The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn
NHS Foundation Trust

Meeting:	The Council of Governors (in public)		
Meeting Date:	14 December 2023	**Agenda item:**	8
Report Title:	Lead Governor's Report to the Council of Governors		
Author:	Dr Antonia Hardcastle, Lead Governor		
Executive Sponsor:	Chris Lawrence, Trust Chair		

Implications		
Link to key strategic objectives *[highlight which KSO(s) this recommendation aims to support]*		
KSO1 - Quality	**KSO2 - Engagement**	**KSO3 – Healthy Lives**
Access to safe, compassionate and timely care for our patients	**Improving our organisational culture and enabling staff to achieve their full potential**	**Transform how we work to deliver improved care and health outcomes for our communities**

Board assurance framework	N/A	
Significant risk register	N/A	
	Y/N	If Yes state impact/ implications and mitigation
Quality	N	
Legal and regulatory	N	
Financial	N	

Assurance route					
Previously considered by:	n/a				
Executive summary					
Action required: *[highlight **one in bold**]*	Approval	**Information**	Discussion	Assurance	Review
Purpose of the report:	To inform the NEDs and Council of Governors of key activities in October and November 2023				
Summary of Key activities:	• New Governor • HUSH Survey • Governor Engagement • Youth Council • Governance review				
Recommendation:	The NEDs and Council of Governors are asked to note the report.				
Acronyms	N/A				

New governor. We have welcomed a new Appointed Governor from King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council. Alexandra Kemp is the District Councillor for Clenchwarton and South Lynn and has already been to visit us since her appointment. The Trust greatly values its relationship with the local Borough Council, and we look forward to working with her on all things QEH.

HUSH survey. Eight Governors undertook the patient survey for the Helping U Sleep Healthy (HUSH) campaign, on behalf of the patient experience committee. They visited all appropriate wards twice during the week commencing 20 November to ask patients how they had slept the night before. Over three hundred responses were collected, and the data is now being analysed by the patient experience team.

Governor engagement. We have started a meet your Governors table in the foyer, at present this is happening every fortnight and is manned by two governors. In the Spring, we will be encouraging Governors to take the banner and information out into their communities to gather feedback from those who do not come into the Trust.

We have also restarted the informal Governor meetings. These happen every month that we do not meet formally. Recently we have discussed the findings from the Governance Review and Healthwatch Norfolk's report on training. These meetings give us a chance to share knowledge and highlight areas of concern and improvement within the group.

Regionally I have met with the Lead Governors from across the Eastern region. It was interesting to hear from colleagues about the challenges of gaining feedback from the wider public – which is one of our statutory duties. The FT Office is working across the Trust getting a diary of events for us to attend in the coming year to better achieve this. Another area of concern was the lack of clinical governors wishing to join the Councils. Regional ideas that were suggested include a video of what Governors do, a tracker of our impacts and a 'you said, we did' newsletter.

Youth Council. We are working on building a Youth Council for the Trust, this will ensure that the views of young people help the Trust's decisions about care and services. The Youth Council can share the views of young people in the West Norfolk, South Cambridgeshire and South Lincolnshire area. Healthwatch Norfolk is working on the early stages of a recruitment drive and is collaborating with the hospital on a digital campaign to give more information about how young people can be involved.

Governance Review of the Council of Governors: To ensure that the Governor working groups have a clear rationale we propose that:

- Business Committee will become Strategy and Business planning.
- Patient experience will become Quality.
- Membership and communications will become Membership, Engagement and Culture.

The Terms of Reference will be agreed at the next meetings of these groups and their membership refreshed. This work will be completed within the first quarter of 2024.