

Council of Governors

Date:	2 nd December 2021
Agenda item:	12
Title:	Lead Governor Report
Items:	Enclosed

23/11/2021

Lead Governor Report

The purpose of this report is to:

- Review progress against objectives agreed in August 2021
- Consider our role in outreach and communications, as the pandemic eases

Sept 2021 – November 2021

Below are the summary points of objectives for action within this period, the progress made and suggested future action.

Agreed Action	Progress	Revised action plan
COG		
Improvements to CoG agenda and focus	Revised and shortened agenda during virtual meetings	For ongoing development
NED attendance and participation at CoG	Attendance is achieved	Maintain the formal NED Q & A session at CoG, and plan for regular NED presentation at CoG.
Succession planning for Lead Governor role	Introducing the concept of a Deputy LG, to this current CoG.	Summary recommendation document to be circulated post CoG, for discussion and forward implementation.
WGs		
Board Committee observers to focus on assurance as part of Board Monitoring Group (BMG)	Board Meeting Observers now produce a brief report on the Board committee meetings they have attended, post BM	Maintain this structure and encourage liaison between BMG and NEDs where helpful
Governors and WG's	Request from M&O working group for more members. Currently we have 2 public and 1 staff Governor, apart from the Chair.	Achieve more balanced spread of Governors to WGs. Prepare for adequate Governor resource to apply to our participation in the Patient and Carer experience and other strategies.
General		
Increased Governor involvement in Trust Engagement events	Second virtual constituency meeting completed in August, as a coffee morning/chat event. More to follow in 2022.	Maintaining virtual meetings, and at each Governor coffee / chat event, highlight a different constituency for a defined Q&A session as part of the agenda, relevant to that member group
Develop relationships with neighbouring Trusts, for the purpose of benchmarking our function and easy adoption of best practice for Governors, where identified.	Meeting held with our BSW Lead and Deputy Lead Governor colleagues from Swindon and Salisbury, virtually in June 2021.	This meeting is aligned to the M&O WG, and our representatives are Mike Midgeley, Peter McCowen, and Gill Little.

Agreed Action	Progress	Revised action plan
Governor Away day - review of holding to account	On hold during COVID	Future objective
New patient and carer experience vision – Governors asked to have a role in this work, which will include outreach with the public and stakeholders on the ‘Shaping A Healthier Future’ agenda.	BSW CCG are the lead on a public engagement survey which is out for 6 weeks from 2 nd November 2021. Governors keen to be involved in ensuring completion of the survey.	Membership office has prepared letters to go out to all members, in each constituency, asking for their support in this initiative. Letters personalised by constituency and by public governor name.

Other key areas for consideration/development December 2021 – March 2022

Until the Trust is satisfied with the inherent risk level from Covid, CoG and all working group meetings will continue to be held virtually. Additional activity and other considerations are mentioned below:

<p>As a Council, Governors are doing an excellent job in formulating assurance questions for our NED's. To ensure other Governors have a chance to view and contribute to the NED questions which are submitted and prevent these becoming 'lost' between working groups, it is proposed that we develop an 'Assurance Log', which would group all NED questions assimilated and submitted to our NEDs. The log would be updated with each additional question formatted, and with each response obtained, and circulated prior to each CoG.</p>
<p>It would be helpful if public Governors from each constituency were to liaise with the membership office with their wishes and plans for their constituency, with regard to 2022 activity. Does your constituency have specific community groups, e.g. rotary, healthwatch, PPGs, etc. where you would like to offer a meeting or update on RUH activity? Share these thoughts with the membership office or discuss with fellow Governors at our informal Governor chat meetings every 2nd Tuesday at 11.00AM</p>
<p>A suggestion from public Governor Peter B, is to have a short introduction video from each Governor, for inclusion in the RUH website. Purpose of this is to provide a more interesting visual representation of who we are and which area we cover. Additionally, a link to each video could be added to the membership form. This idea will be worked up further.</p>
<p>Lucy Kearney, Head of Communications, is now hosting a regular meeting with myself as LG and one prior to the M&O WG with myself and the Governance Team, and Chair of the WG Mike Midgely, to keep the lines of communication open with Governors, between our quarterly CoG meetings. If any Governor has an item they would like raised with Lucy, please communicate with GL or MM</p>
<p>Lucy and the Comms team want to develop a volunteer member group to provide feedback on patient communications. Likely that this will not be ready until 2022. It is possible that Governors could be involved in encouraging members to take part in this, and/or take part ourselves. More to come on this in due course.</p>

The above is intended to be for discussion and any comments/suggestions are welcome.

Gill Little
November 2021