

Report Title	Board Governance Report	
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Accountable Director	David O'Brien, Director of Corporate Services and Company Secretary	
Previous committees/groups	None	
Recommended action(s)	Information	
Purpose of the paper	This report provides an update on issues and developments relating to Board governance.	
Executive Summary		
<p>This report provides an update on issues and developments relating to Board governance, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Trust Establishment Order2. Recruitment of Non-Executive Directors3. Recruitment of Medical Director4. Internal Audit Reviews: Board Governance5. AdminControl Implementation		
Recommendation(s)	The Board notes the developments in Board governance outlined in this report.	
Link to Board Assurance Framework Risks (board and level 2 committees only)	All BAF strategic risks	

Board of Directors (in Public)
22 May 2025
Board Governance Report
Director of Corporate Services and Company Secretary

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides an update on developments relating to Board governance.

2. BOARD GOVERNANCE UPDATES

Trust Establishment Order

- 2.1 The Trust is awaiting approval of its new Establishment Order from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). When approved, the new Establishment Order will increase the number of Non-Executive positions on the Board of Directors from six (Chair plus five) to seven (Chair plus six).
- 2.2 Final Ministerial approval for the new Establishment Order is expected soon. The latest advice from DHSC (received 12 May) is that the Trust can reasonably expect Ministerial approval for the new Establishment Order to take effect from 01 July 2025.

Recruitment: Non-Executive Directors

- 2.3 The latest campaign to recruit up to two new Non-Executive Directors closed on 13 May 2025. The Trust has received 26 applications.
- 2.4 Interviews are scheduled for 17 June and will include a stakeholder panel and formal interview.

Recruitment: Medical Director

- 2.5 Interviews for the position of Medical Director were scheduled to take place on 20 May.

Internal Audit Reviews

- 2.6 In September 2024 the Board was informed that three internal audit reviews relating to Board governance arrangements were due to take place during the second half of 2024/25. All three reviews have concluded and the reports have been issued, with the following outcomes:

Review	Outcome
Board Assurance Framework	Significant Assurance
Fit and Proper Person Test Compliance	Significant Assurance
NHS Code of Governance Compliance	Significant Assurance

- 2.7 Copies of these reports are available to Board members upon request from the Director of Corporate Services and Company Secretary.

AdminControl Implementation

- 2.8 The Trust has commenced implementation of AdminControl, the portal that will deliver efficiency and productivity gains to the administration of Board and committee meetings.
- 2.9 AdminControl is being introduced in phases and is being used first to manage the meeting of the Finance and Performance Committee meeting on 20 May. The system will be rolled out to other meetings during the next few months.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 This report has no direct financial implications.

4. RISK

- 4.1 Failure to develop and maintain effective Board governance arrangements for the Trust would present risks relating to strategic leadership capacity and capability, compliance with regulatory frameworks and codes (CQC Well-Led Framework, NHS Code of Governance, NHS Provider License), and reputation.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Board notes the developments in Board governance as outlined in this report.

David O'Brien
Director of Corporate Services and Company Secretary

May 2025