

A statement about the balance, completeness and appropriateness of the Board of Directors – April 2024

The Board currently comprises the Trust Chair, Chief Executive, six other Executive Directors and seven other Non-Executive Directors. In addition, the Trust has an Associate Non-Executive Director and a Medical Director – Integrated Care who attend meetings of the Board.

The Board is of the opinion that the Trust is led by an effective Board, as the Board is collectively responsible for the exercise of the performance of the Trust. It also considers that no individual group or individuals dominate the meetings of the Board.

There is a clear separation of the roles of the Trust Chair and the Chief Executive. The Trust Chair has responsibility for the running of the Board, setting the agenda and for ensuring that all directors are fully informed of matters relevant to their roles. The Chief Executive has responsibility for implementing the strategies agreed by the Board and for managing the day-to-day business of the Trust.

The Board considers that the Non-Executive Directors bring a wide range of business, commercial, financial and clinical knowledge required for the successful direction of the Trust. All of the Non-Executive Directors are considered to be independent in accordance with the *Code of governance for NHS provider trusts*.

All directors are subject to an annual review of their performance and contribution to the management and leadership of the Trust.

Diversity is a vital part of the continued assessment and enhancement of board composition, and the Board recognises the benefits of diversity amongst its members.

At the present time, the Board is satisfied as to its balance, completeness and appropriateness and will keep these matters under review.