

Report to 14th January 2014 Council of Governors Meeting

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Report from 11th December 2013 Chairs' Sub Group Meeting

Items to highlight from the meeting include:

1. Chief Operating Officers' Directorate: Management structure proposals designed to support service delivery

Richard McKendrick, Chief Operating Officer, was in attendance for this item. He described outline proposals re the above and the rationale behind them. He sought and received Sub Group members' views and it was agreed that the proposals would feature on the 14th January 2014 Council of Governors' meeting agenda.

2. Council of Governors' meeting agendas: 14th January 2014

The Sub Group discussed and agreed the agendas for the Council of Governors' meetings. The Sub Group was supportive of a suggestion by the Lead Governor that Governors should be invited to attend a private Governor-only session, chaired by the Lead Governor, which would take place prior to the commencement of each full Council of Governors' meeting. It was agreed that this should be piloted for the January and March 2014 meetings and then be reviewed.

3. Board of Directors' meeting schedule

The Sub Group was briefed by the Chairman over the proposal to move to bi-monthly Board of Directors' meetings and the rationale behind it. The Sub Group was supportive of the arrangement, receiving assurance from the Chair of FP&P that he believed the arrangement would not compromise the ability of Governors to hold Non Executive Directors to account. He would, however, keep the position under review through FP&P and highlight any future concerns.

4. Governor communication in consultation and other public engagement activities

Amanda Pleavin, Head of Communications, was in attendance for this item. The Sub Group discussed a number of scenarios, for example where Governors had a responsibility to deliver their views confidently as a Governor regardless of their personal views and to differentiate personal views, Governors' views and Trust views. It was agreed that guidelines to support Governors in respect of the above activities would be useful and these would be produced for further consideration.

Paul Martin
Company Secretary
On behalf of the Chairs' Sub Group