office for Governors is three years, with up to three consecutive terms being allowable after which governors must stand down.

Each year elections take place to appoint to existing vacancies or to seats where the terms of office has come to an end.

This summary report provides an update on Governor Elections currently underway for 2022 and recommended next steps for discussion and agreement.

Of the 24 vacancies, 16 remain with only one seat to be contested (Rest of England Constituency) and the remainder to be appointed un-opposed. All newly appointed Governors will be formally received and appointed at the June Council of Governors meeting following successful completion and receipt of Fit and Proper Person's test, DBS and Declarations of Interest.

The Lead Governor role will be up for election at the June meeting. The current Lead Governor was extended in the role in December 2021 to allow for the election process to take place and will be entitled to stand for election again if they so wish.

It is recommended that work take place to plan for a potential by-election to address ongoing vacancies and that the review of the Constitution be brought forward.

Recommendation for the Board/Committee to consider:

Consider for Action		Approval	X	Assurance		Information	X
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The Council of Governors is asked to note the update of the current governor elections and discuss and agree next steps.

Please identify which strategic priorities will be impacted by this report:					
Covid-19 – Recovering Effectively		Yes	X	No	
CQC – Getting Back to Good Continuous Improvement		Yes	X	No	
Transformation – Changing things that will make a difference		Yes	X	No	
Partnerships – working together to make a bigger impact		Yes		No	
Is this report relevant to compliance with any key standards ?				State specific standard	
Care Quality Commission Fundamental Standards	Yes	X	No		Good Governance
Data Security Protection Toolkit	Yes		No	X	
Have these areas been considered ? YES/NO				If Yes, what are the implications or the impact? If no, please explain why	
Service User and Carer Safety and Experience	Yes		No	X	<i>None directly apply to this decision</i>
Financial (revenue & capital)	Yes		No	X	
Organisational Development/Workforce	Yes		No	X	
Equality, Diversity & Inclusion	Yes		No	X	
Legal	Yes		No	X	

Governor Elections Update

Section 1: Analysis and supporting detail

Background

The term of office for Governors is three years, with up to three consecutive terms being allowable after which governors must stand down. Each year elections take place to appoint to existing vacancies or to seats where the terms of office has come to an end.

In 2022, 24 seats will become vacant as follows:

Constituency and Class	Number of Seats
Public - Sheffield North West	1
Public - Sheffield North East	2
Public - Sheffield South East	1
Public - Rest of England	1
Service Users and Carers - Service User	7
Service Users and Carers - Carer	4
Service Users and Carers - Young Service User or Carer	2
Staff - Central Support	1
Staff - Clinical Support	1
Staff - Medical and Clinical	1
Staff - Nursing	1
Staff - Social Worker	1
Staff - Support Workers	1

UK Engage have been working with us to plan for the 2022 election with the timetable followed outlined below:

Event	Date
Publication of Notice of Election	Monday, 28 March 2022
Deadline for Receipt of Nominations	Wednesday, 13 April 2022
Publication of Statement of Nominations	Thursday, 14 April 2022
Deadline for Candidate Withdrawals	Wednesday 20 April 2022
Notice of Poll / Issue of Ballot Papers	Tuesday, 03 May 2022
Close of Poll – 5pm	Thursday, 26 May 2022

Nominations were received in line with the plan and published on 14 April 2022 by UK Engage. See **annex A**. Only 1 seat, which is for the Rest of England constituency, will be contested all others will be elected unopposed subject to successful completion of the Fit and Proper Persons test, DBS and Declarations of Interest.

Constituency and Class	Number of Seats	Update post nominations received
Public - Sheffield North West	1	1 nominee to be elected unopposed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irene Nakamatte
Public - Sheffield North East	2	2 vacancies remain
Public – Sheffield South East	1	1 vacancy remains
Public - Rest of England	1	Two nominations received seat to be contested through election
Service Users and Carers - Service User	7	3 nominees to be elected unopposed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jonathan Hall Catherine Prior Terry Proudfoot 4 vacancies remain
Service Users and Carers - Carer	4	1 nominee to be elected unopposed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Billie Critchlow 3 vacancies remain
Service Users and Carers - Young Service User or Carer	2	1 nominee to be elected unopposed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Alistair Brash 1 vacancy remains
Staff - Central Support	1	1 nominee to be elected unopposed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dave Palfreyman
Staff - Clinical Support	1	No nominations received
Staff - Medical and Clinical	1	No nominations received
Staff - Nursing	1	No nominations received
Staff - Social Worker	1	No nominations received
Staff - Support Workers	1	No nominations received

Out of the 24 upcoming vacancies 16 remain unfilled. Jonathan Hall, Terry Proudfoot (current Lead Governor) and Billie Critchlow are existing Governors who stood for re-election. The other nominees will be new to the Council of Governors.

