

# Roles and Responsibilities of the Governors

Tony Ellis, Public Governor

# Who are the Council of Governors?

- Based on requirements in the NHS Act
- 27 Governors in total, of which:
  - 16 elected by the Public members
  - 7 elected by the Staff members
  - 4 appointed by partner organisations (LBH, HPCT, LAS, JNCC)
- Meet quarterly in the Civic Centre
- Meetings held in public, agenda and papers on the website

# How are they different to the Trust Board?

- Governors responsible for representing local people, staff and partner organisations in the governance of the FT
- Board responsible for running the FT and is accountable for its success or failure
- Collectively the Council of Governors should hold the Board to account for the performance of the FT but should not try to veto decisions of the Board

# Governors' statutory roles

- Appoint, and if appropriate, remove the Chair and Non-Executive Directors (NEDs)
- Decide the remuneration, allowances and other terms and conditions of office of the Chair and NEDs
- Approve the appointment (by the NEDs) of the Chief Executive
- Appoint, and if appropriate, remove the external auditor
- Receive the annual report and accounts, and auditor's report on them
- ***In addition***, in preparing the forward plan, the Board of Directors must have regard to the views of the Governors

# Governor – Board engagement

## **Standard methods for Governors to provide scrutiny and assistance**

- Receiving the annual report and accounts
- Receiving the quality report and accounts
- Receiving in-year information updates from the Board
- Receiving performance appraisal information for the chair and other non-executive directors
- Inviting the Directors to attend CoG meetings

# What are Governors not there to do?

- Deal with individual complaints (but may wish to raise with Board if there appears to be a wider strategic concern in recurring complaints)
- Deal with staff grievances or appeals
- Be involved in the management of the FT
- Performance manage the delivery of targets

# Opportunities for involvement

- Patients in Partnership – bi-monthly
- Become a volunteer
- Become a FT Governor
- Recruit family and friends to become an FT member
- Respond to hospital surveys
- Participate in focus groups

# **Group work**

## **Engaging with our Membership**

# Group work

## Topics for discussion

- Member communication
- Governor engagement with members
  - Orange group – Lecture theatre (GH)
  - Blue group – Lecture theatre (JW)
  - Yellow group – Hospitality area (DC)
  - Pink group – Hospitality area (CH)

# Public meetings

- Council of Governor meetings:
  - 25<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at 5.30pm in Committee Room 5, Civic Centre
  - 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 5.30pm in Committee Room 5, Civic Centre
- Trust Board meetings:
  - 25<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at 2.00pm in the Board Room, Mount Vernon Hospital