

Reservation of Powers to the Board and Scheme of Delegation

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Target audience	All Managers
Summary	The Code of Accountability for NHS Boards and Monitor's Code of Governance requires that there should be a formal schedule of matters specifically reserved to the Board. The purpose of this document is to define those powers specifically reserved to the Board.
Changes since last revision	Updates to the delegated sign off limits for prepayments. Revised approval limits for tender acceptance and contracting.
Monitoring arrangements	Internal audit process and reports to the Audit Committee.
Training requirements	Not applicable
Equality Impact Assessment	Not applicable

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	3
1.1 Reservation of Powers to the Board	3
1.2 General Enabling Provision.....	4
1.3 Regulation and Control	4
1.4 Committees	5
1.5 Strategy, Business Plans and Budgets.....	5
1.6 Financial and Performance Reporting Arrangements	6
1.7 Audit Arrangements	6
SCHEME OF DELEGATION	8
1. Delegation of budgets and approval to spend funds.....	8
2. Operation of all detailed financial matters	9
3. Income Systems.....	9
4. Annual capital programme and capital expenditure proposals	10
5. Arrangements for the management of land, buildings and other assets	10
6. Management and control of stocks	10
7. Recording, monitoring, approval of payments under the losses and special payments ..	11
8. Disposal of deceased patients' property	13
9. Management of non-exchequer funds	14
10. Insurance Arrangements	15
11. Non clinical risk management	15
12. Business Conduct and Hospitality	15
13. Issuing, receiving and opening tenders and post tender negotiations	15
14. Management and control of computer systems and facilities	17
15. Appointment of consultant medical staff	17
16. Use of directed surveillance	18
17. Submission of tenders	18
18. Signing of documents and contracting receipt of provision of goods and services	18

1. Introduction

The Code of Accountability for NHS Boards and NHSEI's Foundation Trust Code of Governance requires that there should be a formal schedule of matters specifically reserved to the Board. The purpose of this document is to define those powers specifically reserved to the Board. However, the Board remains accountable for all of its functions, including those delegated to the Chairman, Chief Executive and Board members, and will therefore receive information about the exercise of delegated functions to enable it to maintain a monitoring role.

All powers of the Foundation Trust which have not been retained as reserved by the Board or delegated to a committee shall be exercised on behalf of the Board by the Chief Executive. The Scheme of Delegation identifies any functions which the Chief Executive shall perform personally and those which are delegated to other Board members and officers. All powers delegated by the Chief Executive can be re-assured by him/her should the need arise.

In the absence of the Chief Executive the powers delegated to him/her may be exercised by the Chairman after having consulted at least two non-Executive Directors.

GOVERNORS' LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Foundation Trust has a body of elected individuals that make up the Council of Governors. Governors have a number of legal rights and responsibilities. These include:

- ✓ the appointment or dismissal of the Chairman and non-Executive Directors
- ✓ the approval of the appointment of the Chief Executive
- ✓ at a general meeting the Council of Governors will:
 - receive the annual accounts, annual report, quality report and annual audit letter from the external auditors
 - approve the remuneration and allowances and other terms and conditions of the office of the Chairman and non-Executive Directors
 - appoint or replace the Foundation Trust's auditor at a general meeting
- ✓ providing the views of the Council of Governors to the Board for the purposes of the preparation by the Board of the document containing information as to the Foundation Trust's forward planning in respect of each Financial Year to be given to NHSEI
- ✓ receiving and considering the views of the Members on matters of significance to the future plans of the Foundation Trust
- ✓ approval of any amendments to the Constitution
- ✓ hold the non-Executive Directors individually and collectively to account for the performance of the Board of Directors
- ✓ represent the interests of the NHS Foundation Trust members and the public served by the Foundation Trust
- ✓ approving significant transactions that fall within the definition
- ✓ appointment and removal of the External Auditors
- ✓ approval of the increase in non-NHS income where it is 5% or more in any one year

A 'Council of Governors Engagement Policy' is in place for those circumstances where the council has concerns about the performance of the Board of Directors, compliance with the provider licence, or other matters related to the general wellbeing of the NHS Foundation Trust.

1.0 Reservation of Powers to the Board

1.1 General Enabling Provision

The Board may determine any matter (for which it has delegated or statutory authority) it wishes in full session within its statutory powers.

