

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Council of Governors</b>	<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>5 December 2018</b>		

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Governor Effectiveness Survey</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>For approval</b>
<b>Board Sponsor:</b>	<b>Brian Stables, Chairman</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Xavier Bell, Board of Directors' Secretary</b>
<b>Appendices</b>	<b>Appendix 1: Effectiveness Questionnaire</b>

<b>1. Executive Summary of the Report</b>
<p>The Council of Governors would like to measure its effectiveness. The attached survey has been developed to seek feedback on how effective the Council of Governors is. It is proposed that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The survey is circulated to members of the Council of Governors and the Board of Directors;</li> <li>• The survey is completed by the end of December;</li> <li>• Results are made available to the Chairman for use in governor 1:1 meetings in January 2019, and are discussed further at the Governor Away-day in February/March 2019.</li> </ul>

<b>2. Recommendations (Note, Approve, Discuss)</b>
<p>The Council of Governors is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Approve the survey questions; and</li> <li>- Decide whether or not the survey should be completed anonymously.</li> </ul>

<b>3. Legal / Regulatory Implications</b>
Not applicable

<b>4. Risk (Threats or opportunities, link to a risk on the Risk Register, Board Assurance Framework etc.)</b>
Without evaluating its effectiveness, the Council of Governors runs the risk of operating in an ineffective or inefficient manner.

<b>5. Resources Implications (Financial / staffing)</b>
Not applicable

<b>6. Equality and Diversity</b>
Not applicable

<b>7. References to previous reports</b>
Not applicable

<b>8. Freedom of Information</b>
Public

**Governor Effectiveness Survey**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Unable to answer</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>The Council of Governors</b>							
The Council of Governors has the right mix of skills, experience, knowledge and diversity in the context of the council's statutory duties and the challenges facing the Trust.							
The Governors have been equipped by the Trust with the skills and knowledge they require as Governors.							
The Council of Governors carries out its work in accordance with the values of the Trust.							
The Council works together as a unit and in accordance with the tone set by the Chair.							
Council of Governor meetings are informative, effective and productive.							
Key relationships on the Council work well, particularly between the Chair and Governors.							
Individually, Governors are effective. Each Governor makes a telling contribution. (NB – please do not identify individual Governors).							
The Council's committees and working groups are effective, they							

operate well within their terms of reference and in terms of how they are connected with the Council.							
The Council communicates with, listens and responds to members and other stakeholders effectively.							
<b>Processes and information</b>							
The processes in place ensure sufficient debate for major decisions or contentious issues are effective.							
The general information provided on the Trust and its performance is good.							
The quality of papers and presentations to the Council of Governors is good.							
The quality of discussions around individual issues is good.							
The Membership & Governance Team are effective in supporting Governors.							
The Council of Governors has been included in relevant regulatory reviews and audit processes.							
<b>Receiving the annual report and accounts</b>							
Governors are able to understand the key points in the Trust's annual report and accounts.							
Governors can ask relevant questions on the annual report and accounts.							
<b>Constitution</b>							
The Council of Governors understands their role in approving, with the Board of Directors, any							

amendments to the constitution.							
When the constitution has been amended, the Governor approval process has been efficient and effective.							
<b>Influencing strategy</b>							
Governors have been involved in strategy development sessions.							
There are examples of strategy being informed by the input of Governors.							
Governor Away-days have been effective and productive.							
<b>Non-NHS income</b>							
The Council of Governors understands the principal purpose of the Trust (the provision of goods and services for the purposes of the health service in England) and its need to satisfy itself that proposals in the forward plan do not interfere with this principal purpose to any significant extent.							
The Council of Governors understands that the Trust requires the council's approval to implement any proposal to increase by 5% or more the proportion of its total income in any Financial Year attributable to activities other than the fulfilment of the principal purpose.							
<b>Representing the interests of members and the public</b>							
Governors appraise themselves of the							

views of members and the public and represent their interests.							
There are examples of Governors using this information to question Directors on the Trust's performance.							
There are examples of Governors using this information to support the development of strategy.							
Governors feed back information about the Trust to members and the public.							
Governors effectively engage with and recruit new members.							
Governors ensure that the safety and welfare of patients is satisfactory.							
<b>Approving transactions</b>							
Governors are aware of their role in approving or not approving significant transactions (as defined in the constitution), mergers, acquisitions, separations and dissolutions.							
Governors are able to analyse a business case, identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the case.							
<b>Holding Non-Executive Directors to account</b>							
The Council of Governors have agreed a process and dialogue with the Non-Executive Directors individually and collectively to account for the performance of the Board of Directors.							

The remit of that role – the performance of the Board of Directors as distinct from the performance of the Trust – is well understood.							
The agreed process and dialogue meets the needs of the Council of Governors.							
Governors can identify the key performance issues facing the Trust.							
Governors can ask relevant questions regarding performance reports.							
Governors are effective in reviewing the way in which the Non-Executive Directors obtain assurance.							
Governors ask relevant questions of the Non-Executive Directors about challenge at meetings of the board.							
<b>Non-Executive Director Recruitment</b>							
The Council of Governors has processes to recruit skilled and experienced Non-Executive Directors.							
<b>Council of Governor Priorities</b>							
What do you think the priorities should be for the Council of Governors in 2019/20?	<b>Comment:</b>						
What is one thing that you think the Council of Governors should do differently in 2019/20?	<b>Comment:</b>						