

Governor Focus 2019

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Congress Centre London

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My Notes and Ideas



‘The bringing together governors from across the sector to explore how they can best support their trusts in delivering quality healthcare’.

An introduction and welcome was given by Dame Gill Morgan –Chair NHS Providers

Gill joined NHS Providers as chair at the beginning of 2014. Following a career as a doctor, Gill was permanent secretary of the Welsh Assembly government, chief executive of the NHS Confederation and chief executive of North and East Devon Health Authority. Gill is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and the Faculty of Public Health.

She discussed her big message:

“We lost something when public health population medical expertise was taken away from the NHS. We’ve lost the strong drive at commissioner level to keep prevention high on the agenda but also an understanding of how to deliver the best health services.”

Her 15 min talk surrounded:

- Recreating population health perspectives
- NHS England’s public health gap
- Health service prevention Technology
- Rationing Local council funding
- Wales: lessons on ethos and scale

- Sustainability and transformation partnerships

Setting The Scene – A national policy update was delivered by Chris Hopson – Chief Executive, NHS Providers

He gave an overview of the key issues facing the provider sector, with particular emphasis on those areas of great concern to council of governors.

He discussed how:

- Trust were responding to growing pressures but not able keep up
- Vacancies for doctors and nurses continue to grow and how can we deliver a service without staff- Look at recruitment process- Invest in apprentices-look at different processes –progression and succession planning.
- That the long-term plan for the NHS will signal a reset on performance over the next five years- how negative Brexit would affect this.
- How the NHS long Term plan needs to do a better job of shifting care into the community.
- Ambiguity & uncertainty – how this requires leaders and managers to behave differently.
- Horizontal integration and vertical integrations- Clubbing procurement mergers-cross sector boundaries- at what price?
- Reconfiguring- share services- eliminating duplication – does this include staff?

By looking at the ESNEFT Strategy as a governor, I feel satisfied that the strategies will guide our delivery approach in challenging times ahead – we have a plan. 😊

- Strategic section 4 – Support and develop our staff

Introduction to the Governor Advisory Committee

Mark Price – Member development manager –Governwell and Governor support, NHS Providers

<https://nhsproviders.org/programmes/governwell/support-and-guidance/so-youre-thinking-about-becoming-a-governor>

Peter Abell – Chair, Governor Advisory Committee NHS Providers

<https://nhsproviders.org/news-blogs/blogs/how-my-role-lets-me-contribute-to-the-spirit-of-the-nhs>

Mark explained how the work of the governor advisory committee (GAC) supports the NHS Providers and introduced the GAC members present at the conference, including Peter Abell, its chair who outlined his role.

- Assure yourself that the board has the right balance between operational and strategy – look at what the board are doing- have a greater understanding.
- Horizontal integration – creates transport problems – has ESNEFT saved money from a horizontal integration? – Question this
- Recruiting governors from different backgrounds- Younger governors
Look at targeting schools, sixth forms and universities.

Whilst networking with hospitals that were show casing, I picked up this 'mobile phone' sized leaflet- this is perhaps a way to reach out to our younger generation in order that they start to understand and have a voice about their local hospitals within the NHS?



Roundtable Discussions

Networking took place:

<https://nhsproviders.org/media/644021/governor-focus-1345-roundtable-feedback-notes>

Looked at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital NHS Foundation Trust:

- Why become a member paper work
- 'Our journey to be the 'best' –how the council of governors support LHCH to achieve this vision'

The image displays two documents related to the Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. On the left is a 'Membership Registration Form' with fields for name, address, telephone, and various demographic and interest checkboxes. On the right is a presentation slide titled 'Our journey to be the best - how the Council of Governors support LHCH to achieve this vision.' The slide features a central box for the 'Council of Governors' (meeting four times per annum and an Annual Members' Meeting). This council oversees several sub-committees: 'Informal Chair's Lunch' (four times per annum), 'Staff Governors' Drop In Session' (with Chair and Director of Corporate Affairs), 'Interest Groups with Executive Leads & Non Executive Directors) and Governor Walkabouts', 'Annual Joint Council of Governors and Board of Directors Development Day', 'Membership and Communications Sub Committee' (meeting four times per annum and facilitating member events), and 'Nominations and Remuneration Committee (NECs)' (Statutory - meeting as required at least once per annum). The slide also contains text describing the Council's role as a 'critical friend' and its commitment to maintaining an 'Outstanding' CQC rating. Contact information for LHCHFT is provided at the bottom, including the website www.lhch.nhs.uk and social media handles.

Healthwatch and NHS Governor – Opportunities for closer working for benefits of the patients

Imelda Redmond CBE – National director, HealthWatch

Healthwatch England, supported by many local Healthwatch Organisation, is the dependant national champion for people who use health and social care services. As leading public involvement body for the NHS in England, Imelda Redmond outlined the work of Healthwatch and its relevance to foundation trust governors.

- 6000 Volunteers- How do you get involved?
- Who is the chair of our Local Healthwatch?
- Communication – Speaking to the service user – telephone interaction

Equality and Diversity – what governors need to know?

Yvonne Coghill CBE, OBE- Director NHS Workforce Race Equality Standard (WRES) NHS England

Dr Habib Naqvi – Policy Lead WRES NHS England

These two demonstrated awareness and appreciation of equality and diversity as being key to the governor role both in the performance of statutory duties and in working with foundation trust boards, Yvonne and Habib described the workforce race equality standard and how governors need to hold boards to account for implementation.

- Transparency- Compassionate leadership is required from a Chief Executive (It is without a doubt our ESNEFT CE does this)
- Attracting equality and diversity within our board of governors.
- Transforming – looking into the future

Speaker Presentation:

<https://nhsproviders.org/media/643998/governor-focus-2019-presentation>

I would recommend that next year ESNEFT attends to show case how we have integrated.