

Minutes of the Council of Governors Meeting

held on 13 December 2016, 5.00-7.00pm,

at the UNISON Centre, Room 7.1 & 7.2 130 Euston Road, London NW1 2AY

Present:

Marie Gabriel	Chair	
Zara Hosany	Public Governor, Deputy Chair	Hackney
Kenneth Agyekum-Kwatiah	Public Governor	Newham
Shirley Biro	Public Governor	Newham
Norbert Lieckfeldt	Public Governor	Newham
Ernell Diana Watson	Public Governor	Newham
John Bennett	Public Governor	Tower Hamlets
Terry Cowley	Public Governor	Tower Hamlets
Adrian Charles Thompson	Public Governor	Tower Hamlets
Gohar Ghouse	Public Governor	Hackney
Kemi Rosiji	Public Governor	Rest of England
Mary Phillips	Public Governor	Luton
Keith Williams	Public Governor	Luton
Paul Feary	Public Governor	Bedford
Rubina Shaikh	Public Governor	Bedford
Steven Codling	Public Governor	Central Bedfordshire
Rosemary Eggleton	Public Governor	Central Bedfordshire
Damien Vaugh	Public Governor	City of London
Joseph Croft	Staff Governor	
Maria Eyres	Staff Governor	
Irene Harding	Staff Governor	
Simon Marsh	Staff Governor	
Olusola Ogbajie	Staff Governor	
Gary Tubb	Appointed Governor	Central Bedfordshire

Apologies:

Hazel Watson	Public Governor	Newham
Nicholas Callaghan	Public Governor	Tower Hamlets
Adenike Abimbola	Public Governor	Hackney
Agunbiade		
Sam Ali	Staff Governor	
Roshan Ansari	Public Governor	Tower Hamlets
Robin Bonner	Staff Governor	
Katherine Corbett	Staff Governor	
Juliet Muzawazi	Staff Governor	
Larry Smith	Public Governor	Central Bedfordshire
Susan Fajana Thomas	Appointed Governor	London Borough of Hackney (Councillor for Stoke Newington)
Dhruv Patel	Appointed Governor	City of London
Amy Whitelock Gibbs	Appointed Governor	London Borough of Tower Hamlets (Councillor for Bethnal Green)
Neil Wilson	Appointed Governor	London Borough of Newham
Susan Wengrower	Public Governor	Hackney
Erika Thomas	Public Governor	Central Bedfordshire

Absent:

Blessing Mamvura	Public Governor	Luton
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Alexander Kuye

Public Governor

Hackney

In attendance:

Edwin Addis

Membership Manager (minutes)

Georgia Denegri

Interim Trust Secretary

Navina Evans

Chief Executive

Mason Fitzgerald

Director of Corporate Affairs

Steven Course

Chief Finance Officer

Jamal Haig

Membership Administrator

PART A: BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

- 1.1 Marie Gabriel, Trust Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that due to tight submission deadlines announced by NHS Improvement (NHSI) at short notice, this was an extraordinary meeting of the Council to get Governors' input into the Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs) and ELFT Operational Plan 2017-19.
- 1.2 Apologies were noted as listed above.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 November 2016

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2016 were **AGREED** as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising and Action Log

Matters arising and Action Log

- 3.1 All actions are in progress and not due until a later date. Marie Gabriel and Zara Hosany will update the forward plan for the next regular Council meeting on 19th January 2017.

4. Financial position 2016/17 (presentation)

- 4.1 Steven Course delivered the presentation which was circulated with the papers before the meeting. The following points were noted from the discussion:
 - A source of ELFT revenue is through selling spare beds to achieve financial targets. We were £1.2m behind plan at the end of October 2016. This is however recovering as contracts for the sale of additional capacity have now been agreed.
 - The finance risk rating of '2' to the end of October 2016 is due to not meeting our surplus target. All other finance metrics are being achieved. So although we are in surplus, we are not meeting the surplus target (called control total) which NHSI has set for us. In response to a query on how targets are set and whether this is on matrix or individual basis, it was explained that efficiency targets with regard, for example, to reducing agency expenditure are set by the regulator by looking at Trusts' general spend on staff and deciding on what surplus they need to make. Foundation Trusts are able to retain their surpluses. At ELFT we had some large capital projects in recent years because of the surpluses we made, which is one of the benefits of making surplus.
 - The implication of not hitting any of our targets would be that we would not have access to funding streams like the STP. We are working on meeting our control total surplus.
 - Majority of our funding comes from Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). Our contracts for 2017-18 have not been signed yet so we do not know the exact figures. We do know that mental health needs to be given parity of esteem and that the growth in funding that CCGs get, via the Social Care Act promises, needs to be translated into funding increase for mental health services. There will be more detail about finances at the next Board meeting.
 - This is the first time Trusts have been asked to plan for two years. Bedfordshire and Luton contracts on the other hand are for 5 to 7 years which ensures continuity of services and enable us to plan better.
 - When building efficiency programmes, ELFT shares our quality impact assessments

with commissioners to identify any areas overlooked so we can make efficiencies without affecting the quality of services.

