

## Council of Governors – Governor Training

Governors will remember that in addition to making available NHS Provider GovernWell courses to those that wished to sign up, the Trust engaged NHS Provider to conduct a half-day of core skills training for Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust governors as a group. This was held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at the Lensbury, with 18 governors attending.

The event included the following topics:

- An overview of the NHS environment and an ICS update;
- Governance and role of a Governor;
- NHS finances and business skill;
- Current challenges for quality; and
- Effective questioning and challenge.

Slides were shared with all governors after the event. While the course included core skills it was bespoke in that the Trust was able, with input from governors, to decide how best to spend this time, and what to focus on.

It is proposed that the Trust arranges for core training to be delivered in a similar manner, with NHS Providers coming to Kingston, on a biennial basis. It is therefore planned to arrange a similar day in the middle of 2024, with a date to be arranged with governors in due course. This timing will allow for a refresher for longer serving governors and those governors who have joined the Council of Governors since the last training session. In the meantime, governors will continue to be invited to attend existing courses run by NHS Providers.

During 2022/23, governors had informal training through presentations to Council of Governor meetings, as well as at Governor and Non-Executive Director sessions, where in the past they received presentations from NEDs on topics such as winter planning and pressures, finance and budgeting for the Trust, governance and controls employed within the Trust, workforce and staff welfare, developments in Place and the system, and the collective governance developments between the Trust and HRCH.

In previous years there has been an attempt to have senior staff provide training on issues, such as finance, however even though this was a popular choice to develop, the sign up for the sessions were low. Should governors wish to have any in-house bespoke training organised they should contact the governance team to discuss. As always, we will, within reason, make places available on the NHS Providers GovernWell courses, the latest list, which was emailed to governors, can be found at:

[https://nhsproviders.org/development-offer/governor-support/governwell-course-dates?utm\\_campaign=1187664\\_2023%2F24%20open%20bookings&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=NHS%20Providers%20%28Policy%20and%20networks%29&Organisation=Kingston%20Hospital%20NHS%20Foundation%20Trust&dm\\_i=52PX,PGEO,3KPELP,333FK,1#](https://nhsproviders.org/development-offer/governor-support/governwell-course-dates?utm_campaign=1187664_2023%2F24%20open%20bookings&utm_medium=email&utm_source=NHS%20Providers%20%28Policy%20and%20networks%29&Organisation=Kingston%20Hospital%20NHS%20Foundation%20Trust&dm_i=52PX,PGEO,3KPELP,333FK,1#)

Sam Armstrong  
Director of Corporate Affairs & Trust Secretary