

Council of Governors

Date of meeting:	25 September 2025
Report Title:	Interim Lead and Deputy Lead Governor
Executive/NED Lead:	George Chalkias, Director of Governance
Report author(s):	Ann Filby, Trust Secretary
Previously considered by:	N/A

 Approval
 Discussion
 Information
 Assurance

Executive summary

There is a regulatory expectation that each Foundation Trust will have a Lead Governor in place to support any necessary communication between regulators and the Council. For this Trust, relevant provisions have been placed in the Standing Orders for the practice and procedure of the Council of Governors.

Helen Rose was re-elected to the role to the end of her term of office, 31 October 2025, confirmed at the Council of Governors on 13 March 2024. At the Council held on 26 March 2025, Caroline Bowden was confirmed into the role of Deputy Lead Governor, also until 31 October 2025 when her term of office comes to an end.

The role description is attached.

Due to the departure of our current Lead Governor, an interim solution is required prior to the new Council electing to both roles in late 2025-early 2026. The current Deputy Lead Governor has participated in this year's elections to secure a further term of office and if she is successful, she is willing to undertake the role.

Public Governors David Guest and Verity Jolly are also able and willing to support this interim position, with the potential of all three working together. A final position will be considered at the meeting once the outcome of the Council elections is known.

Action Required of the Council

The Council of Governors is invited to agree to the appointment of an Interim Lead and Deputy Lead Governor from 1 November 2025 until 31 January 2026.