Powers are reserved to the Board to:

1.2 Regulation and Control

- 1.2.1 Approval, suspension, variation or amendment of Standing Orders, Reservation of Powers and Scheme of Delegation and Standing Financial Instructions for the regulation of its proceedings and business.
- 1.2.2 Approve a Scheme of Delegation of powers from the Board to Committees or Officers.
- 1.2.3 Require and receive the declarations of Board members' interests which may conflict with those of the Foundation Trust and determine the extent to which a Board member may remain involved with the matter under consideration.
- 1.2.4 Require and receive the declarations of interests from Officers which may conflict with those of the Foundation Trust.
- 1.2.5 Appoint, appraise, discipline and dismiss executive directors (subject to SO 2.6 and section 7 of the Constitution). Discipline Board members who are in breach of statutory requirements or SOs.
- 1.2.6 Approve arrangements for dealing with complaints.
- 1.2.7 Adopt the organisational structures, processes and procedures to facilitate the discharge of business by the Foundation Trust and agree modifications thereto.
- 1.2.8 Ratify any urgent decisions taken by the Chairman (and Chief Executive) in accordance with SO 4.2.
- 1.2.9 Approve arrangements relating to the discharge of the Foundation Trust's responsibilities as a corporate trustee for funds held on trust.
- 1.2.10 Approve the Foundation Trust's Major Incident Plan.
- 1.2.11 Approve arrangements relating to the discharge of the Foundation Trust's responsibilities as a bailer for patients' property.
- 1.2.12 Approve proposals for action on litigation against or on behalf of the Foundation Trust.

1.3 Appointments

- 1.3.1 Appoint and dismiss Board Committees.
- 1.3.2 Establish terms of reference and reporting arrangements for Board Committees.
- 1.3.3 Appoint members of all Board Committees.
- 1.3.4 Receive reports from all Board Committees and take appropriate action on these.
- 1.3.5 Confirm the recommendations of Board Committees where the committees do not have executive powers.
- 1.3.6 Appointment of the Vice Chairman.
- 1.3.7 Appointment of any representative body outside the organisation.

1.4 Strategy, Business Plans and Budgets

- 1.4.1 Define the strategic aims and objectives of the Foundation Trust.
- 1.4.2 Approve annually revenue and capital budgets.
- 1.4.3 Approve and monitor the Foundation Trust's policies and procedures for the management of risk.
- 1.4.4 Ratify proposals for the acquisition, disposal or change of use of land and/or buildings (subject to meeting the requirements set by Monitor in the Foundation Trust's Provider Licence).
- 1.4.5 Approve proposals for ensuring quality and developing clinical governance in services provided by the Foundation Trust.
- 1.4.6 Approve proposals for ensuring equality and diversity in both employment and the delivery of services.
- 1.4.7 Approve the Foundation Trust's investment policy and authorise institutions with which temporary cash surpluses may be held.
- 1.4.8 Approve the Foundation Trust's borrowing policy, which will include other long- term financing arrangements such as leases.
- 1.4.9 Authorise any necessary variations to total budget spends of capital schemes of more than 20% or £500,000, whichever is greater. Authorise any increase in the total capital programme.

1.5 Financial and Performance Reporting Arrangements

- 1.5.1 Continuously appraise the affairs of the Foundation Trust by means of the receipt of reports as it sees fit from Board members, committees, and officers of the Foundation Trust as set out in management policy statements.

All monitoring returns required by NHSEI and the Charity Commission shall be reported, at least in summary, to the Foundation Trust.

- 1.5.2 Approve the opening and closing of all bank and investment accounts.
- 1.5.3 Consider and approve the Foundation Trust's Annual Report, including the annual accounts, prior to submission to the Council of Governors.
- 1.5.4 Receive and approve the annual report(s) for funds held on trust.
- 1.5.5 Receive reports from the Director of Finance on financial performance against budget and annual business plan.

1.6 Audit Arrangements

- 1.6.1 Receive reports of Audit Committee meetings and take appropriate action.
- 1.6.2 Receive the annual management letter from the external auditor and agree action on the recommendation where appropriate of the Audit Committee.

Reservation of Powers to the Board and Scheme of Delegation

The following delegation table below provides a framework for decision making responsibilities within the Foundation Trust. Directors are responsible for ensuring that all staff operates within the Scheme of Delegation and in accordance with Standing Orders and Standing Financial Instructions. The Scheme of Delegation identifies the lowest level to which a particular responsibility may be delegated. There is no requirement for Directors to delegate to this level.

