

## Lead Governor

### Council of Governors

20 November 2012

#### 1. CONTEXT

As Governors will be aware, the Trust's Constitution is currently being reviewed by a Steering Group consisting of NEDs and Governors chaired by myself and with support from the Assurance Manager and Membership Manager.

As the work of the Steering Group has progressed a number of related issues / workstreams have been identified which link to the Trust Constitution but will not be directly reflected in the revised Constitution. One such issue concerns the Lead Governor in terms of the desire of the Steering Group that there should be a role description and a process / timetable to fill the role as it is currently vacant following the end of the previous role holder's term of office (John Holden) in the summer of 2012.

#### 2. ROLE OF THE LEAD GOVERNOR

The role of the Lead Governor is set out in the Monitor Code of Governance (appendix A which can be found at <http://www.monitor-nhsft.gov.uk/home/news-events-and-publications/our-publications/browse-category/guidance-foundation-trusts/mandat-3>) and the attached paper (appendix A) reflects that role description. The role comes into effect in a limited set of circumstances which are set out in the attached paper and as set out in the Governance Code, "it is not anticipated that there will be regular direct contact between Monitor and the Board of Governors in the ordinary course of business".

#### 3. PROCESS / TIMETABLE FOR FILLING THE ROLE

It is proposed that any Governors interested in taking up this role should discuss this with the Chairman in the first instance prior to submitting an expression of interest. In the event that there are a number of expressions of interest an election will be held with each candidate invited to submit a short statement concerning their interest in taking up the role. This timetable would be carried out so that the outcome could be formally approved at the January 2013 meeting of the Council of Governors.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The Council of Governors is requested to:

- Approve the role description set out at appendix A.
- Approve the process / timetable set out in section 3 above.