SENIOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR – JOB DESCRIPTION

1. Eligibility

The Senior Independent Director (SID) will be a non-executive director (NED) of the Board of Directors (other than the Chair), who is considered by the Board of Directors to fulfil the criterion of independence set out by Monitor in the NHS Foundation Trust Code of Governance.

2. Appointment and Accountability

The SID will be appointed by the Board of Directors, having consulted on its nominee with the Governors' Council. At the time of authorisation the initial Vice Chair will also be the initial SID. The Board of Directors will review the appointment annually in accordance with the Standing Orders for the Governors' Council.

The SID will have specific duties, defined below, in respect of which the SID will be accountable to the Board of Directors

3. Duties

3.1 The SID's role will be:

(a) In accordance with the policy for engagement, to be available to Governors and Members if they have concerns about the performance of the Board of Directors or compliance with the terms of authorisation, which contact through the normal channels of Chair, Chief Executive or Director of Finance has failed to resolve or for which such contact is inappropriate.

(b) To attend sufficient meetings with Governors to develop a balanced understanding of their issues and concerns.

(c) To lead a meeting of the non executive directors at least annually without the Chair to evaluate the Chair's performance in accordance with the process for appraising the Chair.

4. Monitoring and Review

4.1 The SID's performance in respect of this job description will be assessed during the Chair's annual appraisal of the SID. The Governors' Council's opinion will be sought in this respect.

4.2 This job description will be reviewed annually.

Approved

Board of Directors 23rd August 2010

Governors' Council……date

Review date……