The levels of management/delegation referred to in this scheme are as follows:

- ✓ Chief Executive (In the absence of the Chief Executive, urgent matters may be dealt with by the Deputy Chief Executive).
- ✓ Director of Finance (In the absence of the Director of Finance, urgent matters may be dealt with by the Deputy/Assistant Director of Finance)
- ✓ Other Executive Directors
- ✓ the Foundation Trust Secretary
- ✓ Relevant General Managers

It is for Executive Directors to identify within their directorate those officers whom they wish to authorise (Authorised Signatories) to exercise delegated authority within this Scheme of Delegation. The Finance Department maintain a register of authorised signatories and will require sample signatures to support the register. Forms for this purpose of registering authorised signatories are available from the Financial Management section staff within the Finance Directorate.

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
1. Delegation of budgets and approval to spend funds		
SFI 3.1.1	Annual Business Plan	The Board
SFI 3.3	Budgetary Control	Director of Finance
SFI 8.3	Approval of new staff appointments and re-grading	Director of Human Resources
SFI 8.4	Approval of pay expenditure (staff timesheets)	General Manager, Executive Director, Director of Estates and Facilities, Director of Pharmacy, Director of Research
Authorisation of requisitions/invoices for non-pay expenditure:		
	Up to £50,000	CBU General Managers
	Over £50,000 up to £100,000	Care Group Director of Operations, Executive Director, Director of Estates and Facilities, Director of Pharmacy, Director of Research
	Over £100,000 up to £250,000	Director of Finance
	Over £250,000 up to £500,000	Director of Finance and Chief Executive
	Over £500,000	The Board (authorisation of requisition), Chief Executive or Director of Finance (authorisation of invoice)
	NB. The relevant Executive Director and the Director of Finance will determine and agree appropriate values for further delegation. Non-pay expenditure for which no specific budget has been set within delegated budget plans.	Chief Executive or Director of Finance
	Approval of routine expenses claims	Line Manager.

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
SFI 9.2.4	Pre-payments	
	Up to £10,000	Finance Manager
	Over £10,000 up to £100,000	Assistant Director of Finance
	Over £100,000 up to £250,000	Assistant Director of Finance and Deputy Director of Finance
	Over £250,000	Deputy Director of Finance and Director of Finance
2. Operation of all detailed financial matters		
SFI 5	Approve the opening, closing and management of all bank and investment accounts.	Director of Finance
SFI 8.4	Payroll	Director of Finance
SFI 9.2.2 & 9.2.3	Purchase ledger/creditor payments.	Director of Finance
SFI 9.2.6 (k) & (l)	Petty cash and purchase card.	Director of Finance
	Debtors.	Director of Finance
	Treasury management.	Director of Finance

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
3. Income Systems		
SFI 6	System design, prompt banking, review and approval of fees and charges, debt recovery arrangements, design and control of receipts, for provision of adequate facilities and systems for employees whose duties include collecting or holding cash.	Director of Finance
4. Annual capital programme and capital expenditure proposals		
SFI 11.1 – 11.1.9	<p>Total budget spend of each capital scheme may be varied by £500,000, subject to capital programme remaining within budget.</p> <p>Total budget spend of each capital scheme may be varied by £1,000,000, subject to capital programme remaining within budget.</p> <p>A business case is required for capital expenditure proposals of value over £500,000 (excluding VAT) where this is related to the replacement of existing assets.</p> <p>For the new items the Foundation Trust' Service Development Guidelines <u>must</u> be followed.</p>	<p>Director of Finance</p> <p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Relevant General Manager</p>
5. Arrangements for the management of land, buildings and other assets belonging to or leased by the Foundation Trust		
SFI 11.3–5	Physical management and maintenance of assets.	
	Land and buildings.	Director of Estates and Facilities.
	Equipment.	Relevant General Manager.
	Asset register and capital charges.	Director of Finance.

