

## Council of Governors

6 December 2023

<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>Council of Governors' elections 2024</b>
<b>Executive/NED Lead:</b>	George Chalkias, Director of Governance
<b>Report author(s):</b>	Ann Filby, Trust Secretary

Approval
  Discussion
  Information
  Assurance

### Executive summary

Election requirements are outlined in the Trust's constitution including terms of service, requirements to stand at election and responsibilities included for the role. A governor may serve a maximum of three terms or a sustained period of nine years, whichever comes first. An individual term is subject to the conditions of the election process agreed prior to the election.

An external agency is appointed to run the elections to allow for a fair and impartial process. There are no fixed guidelines for the duration of an election. These have to be assessed by the external agency, taking into account the size of the membership, amount of seats vacant, if it is likely to be contested and extenuating factors that may not be considered by the Trust. Civica Election Services Limited were appointed in 2022 to undertake the elections to be held in 2023 and 2024. Several seats are due to be vacated by 30 June 2024, and elections will also take place for those seats that are currently vacant.

The general principle is that an optimum time for an election process would exceed 12 weeks, so would begin during March 2024. Below are the stages that demonstrate opportunity to nominate, elect and induct new governors elected to the Council.

1. **Last Day for Publication of Notice of Election:** No other actions may take place before this is done
2. **Deadline for receipt of nominations:** There will be a declaration of the nominations of those intending to stand following the closing of the nomination window
3. **Publication of Statement of Nominations**
4. **Deadline for candidate withdrawals:** This will be a short window
5. **Notice of Poll/Issue of ballot packs:** Ballot papers will be distributed to the respective members of their class and constituency
6. **Close of Poll:** At a specific date and time
7. **Count and Declaration of Result:** The following 24 hours
8. **Start of term:** The newly elected governors will then be given the opportunity to be inducted into their role.

Detailed planning will begin in early 2024 once the revisions to the Trust Constitution have been approved by the Council of Governors and Board of Directors. Governors will be kept updated on progress once the timetable has been confirmed.

The detail of those seats to be vacated is provided overleaf.

### Recommendation to the Council

The Council of Governors is invited to note the update.

## Public Governors (18)

		Number of seats for election
Colchester (4)		
Caroline Bowden	Term 2 to 31 October 2025	3
David Guest*	Term 1 to 30 June 2024	
Alison Ruffell*	Term 1 to 30 June 2024	
Vacant		
Rest of Essex (5)		
James Chung*	Term 1 to 30 June 2024	4
Martin Nixon	Term 1 to 31 October 2025	
Elizabeth Smith**	Term 3 to 30 June 2024	
Jane Young*	Term 2 to 30 June 2024	
Vacant		
Ipswich (4)		
Harvey Crane	Term 1 to 31 October 2025	2
Tim Newton	Term 2 to 31 October 2025	
Vacant		
Vacant		
Rest of Suffolk and South Norfolk (5)		
John Alborough	Term 3 to 31 October 2025	2
Trevor Catlow*	Term 1 from 5 December 2022 to 30 June 2024	
Peter Coleman	Term 1 to 31 October 2025	
Gillian Orves*	Term 2 to 30 June 2024	
Helen Rose (Lead Governor)	Term 3 to 31 October 2025	

## Staff governors (5 or 6)

		Number of seats for election – to become new ESNEFT constituency if approved
		4 (5)
Colchester and Essex (3)		
Vacant		
Additional seat	If approved in the revised Trust Constitution to recognise the addition of community services	
Isaac Ferneyhough*	Term 2 to 30 June 2024	
Pride Mukungurutse	Term 2 to 31 October 2025	
Ipswich and Suffolk (3)		
Abhijit Bose	Term 1 to 31 October 2025	
Gemma Bourne*	Term 1 to 30 June 2024	
Allison Weston*	Term 2 from 6 December 2022 to 30 June 2024 (also served to 31 October 2022)	

\*Seat to be vacated – governor can seek re-election

\*\*Seat to be vacated – governor at term limit