Governors currently filling seats, who have either chosen not to stand or who have reached the end of their terms of office and are therefore stepping down at the June Council of Governors meeting are as follows:

Name	Governor Category	Term Began	Term Expires
Steve Hible	Public North East	01.07.2019	30.06.2022
Ahmed Ibrahim	Public North East	01.07.2019	30.06.2022
Liz Friend MBE	Carer	01.07.2019	30.06.2022

Sue Roe	Carer	01.07.2013	30.06.2016
		01.07.2016	30.06.2019
		01.07.2019	30.06.2022
Bradley Wass	Central Support Staff	01.07.2019	30.06.2022
Mark Goodwin	Social Work	05.07.2019	04.07.2022
Adam Butcher	Service User	01.07.2016	30.06.2019
		01.07.2019	30.06.2022
Joan Toy	Service User	01.07.2016	30.06.2019
		01.07.2019	30.06.2022

Promotion of the elections was communicated in various ways, with support from SHSC Communications team:

- News item in Jarvis <https://jarvis.shsc.nhs.uk/news/become-staff-governor> Staff Governor blog <https://jarvis.shsc.nhs.uk/news/governor-elections-are-coming>
- Social media posts – Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/shscft/posts/444699960719549> and Twitter <https://twitter.com/SHSCFT/status/1511354219562897408>
- Website <https://www.shsc.nhs.uk/get-involved/council-governors>
- Via a final communication cascade through the Executive team to senior leaders to share with staff.

Next Steps

All successfully appointed Governors will need to complete Fit and Proper Person's test, DBS and Declarations of Interest before they are finally confirmed in post at the June meeting.

As the Lead Governor was up for re-election as a Governor we will also need to hold election for the Lead Governor role in June, for which the current Lead Governor is entitled to re-stand if they wish to do so (their current term was extended from December to June to allow for the elections to take place).

The Chair, Lead Governor and Director of Corporate governance will need to discuss and recommend timing for holding a by-election particularly in respect of staff governor seats. Discussion will also take place at the Executive Team with regard to communication and awareness raising of these roles.

The Constitution was last reviewed and approved in December 2019. We were already planning a review of the Constitution to ensure it reflects the current organisational structure in terms of the classes outlined and to consider the size of the Council of Governors given the size of the organisation. In light of the disappointing response to the current election process the Chair and the Director of Corporate Governance have discussed and are recommending the planned review of the Constitution be brought forward with the updated document received at the Council of Governors for final approval in the autumn of 2022.

Recommendation

The Council of Governors is asked to note the update provided and to discuss and agree to the recommended next steps.

Appendix – Annex A (Statement of Persons Nominated)

Election of Governors 2022

STATEMENT OF PERSONS NOMINATED

SHEFFIELD HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS ELECTION

As Returning Officer for the above election I hereby give notice that the following candidates have been nominated for the above election in the following constituencies / classes.

Candidate Name	Constituency and Class	Declaration of Interest	
		Political Party	Financial/Other Interest
Irene Nakamatte	Public - Sheffield North West		
Fozia Nadeem	Public - Rest of England	Member of the Labour Party	
Chloe Thomas	Public - Rest of England		
Jonathan Hall	Service Users and Carers - Service User		
Catherine Prior	Service Users and Carers - Service User	Member of the Labour Party	
Terry Proudfoot	Service Users and Carers - Service User	Member of the Labour Party	
Billie Critchlow	Service Users and Carers - Carer		
Dr. Alistair Brash	Service Users and Carers - Young Service User or Carer		
Dave Palfreyman	Staff - Central Support		

The contact address for each of these candidates is:
c/o Returning Officer, UK Engage, Image House, 10 Acorn Business Park, Heaton Lane, Stockport SK4 1AS.

Craig Poyser
Returning Officer

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Tel: 0345 209 3770 Email: shsc@uk-engage.org

14 April 2022