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
6. Management and control of stocks		
SFI 12	Theatres.	General Manager
	Pharmacy	Director of Pharmacy
	Estates	Director of Estates
	Other stocks.	Relevant General Manager.
7. Recording, monitoring and approval of payments under the losses and special payments regulations		
SFI 13.2	Monitoring and approval of losses and special payments.	Chief Executive and Director of Finance
	Accounting for losses and special payments.	Director of Finance.
	General Administration.	Relevant General Manager.
	Write-offs NB. Written reports on write-offs are provided to the Audit Committee.	
	Drugs.	
	Up to £5,000	Director of Pharmacy
	Over £5,000	Director of Finance
	Other items.	
	Up to £10,000	Divisional Clinical Director
	Over £10,000	Director of Finance
	Cash losses and bad debts: NB. A bad debt write-off for these purposes is the writing off of any income due to the Foundation Trust, whether or not invoices – it does not include adjustments relating to invoices raised in error. These write-offs once agreed will impact on individual budgets – there is no central provision. If the budget holder does not agree to a write-off being charged to their budget, this should be escalated to the Director of Finance. NB. Written reports on write-offs are provided to the Audit Committee.	
	Up to £5,000	Deputy Director of Finance

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
	Over £5,000 up to £10,000	Director of Finance
	Over £10,000	Chief Executive and Director of Finance
	Overpayment of Staff Salaries	
	There is the expectation that any overpayment of salary to staff or leavers will be fully recovered.	
	Up to £10,000	Director of Finance
	Over £10,000	The Board
	Losses of equipment and property: NB. These write-offs once agreed will impact on individual budgets – there is no central provision. NB. Written reports on write-offs are provided to the Audit Committee.	
	Up to £10,000	Director of Finance
	Over £10,000	The Board
SFI 18	Claim	
	Clinical negligence/personal injury	
	All payments over the relevant excess (zero for clinical negligence, £3,000 for employer's liability and £10,000 for public liability) are approved and made directly by the NHS Litigation Authority – however, the NHSLA still requires the agreement of the Foundation Trust for all admissions.	NHS Litigation Authority (NHSLA) and Chief Executive or Divisional Clinical Director
	Claims settled without legal advice:	
	Total costs, including damages, claimant and defence costs up to £10,000	Claims Manager
	Over £10,000	Any two of: Claims Manager, Medical Director, Director of Finance or Deputy Chief Executive

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
	Over £50,000	Claims Management Group, Director of Finance and Chief Executive
	Negotiated settlements with legal advice (i.e. out of court settlements):	
	Total costs up to £100,000	Claims Manager and Director of Finance
	Over £100,000	Claims Management Group and Chief Executive
	Payments made under full legal obligation:	
	Total cost approved by the NHSLA	Claims Manager and reported to Claims Management Group
	Other Claims (not clinical negligence/personal injury):	
	Compensation claims arising out of legal action	Such payments may require NHSEI and HM Treasury approval. Advice should be obtained from Director of Human Resources or Trust Secretary.
	Up to £50,000	Director of Finance
	Over £50,000	The Board
	Extra-contractual payments to contractors; other compensatory payments:	
	Up to £5,000	Director of Finance
	Over £5,000	The Board

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
SFI 18	Complaints	
	Ex-gratia payments made in respect of complaints	
	Up to £1,000	Relevant General Manager with notification to Claims Manager
	Over £1,000 up to £5,000	Relevant General Manager and Claims Manager
	Over £5,000	The Board
8. Disposal of a deceased patients' property:		
SFI 15.5	Property value up to £5,000:	
	Cash up to £100 and all valuables may be released to relatives who sign form of indemnity.	Deputy/Assistant Director of Finance
	Cash over £100 may be released by cheque together with all valuables to relatives who sign a form of indemnity.	Deputy/Assistant Director of Finance
	Property value over £5,000:	
	Cash over £100 may be released by cheque together with all valuable on production of probate letters or administration.	Director of Finance
9. Management of non-exchequer funds		
SFI 16	Charitable Funds	
	Approval of expenditure	
	Up to £500.00	Fund Holder
	Over £500 up to £10,000	General Manager, Patient Services Manager and Director of Finance
	Over £10,000 up to £50,000	Director of Finance and Chief Executive

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
	Over £50,000 to £100,000	Chief Executive, Chairman and Director of Finance
	Over £100,000	Bradford Hospitals Charity Committee
	Financial administration	Director of Finance
	General administration	Director of Finance
	Investment of funds	Bradford Hospitals Charity Committee
	Patients' monies	
	Nursing	Chief Nurse
	Financial administration	Director of Finance
10. Insurance Arrangements		
SFI 18.3	Ensure that insurance arrangements exist in accordance with the risk management programme.	Director of Finance

