East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust

Trust Board of Directors

Report Summary

Date of meeting: 7 May 2026	
Title of Document: Board Work Programme 2026/27	
To be presented by: Tracy Dowling, Trust Chair	**Author:** Anthony May, Interim Trust Secretary
1. Status: For Approval/Discussion/Assurance/Noting/Information	
2. Purpose: This report provides the Board Work Programme for 2026/27.	
Relates to:	
Strategic Objective	Include the relevant objective/**all –** • **Improving health:** not just treating illness, moving from treatment to prevention. • **Joined up care:** integration and community-based delivery. • **Excellent care:** improved outcomes, increasing personalisation and co-production. • **Developing staff:** supporting our teams and building for the future. • **Using technology to improve care:** digital, technology and innovation – shifting from analogue to digital care.
Operational performance	The Board has oversight of the Trust's performance and receives assurance reports from the Performance and Finance Committee
Quality and equality impact	The Board has oversight of the Trust's performance on key quality metrics set nationally and the key performance indicators related to the quality of patient experience. The Board receives assurance reports from the Quality and Patient Safety Committee, with additional reporting to meet legal and regulatory requirements.
Legal, Regulatory, Audit	Legislation and regulation relating to the effective management of the Trust and delivery of national priorities and operational performance standards The Trust is expected to establish and implement effective board and committees under the provider licence (2023, NHS2: Governance arrangements)
Finance	Financial sustainability and the implementation of an effective financial and strategic planning framework. Assurance provided by Performance and Finance Committee. Trust Plan and financial framework approved by the Board
Governance	The work programme contains all elements to deliver requirements. The programme is amended regularly as the situation changes and new requirements are confirmed. If the Board does not have a clear

	work programme in place matters for consideration and assurance may not be reviewed in an appropriate and timely way, and legal and regulatory requirements may not be met
NHS policy/public consultation	Compliance with the national priorities and operational planning guidance and the Care Quality Commission's Fundamental Standards
Accreditation/ Inspection	An effective Board and Committee structure is assessed as part of a review of the CQC Well-led domain.
Anchor institutions	The work programme includes reporting three times per annum
ICS/ICB/Alliance	n/a
Board Assurance Framework (BAF) Risk	All
Other	n/a

3. Summary:

The Work Programme for Board meetings scheduled to be held in public has been reviewed and updated to reflect the Trust's priorities and statutory requirements for the current financial year. The programme has been coordinated with committee work programmes to ensure appropriate sequencing of items, clear escalation routes and effective oversight across the Board and its committees.

Where requirements change in-year, and specifically regarding submission dates for annual returns, the programme will be adapted.

4. Recommendations / Actions

The Board is invited to consider and approve the work programme for 2026/27, for formal review in six months.