

## Council of Governors (in Public)

### Item 14.3

**Subject:** Senior Governor Appointment  
**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday 19th September 2023  
**Prepared by:** Gill Donnelly, Membership & Communications Officer  
**Presented by:** Val Davies, Chair  
**Purpose of Report:** To Approve

#### 1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this paper is to make a recommendation for the appointment of the Senior Governor.

Monitor's publication '*The NHS Foundation Code of Governance*' asks that all foundation trusts have a 'Lead Governor' who can be a point of contact with the regulator (now NHS England) and can liaise with them on behalf of the governors, in circumstances where it would be inappropriate for NHS England to contact the Chair, or vice versa. The Senior Governor would be appointed from the 14 Governors in the Public Constituency.

Trevor Wooding, Public Governor-Merseyside has held the role of Senior Governor since 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Trevor Wooding's final term of office, having served the maximum three terms of office (nine years), concludes at the end of the Annual Members' Meeting (AMM) on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

At the Council of Governors meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023, Val Davies, Chair outlined the process for the appointment of a new Senior Governor. All Public Governors were given the opportunity to self-nominate for the role by 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

One nomination was received from Elaine Holme, Public Governor – Merseyside. Elaine is an experienced governor, initially elected on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017, and has just been re-elected for a third term of office. Elaine is also a valued member of the Nominations and Remuneration Committee (NEDs) and Chair of the Membership and Communications Sub Committee. Elaine's candidate statement and a full role description is attached in the appendices for information.

It is therefore recommended that Elaine Holme, Public Governor – Merseyside is appointed as the Senior Governor with effect from the close of the Annual Members' Meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

#### 2. Recommendation

The Council of Governors is requested to approve the appointment of Elaine Holme as Senior Governor with effect from the close of the Annual Members' Meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

## Appendix A

### CANDIDATE STATEMENT

<b>Name: Elaine Holme</b>
<b>Constituency: Merseyside</b>
<b>Candidate Statement (maximum 250 words)</b>  <p>Over the past 6 years I have been extensively involved in all aspects of the Governor role within the organisation. I have been heavily involved in the development of Trust Strategies and the appointment of senior director posts. I have successfully chaired the Membership and Communication subcommittee and feel my leadership skills have led to the development of a highly engaged group that have embraced the Trust values and engaged with the community to deliver highly effective health promotion events.</p> <p>I feel I can bring energy and enthusiasm to the role and my knowledge of the wider health economy issues will be invaluable in these challenging times. I have developed good relationships with local universities and my role there has provided me with an excellent insight into the challenges staff face on the front line. I have a proven track record in service improvement as a change agent both locally and nationally and have developed extensive leadership development programmes across Cheshire and Merseyside.</p> <p>I have developed excellent relationships with my fellow governors, Directors and NED's and continued to maintain my relationships with staff across the organisation. I am compassionate and have the ability to handle sensitive situations with diplomacy and tact – my grounded common-sense approach (and good sense of humour) has been invaluable in all my roles.</p> <p>To summarise, I feel I have a lot to offer this role and will work diligently to achieve all objectives set.</p>
<b>Date: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b>

## Appendix B



### Role Specification for the Senior Governor Role

#### The Role:

The Senior Governor will:

- Be the named governor for direct contact by NHS England (formerly Monitor)
- Chair such parts of the meetings of the Council of Governors (CoG) which cannot be chaired by the person presiding (Chair or Deputy Chair or Non Executive Director) due to a conflict of interest in relation to the business being discussed.
- Together with the Senior Independent Director (SID) for Chair, and the Chair for Non-Executive Directors (NEDs), summarise and feedback on Annual Appraisals
- Be a member of the Nomination & Remuneration (NRC) committee for the appointment of Chair and NEDs, and discuss outcomes with Governors
- Be the named governor liaising with the Chair on matters of interest or concern to governors

#### The Person:

To be able to fulfil this role effectively the Senior Governor will:

- Have the confidence of governor colleagues and members of the Board of Directors
- Have ability to influence
- Be able to present a well-reasoned argument
- Be committed to the success of the Foundation Trust
- Have access to an email account and ability to attend virtual meetings e.g. Microsoft Teams

#### Eligibility and Terms of Office:

The Senior Governor will

- be appointed from amongst the 14 elected public Governors
- hold office for a three year period or until their term ends, whichever is sooner;

At the end of the term, there will be an open process for nomination of a new senior governor, but this does not prohibit the incumbent from seeking a further term/s