4.2 The Council **NOTED** the financial position.

5. Strategic Planning – STPs and Operational Plan 2017-19

5.1 Mason Fitzgerald explained that the annual timetable for strategic planning had changed with short notice. NHS Trusts were tasked with developing and submitting two year operational plans, in addition to Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs), by 23rd December 2016. Despite this change of the planning timetable, ELFT will still hold annual plan consultation events in February and March 2017 and incorporate the feedback from members and governors.

5.2 Mason Fitzgerald delivered the Strategic Planning presentation (attached) in which he explained the current national and local contexts and the progress made so far with both the North East London (NEL) STP and the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes (BLMK) STP. After the presentation, the following points were noted from the discussion and queries raised by Governors:

- The Sustainability and Transformation Funding (STF) will be recurrent year on year to ensure continuity.
- Specialist services are commissioned directly by NHS England. So the contract with NHS England (c.£40million) funds our Forensic, CAMHS, and perinatal services.
- Like many Trusts nationally, ELFT has difficulty recruiting district nurses and CAMHS consultants. This is one of the national problem areas.
- In response to a query about how well ELFT understands the vast geography of Bedfordshire, Dr Navina Evans explained that the ELFT contracts are with the Luton CCG and the Bedfordshire CCG and that for the purposes of service delivery, we work closely with hospitals, local authorities and other stakeholders in Bedfordshire. We talk to all stakeholders and the STP will bring us all together even more.
- In response to a query on how the NHS can reduce its deficit, Mason Fitzgerald explained that Trusts with deficit are asked to reduce it whereas other Trusts such as ELFT are asked to increase their surplus. If all the deficits and surpluses are added, we get the national figure. Dr Navina Evans gave as an example how ELFT works with other Trusts on closing the financial gap, for example by working together with St. George's Hospital to redistribute the demand from that hospital. ELFT is not required to give our surplus to anybody. Our role is to offer help to find solutions. For example, what can community services do to have an impact on beds occupancy in the acute sector? Together with primary care, we need to work on reducing the demand on acute services and thus close that deficit. This is also the next phase of what we need to discuss with three acute hospitals in Bedfordshire. The aim for the NHS is to be back in positive balance by 2021.
- In response to a comment that the presentation was very high level and that Governors would need to have a deeper understanding about strategic planning and finance (for example, what are the three things we should do more of and less of to ensure funding is sufficient and not affect quality of services), it was explained that the format of the plan is given to us and that the STP plans are vague at the moment but that more detail will be known by the next Council meeting in January 2017.

5.3 Governors were invited to discuss in groups and report back the most important issues that matter to their local communities. The key points reported from the small group discussions are:

Table 1: Homelessness, drugs and alcohol awareness and prevention strategies,

domestic violence, improving support for carers, improved communication, IAPT, reclaim life, CAMHS.

Table 2: Staffing levels in admin. When admin staff leave, often there are delays with letters from GP surgeries; Recovery College; reducing waiting lists via new technologies, more empowering recovery (e.g. using smartphone apps or computer programmes). Linked with this, we need to provide reassurance to staff who may be anxious that they will lose jobs because of technology.

Table 3: Improving access to services in Bedfordshire; creating and promoting independence, responsibility for own wellbeing, managing costs; involving frontline staff, managing agency staff, working together with other organisations.

Table 4: Delivering social services in Newham; early intervention and prevention to save money in the long run; what are the positive experiences of patients that can reduce costs?; Cost savings achieved via Qi projects. Tell NHS England about the Qi methodology to spread good practice, look at best practice nationally and internationally.

Table 5: Homelessness (rough sleeping is on the increase); drug awareness and prevention strategies. Working with people in initial stages of drug dependency; Housing as a theme, link between social care and housing, accessible information – inform service users about changes to services as any cuts to services can lead to relapse; Understand why staff are leaving – is it due to high cost of housing as it is expensive to work and live in London? Pre-natal mental health screening.

- 5.4 Marie Gabriel thanked everyone for their valuable contributions and invited Governors representing East London constituencies to contact Membership Office by Tuesday 20th December 2016 with any additional comments about the North East London (NEL) STP and Governors representing Bedfordshire and Luton constituencies to provide feedback on the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes (BLMK) STP by 15th December 2016.

6. Any other urgent business/questions from the public

- 6.1 Marie Gabriel announced the sad news about the death of Dr Robert Dolan, previous Chief Executive of ELFT who retired in August 2016. Marie and Navina will be sending our sympathy to his family on behalf of Governors. One minute of silence for Dr Robert Dolan was observed.

7. Date and time of next meeting

- 7.1 Thursday, 19 January 2017, 5.00-7.00pm

The meeting closed at 7.15pm