

<b>NHS Greater Glasgow &amp; Clyde</b>	<b>Paper No. 20/02</b>
<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Interim Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> April 2020</b>
<b>Purpose of Paper:</b>	<b>For Noting</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>Official Sensitive</b>
<b>Sponsoring Director:</b>	<b>Elaine Vanhegan, Head of Corporate Governance and Board Administration</b>

### **Paper Title – Governance Approach to Committee Suspension**

#### **Recommendation**

That the Interim Board:

1. Note the content of the report;

#### **Purpose of Paper**

To advise the Interim Board of the of the process adopted for suspending the functioning of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's governance committees during the ongoing public health emergency.

#### **Key Issues to be considered**

The ongoing public health emergency has required the Board to consider how to ensure continued good governance in the face of significant challenge. The Board Chairman instigated formal consideration of this requirement by presenting options to Board members in a virtual Board meeting which took place between 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, and setting out new risks identified by the Board's Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020. These new risks related to the need for flexibility, the need to guard against unnecessary demands on the Executive leadership, and the need to protect the health and wellbeing of Board members and staff involved in the Board's governance processes.

The Board determined within this virtual Board meeting to introduce an Interim Board to undertake all functions of the Board required during the public health emergency. The Board determined to suspend the functioning of established governance committees during this period.

To support the suspension of the functioning of governance committees, the current status of work being undertaken by each was considered. Through consideration of the most recent approved and draft minutes of committees, the most recent 'key items for the Board' report where available, and the committees' Rolling Action Lists and Forward Planners, a list of ongoing and upcoming actions for each governance committee was compiled. These list are being considered by the relevant Executive lead for each governance committee and the relevant Chairperson, to prioritise the matters which are contained within to identify: (i) upcoming decisions which may require to be made during the period of suspension; (ii) matters of ongoing relevance which will require governance oversight during the period; and (iii) matters which can be appropriately held over for consideration on the resumption of the suspended committees. Matters which require determination within the lifetime of the Interim Board will be presented to the Interim Board for consideration timed to meet any relevant timescale. Matters which require ongoing governance oversight will be scheduled for consideration by the Interim Board. Matters which can appropriately be held over for later consideration by the relevant governance committee will be retained for inclusion on committee agendas at the resumption of the regular governance committee arrangements. This work is nearing completion and a Work Programme will be presented to the next Interim Board Meeting.

The Interim Board has been designed to take account of the risks identified by the Audit and Risk Committee, to ensure flexibility and reduce demands on the Executive leadership, and to maintain required governance of the organisation during this period. The Interim Board membership is drawn from the Board's non-Executive leadership in a manner which will ensure that each of the governance committees' areas of function are represented during any Interim Board meeting. The Interim Board Terms of Reference make provision for these particular areas of knowledge and experience to be brought into discussion where the Interim Board considers a matter which would otherwise have been considered by a governance committee.

It is anticipated that the full Board of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde will convene, virtually, for the scheduled meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020, and at this point the functioning of the Interim Board will be considered with regard to the wider circumstances at that point.

**Any Patient Safety /Patient Experience Issues**

None

**Any Financial Implications from this Paper**

None

**Any Staffing Implications from this Paper**

None

**Any Equality Implications from this Paper**

None

**Any Health Inequalities Implications from this Paper**

None

**Has a Risk Assessment been carried out for this issue? If yes, please detail the outcome.**

N/A

**Highlight the Corporate Plan priorities to which your paper relates**

N/A

**Author – Graeme B. Forrester**

**Tel No – 0141 211 0246**

**Date – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020**