

## Council of Governors Item 8.1

**Subject:** Governor Elections Update  
**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020  
**Prepared by:** Gill Donnelly, Membership & Communications Officer  
**Presented by:** Lucy Lavan, Director of Corporate Affairs

### 1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this paper is to highlight the plans for the forthcoming Governor Elections. It was reported at the last Council of Governors meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 that this set of Governor Elections were scheduled to commence on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020. However, due to the current circumstances and ongoing management of the Coronavirus/Covid 19 Pandemic it was considered appropriate to postpone these. This approach was in line with national guidance and the 'Reducing the Burden, Releasing the Capacity' letter issued to Trusts on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

A full revised timetable for this election process is provided within this report for the Council of Governors to note. Governors are advised to take action by following the nomination process as appropriate if they wish to re-stand for a further three year term.

### 2. Background – Forthcoming Elections

The Trust will go out to election with thirteen seats this summer (breakdown detailed below). One seat is currently vacant in the Staff Governor – Non Clinical classification.

Please note all of the governors listed below are eligible to re-stand for election for a three year term of office and their current term of offices end at the Combined Council of Governors and Annual Members Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020.

Constituency/Class	Current Governor(s)	Number of Seats
Public - Merseyside	Terence Comerford Dorothy Burgess Elaine Holme Trevor Wooding Ruth Rogers	5
Public - Cheshire	Mark Allen Peter Brandon	2
Public – North Wales	Peter Wareham	2

	Dusty Rhodes	
Staff – Non Clinical	Sharon Hindley Vacant	2
Staff – AHP, Technical and Scientific	Dot Price	1
Staff – Registered & Non Registered Nurses	Lynn Trayer Dowell	1

### 3. Election Timetable

Civica Election Services (formerly Electoral Reform Services) has been appointed to act as the independent electoral administrator for the forthcoming election process. The elections will be held in accordance with the Model Election Rules contained within our Trust Constitution.

Please see the below timetable outlining the on-going election process:

Stage	Date
Notice of Election published by the Trust and Civica Election Services, the electoral administrators.  Nomination forms, for candidates wishing to stand for election as a Governor, will be made available from this date.	2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2020
The deadline that nominations by candidates should be received by Civica Election Services	30 <sup>th</sup> July 2020
A summary of all valid nominated candidates will be published	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2020
The final date candidates can withdraw their nominations	4 <sup>th</sup> August 2020
Uncontested report is published	5 <sup>th</sup> August 2020
Notice of Poll is published	20 <sup>th</sup> August 2020
Voting packs distributed by Civica Election Services to members as appropriate (by constituency/class)	21 <sup>st</sup> August 2020
Closing date for election	16 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Declaration of results	17 <sup>th</sup> September 2020

In the current climate, it is planned that the nomination process will run entirely online for this election to negate the need for the postal service for nominations. However, ballot papers will still be issued via post. Members will be provided with the additional option of telephone voting to provide further support for members that do not have internet access to vote online and are

unable to leave the house to post their completed ballot paper.

If Governors have any queries relating to the election timetable and process they are invited to contact Gill Donnelly, Membership and Communications Officer or Civica Election Services who can advise on this further.

#### **4. Recommendations**

The Council of Governors is requested to support and note the proposed election timetable commencing on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020.

Governors are advised to take action by following the nomination process if they wish to re-stand for a further three year term.