

Meeting Title	Board of Directors		
Date	21 September 2023	Agenda item	Bo.9.23.6

## 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	In the main the report provides an update on activity and engagement involving the Council of Governors and Membership since the previous report provided to the Board in July 2023.		
Key control	N/A		
Action required	For Information		
Previously discussed at/informed by	N/A		
Previously approved at:	Committee/Group	Date	

### Situation

#### Council of Governors meeting held 20 July 2023

Our last meeting in July was held at The McCall Suite, Bradford City Football Ground, Valley Parade.

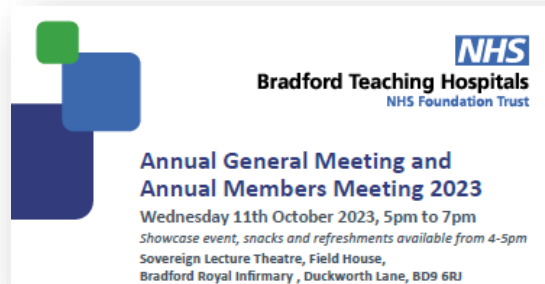
Key items considered by the Council included:

- A summary of the discussion that took place at the Governor and NED pre-meeting held earlier in the day.
- Chairman's Report to the Council
- CEO Report covering key activity since the last report covering our Patients, People, Partners and Place.
- Matters raised with Governors by members, patients and the public in particular items raised with Governors by staff and visitors at the monthly engagement sessions now routinely held on site.
- Changes to CQC inspection regime presented by our Chief Nurse, Karen Dawber
- Progress in relation to the Membership Delivery Plan
- Governors Nominations & Remuneration Committee (NRC) Report

The Council also reviewed and approved:

- The programme for the Annual General Meeting/Annual Members Meeting on 11 October 2023

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- Governors Code of Conduct
- Chair/NED/Associate NED appointment process
- Governors Nominations and Remuneration Committee Terms of Reference
- Minor amendments to the Constitution

At the closed meeting two items were considered and approved:

- I am pleased to advise that following discussion the Council approved the reappointments of both Karen Walker and Altaf Sadique for second terms.



Karen Walker



Altaf Sadique

Altaf's second term will run from 1 December 2023 to 30 November 2026 and Karen's second term will run from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2026.

- The Council had sought nominations from Governors for membership of the Governors Nominations and Remuneration Committee (NRC). I am pleased to advise that two nominations were received and approved by the Council from:
  - Professor Alastair Goldman, Partner Governor Bradford University
  - Dr Farzana Khan, Staff Governor Medical and Dental

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Professor Alastair Goldman



Dr Farzana Khan

Alastair has been reappointed to the NRC and the Governors also welcomed Farzana Khan to her first term on the Committee. Their tenures as members of the NRC will run for three years from 1 September 2023 until 31 August 2026 or until their period as Governor comes to an end (whichever occurs first).

### **Joint Session: Governors and Non-Executive Directors held 20 July 2023**

At the last joint session the areas considered covered those identified below and were followed up with further discussion held at the Council meeting. The areas covered were:

- Agency staffing spend levels
- Recruitment, in particular with regard to Health Care Assistants and Nursing posts
- Summary Hospital Level Mortality Indicator (SHMI) data
- Electronic Patient Record (EPR)
- Neonatal deaths

Details on the discussions will be included within the minutes from the July meeting which will be approved by the Council at their next meeting in November

Our next joint session between the NEDs and the Governors is scheduled for Thursday 9 November from 2.15pm to 3.15pm (prior to the Council of Governors meeting). The outcomes from this session will be reported on and discussed later that afternoon at the Council meeting.

The Board is reminded that the next Council of Governors meeting will take place on Thursday 9 November having been rescheduled from 19 October. The meeting will take place virtually.

### **Bespoke in-house development session for our NEDs and Governors**

Following on from the session held on 6 July facilitated by NHS Providers focussed on:

- The role of the NED, the role of the Governor and assurance vs reassurance.
- Relationship building and group discussion (what works well at BTHFT and, what could be better).

On 2 October I will be meeting with David Wilmshurst, Vice-Chair of the Council of Governors, Mark Chambers, Lead Governor and Julie Lawreniuk, in her capacity as Senior Independent

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Director, to discuss our next steps. The outcomes from this meeting will be reported on at the next Council Meeting in November.

### Communications with members

Members have continued to be in receipt of 'Mel's monthly round-ups' featuring news from across the trust. Also included within our communications is a 'save the date' for our AGM/AMM on the 11 October, an invitation to participate within our Patient-Led Assessments of the Care Environment (PLACE). Our members have also been provided with a link to our updated guidance regarding visiting at our Trust.



### Key Trust Communications

Key communications continue to be shared with Governors so that Council members remain in touch with developments at our Trust. Governors also continue to have access to Let's Talk (staff newsletter) and global emails containing a range of updates to staff.

### Other key news of particular relevance to our Non-Executive Directors

- Fifteen Steps Challenge**

The '[15 Steps Challenge](#)' focuses on seeing care through a patient or carer's eyes and exploring their first impressions. The challenge has been developed by the NHS and was inspired by a powerful statement, from a mother whose daughter needed frequent inpatient stays.

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*“I can tell what kind of care my daughter is going to get within 15 steps of walking onto every new ward.”*

Here at our Trust this programme of work was launched in February 2023 and has now been running since May 2023 guided by the toolkits available from NHS England. The groups undertaking visits include staff and board members to our wards and departments and connect directly with patients and visitors in line with the toolkits.

The reports on the outcomes and related actions from those visits filter their way up the like to encourage all NEDs to put their names forward for this very important programme. This programme replaces the previous ‘ward visits programme’ we had in place for Directors. All NEDs will moving forward receive invitations to take part in the programme. An initial orientation session will need to be undertaken prior to any visit.

- **Fit and Proper Person Framework**

NHS England published a new Fit and Proper Person Framework on 2 August 2023. A briefing regarding the Framework is attached at Appendix 1.

#### **Recommendation**

The Board of Directors is asked to note this report.