Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS
7th December 2011

TITLE	**Re Appointment of the Deputy Chairman**
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	The Constitution lays out a number of key governance roles. 1 key role is: Deputy Chairman- appointed by the Council of Governors The appointment of the initial Deputy Chairman was made for a one year period effective from 1 December 2011 and is therefore due for review. This was considered by the Nominations and Appointments Committee on 25th October 2011.
The Council of Governors is asked to:	Approve the reappointment of Philip Beesley as Deputy Chairman until 14 July 2012.
Submitted by:	Jane Gear, Head of Corporate Affairs on behalf of Aileen McLeish Chairman
Date:	10th November 2011
Decision:	For Decision

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Re appointment of the Deputy Chairman

1 Background

The Trust has developed a Foundation Trust Governance Framework that was included within the Council of Governors' Resource Folder.

This sets out various roles and relationships including

- The role of the Board
- The role of the Council
- How the two interrelate
- The role of the Chairman and the Chief Executive

It also defines the roles of the Deputy Chair as follows:

Role Outline : Deputy Chairman

. The "Deputy Chairman" means the Non-Executive Director appointed by the Council of Governors to take on the Chairman's duties if the Chairman is absent for any reason.

The Deputy Chairman will deputise for and support the Chairman in respect of the authorities and responsibilities conferred or delegated to the Chairman by the Board, as set out in the Chairman's Role outline, and any other authority or responsibility that the Board, the Constitution or Terms of Authorisation, from time to time, confer. This would include chairing a Council meeting if the Chairman could not be present.

2 Monitor Guide

The guidance published in the Monitor Guide 'Your Statutory Duties A Reference Guide for NHS FT Governors ' Chapter 3 is as follows:-

Appointing a deputy chair

Where an NHS foundation trusts's constitution makes provision for one, the governors should appoint a deputy chair from the other non-executive directors.

Given that the nature of the role is to stand in for the chair as required, this appointment should be made on the same basis as the appointment of the chair. The process of appointment will be different though in that the appointed person will be selected from the existing non-executive directors. So, the board of governors will look at applicants from the current non-executive directors and choose from them. The *Code of Governance* states that the senior independent director could be the deputy chair.

It is important to recognise the need for the deputy chair to hold the confidence of the board of directors and as such, governors should take into serious consideration the views of that body.

3 Current position

The Nominations and Appointments Committee considered the position at their

meeting on 25th October 2011. They noted that Philip Beesley is due for reappointment as a Non Executive Director from 15 July 2012 and noted the strong contribution seen from Philip Beesley at Board meetings and in chairing IGAC. Philip Beesley has the confidence of the full Board and the Board supports his reappointment as Deputy Chairman.

Following discussion, the Committee AGREED to recommend to the Council of Governors the reappointment of Philip Beesley as Deputy Chairman of the Trust Board for the remainder of his current term of office (15/07/12).

In addition, if a recommendation was subsequently made regarding his reappointment as a Non-Executive Director, this could be accompanied by a further recommendation about continuing with the role as Deputy Chairman.

4 Recommendation

The Council consider the recommendation to reappointed Philip Beesley as Deputy Chairman for the remainder of his current term of office (15/07/12).

11 November 2011