

Meeting Title	Board of Directors		
Date	20.01.20	Agenda item	Bo.1.21.6

Report from the Chairman

Presented by	Dr Maxwell Mclean, Chairman		
Author	Jacqui Maurice, Head of Corporate Governance		
Lead Director	Dr Maxwell Mclean, Chairman		
Purpose of the paper	The report provides an update on activity and engagement involving the Council of Governors since the previous report provided to the Board in November 2020.		
Key control	N/A		
Action required	To note		
Previously discussed at/informed by			
Previously approved at:	Committee/Group	Date	

Situation

1. Non-Executive Director Appointments

I am very pleased to welcome Altaf Sadique and Karen Walker to this their first Board meeting. The Council approved the appointment of Altaf in September 2020, and following the completion of all the required checks Altaf officially joined the Board of Directors on 1 December 2020. The Council also approved the appointment of Karen Walker in October 2020 and subsequent to the completion of all the required checks, Karen officially joined the Board from 1 January 2021. Profile information for Altaf and Karen has been added to the Trust website and is available at <https://www.bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk/our-trust/how-we-make-decisions/>

2. Our Council of Governor public meetings

The next meeting of the Council of Governors will take place on 21 January 2020 from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. In light of the Government restrictions to groups of people meeting, our meeting of will take place virtually, and will not be open to the public. The agenda and papers are available on the website [here](#) and the recording of the meeting will be uploaded to the Trust's YouTube channel on Friday 22 January 2021. A link along with an annotated agenda will be made available on the website [here](#)

3. Our Foundation Trust Membership

Attached at appendix 1 is a Q&A briefing providing an overview of our Foundation Trust Membership. You will note that the Trust has a total of 41,390 public and patient members. The Board approved a membership plan for 2019/20 in March 2019 which included the establishment of a task and finish group to develop a longer term membership strategy. The work got underway late in 2019 however, it was stood down in March 2020 as the first wave of the pandemic took hold and attention was focussed on the Trust's response to the pandemic.

The work with regard to developing the strategy will restart shortly and at the Council meeting

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on 21 January we will be seeking a small cohort of governors to work with members of the Board to build on the work that was previously started and present a strategy for approval to the Board later in the year. An element of this work will include a review of our membership.

4. Council of Governor Elections

Elections for three seats on the Council of Governors will open on Monday 15 February with the publication of the notice of election. Once the notice is published more information, along with the elections timetable, will be circulated. Our Trust will be seeking to fill the public governor vacancies for

- Shipley
- Bradford South
- Bradford West.

5. Governor Advisory Committee (GAC) National Elections (NHS Providers)

The GAC is comprised of eight governors elected by NHS Providers member Trusts, and one Chair who is an NHS Providers Board member. The Committee oversees the governor support work undertaken by NHS Providers and also provides advice on governor-specific issues. Pauline Garnett, Staff Governor Nursing and Midwifery is the Trust's nomination for election to the national GAC. Our Council is currently engaged in the process of candidate selection and voting as part of national elections. The election closes on 26 March 2021 with the results announced week commencing 5 April 2021. Were Pauline to win a seat this would be her second term as a member of the GAC. The Board will be kept apprised of the outcomes of the election.

6. Chairs Winter Bulletin

The board has been in receipt of the Chairs Winter bulletin circulated to Governors on 23 December. As a reminder the key items shared included items which covered:

- Decisions and items of note discussed at the 15 October Council of Governor meeting
- Elections to the Council
- Introduction to the recently appointed Assistant Director of Governance / Board Secretary, Laura Parsons.
- New Governance arrangements: changes to the meeting schedule for the Board and Regulation & Assurance Committee
- The recently published newsletter one from 'Act as One' and the other from the Diabetes arm of Act as One.
- The document published by NHS England to support the consultation on Integrated Care that concluded on 8 January 2021
- The Green Plan Implementation Group established by the Director of Strategy and Integration and confirmation that Ms Wendy McQuillan, public Governor will be joining the group
- Confirmation of the appointment of Dr Ray Smith, Chief Medical Officer from 1 January 2021
- Confirmation of the appointment of Mr Paul Rice, Chief Digital and Information Officer also from 1 January 2021
- Introduction to the new Executive member of the Board; Mr Mark Holloway, Director of Estates and Facilities
- Provision of an executive briefing from Sajid Azeb, Chief Operating Officer, on the

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Trust's performance with regard to our national performance measures (the emergency care standard, referral to treatment targets and, our cancer targets).

Sajid also shared his reflections on his first few months in his new role as Chief Operating Officer and I thought it would be useful to share this snapshot from his report here.

"I started as Chief Operating Officer at BTHFT on the 12th October 2020, during what is undoubtedly one of the most challenging times for the NHS, our people and the communities we serve.

The COVID pandemic is relentless and all-encompassing the response to which has quite rightly been described as a 'marathon and not a sprint'. Our workforce is our most important asset and they have been nothing but exemplary in the way they have cared for our patients.

Our response and the recovery from the aftermath of this pandemic cannot be within individual organisational silos but requires us to come together as health and care organisations along with the wider community that we serve. As leaders we need to create the right environment to allow our clinical teams to feel supported and be in a position to deliver the best care to our patients. This is critical if we are to deliver against our vision "To be an outstanding provider of healthcare, research and education, and a great place to work."

Although Bradford has its challenges I have been particularly impressed by what I have seen within BTHFT to date.

Strengths:

- Clinical engagement
- Relationship and maturity across health and care system
- Performance position prior to COVID-19 impact
- Innovations – EPR, Command centre

Challenges:

- Demographics challenges and the impact on health with the socio-economic profile of Bradford
- COVID impact on performance and operational delivery

Our main focus over the next period is to ensure the delivery of safe care whilst meeting the challenges of the second wave of COVID combined with the normal winter operational pressures that we will experience."

My thanks to Sajid Azeb for the exceptional report he prepared for the Council of Governors.

7. My quarterly meeting with Governors

My last quarterly session with governors took place on Tuesday 12 January 2021. There were a number of questions raised regarding Covid 19 and these have been shared with the Chief Executive Officer, Mel Pickup. Responses to the questions will be provided at the Council of Governors meeting on 21 January 2021.

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8. Joint Session: Governors and Non-Executive Directors

Our next joint closed session between the Non-Executive Directors and the Governors will take place on Thursday 21 January 2021 from 2.15pm to 3.15pm (prior to the council of governors meeting).

Recommendation

The Board of Directors is asked to note the report.