

Lead Governor Appointment

Item 10.1

Subject: Lead Governor Appointment
Date of Meeting: Tuesday 3rd June 2025
Prepared by: Gill Donnelly, Senior Communications Officer
Presented by: Ben Vinter, Director of Risk and Corporate Governance
Purpose of Report: To Receive and Approval

1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this paper is to recommend the appointment of the new Lead 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 Lead Governor is to be appointed from the 13 Governors currently elected in the Public Constituency.

Elaine Holme, Public Governor, Merseyside has held the role of Lead Governor since 25th September 2023. Elaine has expressed her wish to step down from this role at such a time a replacement can be sought. Thanks are offered to Elaine for her commitment and dedication to this role, to date.

A process to appoint Elaine's successor was approved by the Council of Governors at their extraordinary meeting on 24th March 2025. Following this process, it is recommended that Ian Ferguson, Public Governor-Merseyside be appointed as the new Lead Governor.

The Council of Governors are requested to approve this appointment with immediate effect.

2. Background

Elaine Holme, Public Governor- Merseyside has held the role of Lead Governor since 25th September 2023. Elaine has expressed her wish to step down from this role, due to work commitments, at such time as a replacement is secured.

A process to appoint Elaine's successor was approved by the Council of Governors at their extraordinary meeting on 24th March 2025. Expressions of interest were welcomed for the role, and one was received from Ian Ferguson, Public Governor – Merseyside. Ian's nomination statement can be viewed for information in 13.1a.

The outcome of the process is for Ian Ferguson to be elected uncontested for the role of Lead Governor. Ian's appointment will be with immediate effect following receipt and approval by the Council of Governors at their meeting on 3rd June 2025. Ian's current term of office will conclude at the AMM 2026. This result will also be shared with the Board of Directors for information at their next meeting on 10th June 2025.

3. Recommendations

The Council of Governors is recommended to approve the appointment of Ian Ferguson, Public Governor as the new Lead Governor. Ian will take on the role with immediate effect until the end of his current term of office which will be at the Annual Members' Meeting 2026.

13.1a

Ian Ferguson, Public Governor Merseyside

Since starting as a governor in September 2023, I have committed myself to fulfilling my role by attending as many meetings as possible and to take every opportunity that enables me to learn more about the trust and to meet a lot of people who help make it such a great hospital for its patients and staff alike.

I have attended the following:

- NHS providers Annual Governor's Conference,
- LHCH PLACE assessments
- A NED walkabout before each CoG
- Governors and Directors Development Meetings.

Given my background as an HR Director for Coca-Cola I have joined the Governors NOMCO and have been involved in the recruitment of several NEDs and the new Chair.

It is also as a result of my career where I was involved in several major transformations that will give me an insight into the possible impacts of the LAASP collaboration project.

I also believe that I have shown and will continue to show that I can challenge (where appropriate) and hold the NEDs and through them the executive to account to ensure any future changes are beneficial for the service users and do not diminish the reputation of LHCH being a great place to work.

I will continue to represent the Merseyside community and want to be a link for the CoG members with the Chair and the rest of the executive when needed.

I would be proud to represent the Governors of the Trust in whatever forum and I believe my track record to date demonstrates this commitment.