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
11. Non clinical risk management		
SFI 18	Ensure that Foundation Trust has a programme of risk management in place.	Chief Executive
12. Business Conduct and Hospitality		
SFI 20	Ensure staff members are aware of the Foundation Trust Policy on acceptance of gifts and Standards of Business Conduct for NHS Staff in accordance with the Standing Orders and Financial Instructions.	Foundation Trust Secretary
13. Tender Acceptance & Contracting		
SFI 21	Contracts with an aggregate value of less than £10,000 (excluding VAT).	General Manager or Budget Holder (minimum Band 8a)
	Contracts with an aggregate value of between £10,000 and £122,976 (excluding VAT).	Strategic Head of Procurement, Director of Estates and Facilities or Director of Pharmacy
	Contracts with an aggregate value of between £122,977 and £250,000 (excluding VAT)	Strategic Head of Procurement and Deputy Director of Finance
	Contracts with an aggregate value of between £250,001 and £1,000,000 (excluding VAT)	Deputy Director of Finance and Director of Finance
	Contracts with an aggregate value of between £1,000,001 and £2,000,000 (excluding VAT)	Director of Finance and Chief Executive
	Contracts with an aggregate value above £2,000,001 (excluding VAT)	The Board

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
	Approval to waive competitive tendering or quotation procedures	
	Contracts with an aggregate value of less than £122,976*	Strategic Head of Procurement and Deputy Director of Finance
	*A waiver is not permissible in respect of contracts which have an aggregate value of greater than £122,976.	
14. Management and control of computer systems and facilities		
SFI 14.1.1	Accuracy and security of computerised financial data systems	Director of Informatics
SFI 14.1.3	Publish and maintain Freedom of Information (FOI)	Communications Manager
15. Appointment of consultant medical staff		
SFI 8.3.3	Approval of business cases for appointment of new Consultant Medical Staff.	The Executive Team
16. Pay Rate Controls		
SFI 21.12	Agreement of any off-payscale pay rates outside of the national agenda for change and medical and dental payscale.	Director of Finance and Director of Human Resources.
17. Engagement of temporary workers, particularly agency staff		
SFI 21.11	Authority to enter into contracts of employment for staff, agency staff or temporary staff service contracts.	
	Professional groups other than Nursing and Medical	Vacancy Approval Panel
	Nursing staff via the Flexible Workforce Team Office	Director of HR
	Medical Staff via the Flexible Workforce Team at Human Resources	Director of HR

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
18. Use of directed surveillance		
	Directed surveillance that is carried out by the Foundation Trust is subject to strict controls.	This can only be authorised by the Police or NHS Protect (Counter Fraud Service).
19. Submission of tenders		
SFI 21	Up to £100,000	Relevant Director, General Manager, Director of Estates and Facilities
	Over £100,000 up to £1,000,000	Director of Finance or Chief Executive
	Over £1,000,000	The Board
20. Signing of documents and contracting for the receipt of provision of goods and services		
	Documents to be sealed or signed as a deed.	Any two Directors or one Director and the Foundation Trust Secretary
	Contracts for the receipt of goods and services	
	Up to £10,000	General Manager and Head of Procurement or Director of Estates and Facilities or Director of Pharmacy
	Over £10,000 up to OJEU threshold of £164,176 excluding VAT	Deputy/Assistant Finance Director
	Over OJEU threshold of £164,176 excluding VAT	Director of Finance or Chief Executive
	Non-NHS Contracts approval	
	Approval for Non-NHS Contracts provided to the Foundation Trust in line with the Scheme of Delegation	Director of Finance or Deputy / Assistant Finance Director And the relevant General Manager and Executive Director

SCHEME OF DELEGATION		
Reference (where applicable)	Delegated Responsibility	Delegated Officer
	Tendering for and signing Contracts for the provision of goods/services to other organisations (including Research Grants and Commercial Research Contracts)	
	Up to £100,000	General Manager and Head of Procurement or Director of Estates and Facilities or Director of Pharmacy Director of Research
	Over £100,000 up to £1,000,000	Director of Finance or Chief Executive
	Over £1,000,000	The Board
	Research grant applications, awarded research grants and subsequent sub-contracts to other organisations	General Manager for Research and Finance Manager for Research
	R&D	
	Application Value (over life of the grant) Authorisation level required	
	Up to £250,000	General Manager – Research and Finance Manager R&D
	Over £250,000 up to £1,000,000	Director of Research and Deputy Director of Finance
	Over £1,000,000	Director of Research and Director of Finance