



GOVERNORS' FORUM
UNADOPTED NOTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON
Thursday 19 November 2020 at 3:00 pm

Present:	Kath Parker (KP) acting Convenor Paulette Afflick-Anderson Mick Ashman Steve Barks Jo Bishop Luc de Witte	David Foster Joyce Justice Kaye Meegan Ian Merriman Brendan Molloy Jane Pratt	Liz Puddy Sheila Reynolds Joe Saverimoutou Shirley Sherwood Chris Sterry Emma Warrander
Apologies:	George Chia Amanda Forrest Martin Hodgson Irene Mabbott	Lewis Noble Cressida Ridge Harold Sharpe	Pete Tanker Fiona Tatton Sue Taylor
In Attendance:	Tony Pedder - item 1 Michael Harper - item 1	Sandi Carman	Jane Pellegrina (notes)

1 Welcome and Apologies

Kath Parker (KP) welcomed everyone to the meeting and newly elected Governors were invited to introduce themselves.

The above apologies were noted.

2 Discussion with Tony Pedder and Michael Harper

Tony Pedder thanked governors for the invitation to join the Forum meeting.

Michael Harper provided an update on the operational/COVID position.

During the discussion that that followed these points were highlighted:

- Steve Barks asked whether the length of stay for COVID patients remained the same this time? MH said that LOS had reduced from 12 days in the first wave to 8 days this time.
- Kath Parker asked about the pressure on beds? MH said that previously all but essential elective treatment had been halted however this time elective surgery was continuing wherever possible and this had contributed to pressure on beds. There were fewer patients in ICU.
- Sheila Reynolds asked about the number of deaths. MH said that we were fewer deaths this time and added that co-morbidities were a factor in deaths.
- Emma Warrander asked whether enough was being done to reassure patients, particularly cancer patients, that it's OK to attend hospital appointments. MH said that in addition to the national campaign the Trust was also encouraging patients to attend. He reported that cancer referrals were now very close to normal levels.
- Steve Jones asked whether the Trust might have to revisit its re-set plan? TP said that this was not the intention but would be kept under review – patient and staff safety continued to be the priority.
- Paulette Afflick-Anderson asked whether staff were as resilient this time. MH said staff

absence was higher than usual for the time of year. Support of staff was vital and the Trust continued to make available calm rooms, refreshments, access to Vivup Employee Assistance Service, Staff Physiotherapy etc. TP added that supporting staff was a priority for the Board and commented that the Trust had won awards for some of its initiatives though there was no room for complacency.

- Liz Puddy commented that there was evidence that says that the quality of what we are doing extrapolates to staff wellbeing.
- Ian Merriman asked whether the Trust was going to reintroduce parking charges for staff? MH said there were no current plans to do so.

Kath Parker thanked Tony Pedder and Michael Harper for an interesting discussion. Kath also asked that governors' thanks be passed on to staff across the organisation, everything that they have done and continue to do was very much appreciated.

Tony Pedder and Michael Harper then left the meeting.

3 Notes of the Forum Meeting held on 4 August 2020 and Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

The Notes were **AGREED**.

4. Council of Governors' meetings

4.1 Review of unadopted Minutes of Extraordinary CoG held on 29 September 2020

There were no comments from governors on the unadopted Minutes.

4.2 Review of draft Agenda for CoG meeting on 15 December 2020

Steve Barks was keen that governors had an opportunity to pay tribute to Tony Pedder in an appropriate way. Other governors agreed with Steve.

The draft Agenda was reviewed and governors did not suggest any additional items for inclusion.

5. Report on Outcome of 2020 Elections to Council of Governors

Jane Pellegrina referred to Paper C circulated with the Agenda. Kath Parker congratulated the newly elected/re-elected governors. There were no comments or queries.

6. Process to Select a new Convenor of the Governors' Forum

Kath Parker referred to Paper D. Following a short discussion Jane Pellegrina was asked to email all governors to request expressions of interest to take on the role of Convenor of the Forum. In the meantime Kath agreed to act as Convenor.

7. Update from the CoG Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC)

In Martin Hodgson's absence Kath Parker reported the successful conclusion of the appointment process for a new Trust Chair. She reminded governors that at an extraordinary meeting of the Council of Governors held on 13 November 2020, the candidate recommended by the NRC to the Council of Governors had been approved.

Sandi Carman said that a communication confirming the appointment was being finalised and would be circulated to governors and across the wider organisation as soon as practicably possible.

8. Update on Membership Engagement Task and Finish Group

Sandi Carman thanked governors for responding to the call to join the group. It was noted that the following governors would be taking part:

Steve Barks
Jo Bishop
Angela Foulkes
Joyce Justice
Kaye Meegan
Cressida Ridge
Joe Saverimoutou
Fiona Tatton

Sandi said that, for personal reasons, some governors on the Group had requested that the majority of the work be undertaken in the New Year. Sandi had agreed to this and noted that an initial discussion would take place at a meeting of the Task and Finish Group that had been arranged for 26 November 2020.

9. Feedback from Single Issue Governors' Forum Meeting - Terms of Reference of the CoG NRC

Sandi Carman thanked governors for joining the meeting on 5 October on this issue; the meeting had been facilitated by Paula Ward. Sandi said that this had been a positive meeting and as agreed a proposal was being prepared and would be brought to the Council of Governors.

Kath Parker said that a number of governors considered that Annette Laban ought to be invited to take part in and discussion on this matter. Sandi noted this and reminded governors that Tony Pedder continued to be Chair of the Trust until 31 December 2020 but a conversation with Annette would be very helpful.

10. Proposals for future presentations for Governors

Jane Pellegrina reported that Amanda Forrest had suggested that governors might be interested to learn more about the Clinical Commissioning Group/Primary Care response to COVID. Governors agreed that this would be a useful presentation and Jane was asked to arrange it with Amanda.

Joe Saverimoutou suggested that a presentation/discussion with the new Chair about their vision for STH would be interesting. Other governors agreed and it was hoped that this could be arranged in the New Year.

8 Any Other Business

There was no further business to discuss

9 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that dates for meetings in 2021 would need to be agreed when the new Convenor was selected.