

**Report to 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015 Council of Governors' meeting**



**Revised Governors' Code of Conduct**

Background

It is a requirement of the Trust's Foundation Trust Constitution that all Governors sign the Governors' Code of Conduct. The purpose of this paper is to outline a number of proposed revisions to the Code for consideration and endorsement by the Council of Governors.

The proposed revisions are the result of work undertaken by the Membership & Governance Sub Group in reviewing the Code and identifying recommended changes.

The Membership & Governance Sub Group recommends the revised Code of Conduct to the Council for adoption.

Proposed Revisions

The recommended changes to the Code are highlighted as tracked changes in the attached document. The main revisions relate to:

- Further clarification/guidance in respect of Governor responsibilities when engaging in communication with the media and using social media
- The requirement that Governors participate in training which the Council of Governors has deemed should be mandatory (a requirement of the FT Constitution)
- The expectation that Governors will not undertake service area visits without a valid DBS check
- The recognition that a Governor may be suspended by the Panel established to investigate a potential breach of the Code of Conduct (a requirement of the FT Constitution)

Subject to the Council's approval, all Governors in post with effect from 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015 will be required to sign the revised Code of Conduct.

Recommendation

The Council of Governors is asked to consider and endorse the proposed revised Governor Code of Conduct.

Hector Graham, Chair of the Membership & Governance Sub Group &  
Paul Martin, Deputy Director, Corporate Affairs  
25<sup>th</sup> February 2015