

## Council of Governors - Cover Sheet

<b>Subject:</b>	Governor Elections 2023		<b>Date:</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2023	
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Shirley A Higginbotham, Director of Corporate Affairs			
<b>Approved By:</b>	Shirley A Higginbotham, Director of Corporate Affairs			
<b>Presented By:</b>	Shirley A Higginbotham, Director of Corporate Affairs			
<b>Purpose</b>				
To seek approval from the Council of Governors regarding the updated Governor Election timeline 2023.			<b>Approval</b>	x
			<b>Assurance</b>	
			<b>Update</b>	
			<b>Consider</b>	
<b>Strategic Objectives</b>				
<b>To provide outstanding care</b>	<b>To promote and support health and wellbeing</b>	<b>To maximise the potential of our workforce</b>	<b>To continuously learn and improve</b>	<b>To achieve better value</b>
x	x	x	x	x
<b>Identify which principal risk this report relates to:</b>				
PR1	Significant deterioration in standards of safety and care			
PR2	Demand that overwhelms capacity			
PR3	Critical shortage of workforce capacity and capability			
PR4	Failure to achieve the Trust's financial strategy			
PR5	Inability to initiate and implement evidence-based Improvement and innovation			
PR6	Working more closely with local health and care partners does not fully deliver the required benefits			
PR7	Major disruptive incident			
PR8	Failure to deliver sustainable reductions in the Trust's impact on climate change			
<b>Committees/groups where this item has been presented before</b>				
N/A				
<b>Executive Summary</b>				
<p>As Council is aware the Constitution of the Trust states the requirement for a Council of Governors, which consists of both elected and appointed members.</p> <p>Elected members are defined as Public Governors – representing the Public Constituency Classes as defined in annex 1 of the Constitution and Staff Governors representing the Staff Classes as defined in annex 2 of the Constitution</p> <p>The previous Governor elections held in 2022, did not fill all the seats available. The Governors have subsequently revised the Constitution to amend the constituencies for both public and staff governors. The revised Constitution was approved at the Annual Members and General Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.</p> <p>Governors received a report regarding the election of five new governors in 2023. The Council asked if the two governors due for election in September 2023 could be included. A conversation with UK Engage, who undertake the elections indicated this would be unprecedented to elect governors six months prior to them taking up the post.</p> <p>Therefore, a new timeline is presented for Governors to consider and approve which does include all seven governors due for election in 2023.</p>				

**Council of Governor Elections -2023**

**Author: Shirley A Higginbotham, Director of Corporate Affairs**

**Date: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023**

As Council is aware the constitution of the Trust states the requirement for a Council of Governors, which consists of both elected and appointed members.

Elected members are defined as Public Governors – representing the Public Constituency Classes as defined in annex 1 of the Constitution and Staff Governors representing the Staff Classes as defined in annex 2 of the Constitution. Volunteer Governors are included in the Staff Classes.

Each elected governor is elected for a period of 3 years as stated in the constitution. Governors are eligible for re-election at the end of that period up to a maximum of 9 years any extension beyond 9 years to a maximum of 12 years is subject to annual re-election.

After the elections held in 2022, a number of vacancies remained. Therefore, to address this the Governors have reviewed and amended the public and staff constituencies detailed in the Constitution. The revised Constitution was approved by the Council of Governors, Board and at the Annual Members and General meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Governors received a report regarding the election of five new governors in 2023. The Council asked if the two governors due for election in September 2023 could be included. A conversation with UK Engage, who undertake the elections indicated this would be unprecedented to elect governors six months prior to them taking up the post. The two governors who’s tenure’s cease at the end of October will remain in post until then with the two new governors taking up their new posts in November 2023.

Therefore, a new timeline is presented for Governors to consider and approve which does include all seven governors due for election in 2023.

The following Governors will require election:

<b>Public Constituency</b>	<b>Number of Governors</b>	<b>Number of Governors requiring election</b>
Rest of East Midlands	10	4
Newark & Sherwood	4	2
<b>Staff Constituency</b>		
Kings Mill Hospital, Mansfield Community Hospital and Newark Hospital	3	1

The Governor election process is detailed in the model election rules which form part of the Trusts Constitution, this states that the Publication of Notice of Election shall be no later than the fortieth day before the day of the close of the poll, this excludes weekends, Christmas day, Good Friday or bank holidays. To ensure the Governors can undertake their role from July 2023 the Publication of Notice of Election will be 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023. See below the full timetable for the elections:

Action	Date
Last Day for Publication of Notice of Election	10/05/2023
Deadline for receipt of nominations	26/05/2023
Publication of Statement of Nominations	30/05/2023
Deadline for candidate withdrawals	01/06/2023
Notice of Poll/Issue of ballot packs	13/06/2023
Close of Poll 5.00pm	06/07/2023
Count and Declaration of Result	07/07/2023

The timetable above commences after the Kings Coronation and local government elections meaning there are no Purdah implications for the Trust when undertaking the elections.

The cost of elections for the five governors will be approximately £24,000 a significant increase on previous elections due to the number of postal votes required and the increase in postage costs.

**Recommendations:**

The Council of Governors are asked to approve the timetable for elections.