

## **Role / Duties of the Lead Governor**

1. Be the key point of contact between NHS Improvement (NHSI) and the NHS Foundation Trust's Council of Governors.
  - This will be in a limited number of circumstances and, in particular, where it may not be appropriate to communicate through the normal channels, which in most cases will be via the Chairperson or the Trust Secretary, if one is appointed.
  - The main circumstances where NHSI will contact a Lead Governor are where NHSI has concerns as to Board leadership provided to the NHS Foundation Trust, and those concerns may in time lead to the use by NHSI of its formal powers to remove the Chairperson or Non-Executive Directors.
  - The other circumstance where NHSI may wish to contact a Lead Governor is where, as the regulator, NHSI has been made aware that the process for the appointment of the Chairperson or other members of the Board, or elections for Governors, or other material decisions, may not have complied with the NHS Foundation Trust's Constitution, or alternatively, whilst complying with the Trust's Constitution, may be inappropriate.
  - In such circumstances, where the Chairperson, other members of the Board of Directors or the Trust Secretary may have been involved in the process by which these appointments or other decisions were made, a Lead Governor may provide a point of contact for NHSI.
2. Where required, be the key point of contact between the CQC and the NHS Foundation Trust's Council of Governors.