

Agenda Council of Governors Meeting

Date: Monday 21 July 2025

Time: 18:30 – 21:00 Venue: Microsoft Teams

Item No.	Item	Lead	Action	Time			
	Business						
1.	Chair's Welcome & apologies for absence	Keith Willett	Verbal/ To note	18:30			
2.	Declarations of Interests	Keith Willett	Verbal/ To note	-			
3.	Minutes from 22 May 2025 meeting	Keith Willett	Paper To note	-			
4.	Action Log and Matters Arising	Keith Willett	Paper To note	-			
	Governor TermsNED Chair Membership						
Governo	r Development						
5.	CQC Well Led Preparation	Jane Campbell	Presentation Q&A	18.40			
6.	Equality, Diversity & Inclusion	Dipen Rajyaguru & Saricka March	Presentation Q&A	19.00			
Statutory	Statutory Duties: Performance and holding to account						
7.	Governor priorities and areas of interest	Helen Ramsay	Paper To note	19.30			
8.	Chief Executive's Update	David Eltringham	Verbal To note	19.45			

				19.55
9.	Area of assurance for: Governor priorities and areas of interest and governor questions submitted 48 hours pre the meeting via the Company Secretary mail box.			19.00
	To provide assurance and for information for this section please refer to the Integrated Performance Report; Board Committee Escalation Reports; and other information available in the May 2025 Board in Public meeting papers at: Board Meetings South Central Ambulance Service			
	a) Integrated Performance Report	NEDs	Verbal For	
	b) Board Committee Escalation Reports	NEDs	Assurance	
Council	of Governors Operations:			
10.	Deputy Chair Appointment	Keith Willett	Verbal Decision	20.30
11.	Membership and Engagement Committee update	Alan Weir	Paper To note	20.35
12.	Council of Governors Governance update – to include: • Proposed AGM date • Election Update	Kofo Abayomi	Verbal To note	20.45
Closing	Business			
13.	Any Other Business	Keith Willett	To note	20:55
14.	Questions from Members/Observers Questions from Members/Observers should be submitted to the Company.Secretary@scas.nhs.uk mailbox 48 hours before the meeting.	Keith Willett	To note	-
15.	Review of meeting effectiveness	Keith Willett	To note	21:00
16.	Time, Date, and Venue of next Meeting 22 October 2025 Venue tbc / Teams 18:30 – 21:00			



Minutes Council of Governors

Date: 12 May 2025 **Time:** 18:30 - 20:30 **Venue:** Microsoft Teams

Governor's present

Helen Ramsay (HR) Public Governor, Oxfordshire & Lead Governor

Mike Appleyard (MA) Public Governor, Buckinghamshire

Rachael Cook (RC) Staff Governor, Staff Governor, 999 EOC

Anne Crampton (AC) Appointed Governor

Lloyd Day (LD) Staff Governor, 999 Operations South

Tim Ellison (TE) CRF Governor Staff Governor
Hilary Foley (HF) Public Governor, Hampshire
Chris Jenner (CJ) Staff Governor, PTS and Logistics

Tony Jones (TJ) Public Governor, Berkshire

Paul Kelly (PK) Public Governor, Buckinghamshire

David Luckett (DL) Public Governor, Hampshire Charles McGill (CM) Public Governor, Hampshire Tony Nicholson (TN) Public Governor, Hampshire

Alan Weir AW) Staff Governor, Corporate Services

Christoper Wood (CW) Public Governor, Hampshire

Governor apologies

Mark Davis (MD Public Governor, Berkshire & Deputy Lead Governor

Cllr Barry Wood (BW) Appointed Governor

Huw Pateman (HW) Buckinghamshire Public Governor

Mark Potts (MP) Berkshire Staff Governor

Governors not in attendance

Ian Sayer (IS)
Tariq Khan (TK)
Grahame Hoskin (GH)
999 Operations North
Staff Governor, NHS 111
Appointed Governor

David Wesson (DW) Public Governor, Oxfordshire

Directors/Others in

attendance

Professor Sir Keith Willett Non-Executive Director & Chair

CBE (KW)

Sumit Biswas (SB)

Les Broude (LB)

Ian Green (IG)

Katie Kapernaros (KK)

Mike McEnaney (MM)

Ruth Williams (RW)

Non-Executive Director

Non-Executive Director

Non-Executive Director

Non-Executive Director

David Eltringham (DE) Chief Executive

Becky Southall (BS) Chief Governance Officer

Kofo Abayomi (KA) Head of Corporate Governance & Compliance

Margaret Eaglestone (ME) Stakeholder and Engagement Manager

Item No.	Agenda Item
1.	Chairs welcome & apologies for absence
1.1	Keith Willett (KW), Non-Executive Director and Chair welcomed all to the meeting, introductions were made to all those in the room and online and apologies for absence were noted.
2.	Declarations of Interest
2.1	None declared at this meeting.
3.	Minutes from 12 February 2025 meeting
3.1	The minutes for the 12 February 2025 Council of Governor (CoG) meeting were approved as a true record of the meeting with the correction that Tim Ellison was present at the meeting.
4.	Action Log and Matters Arising
4.1	The Action Log was reviewed with both items being agreed to be closed.
4.2	Action: Becky Southall (BS) took the action to compile a next phase of Governor Development through discussion with the Lead Governor (Helen Ramsay).
5.	Governor priorities and areas of interest
5.1	HR outlined the 6 Governor priorities and areas of interest questions as detailed in the supporting paper.
5.2	KW stated assurance for the priority areas would be provided via the series of updates from NEDs present and David Eltringham (DE), Chief Executive Officer. Supporting documentation was available from the March 2025 Board in Public paper pack. The Council NOTED the priorities and areas of interest questions.
5.3	The Council NOTED the priorities and areas of interest questions.
6.0	Chief Executive's (CEO) Update
6.1	David Eltringham (DE)provided the Chief Executive update and introduced it by saying it was International Nurses Day and thanking nursing colleagues for the contribution they have made across the organisation.
6.2	Operational Performance:

• The target for Category 2 performance was sub 30 minutes, which the organisation had not quite met. But the organisation improved significantly from 44 minutes to achieve a Category 2 response time of just over 31 minutes for the year, with significant improvements in certain areas, particularly in Portsmouth and SE Hampshire and is a reflection on all the hard improvement work that had been done in those areas across multiple organisations.

6.3 **Quality and Safety**:

- Introduction of the new patient safety framework (PSIRF), which focuses on processes and policies to manage incidents of harm and risk to patients.
- Improvements in safeguarding led to the withdrawal of some conditions imposed on the organisation following the findings by the CQC in 2022.
- The accreditation program was introduced to encourage continuous improvement in quality and safety in the ambulance resource centres.

6.4 **People Perspective**:

- From a people perspective, DE explained it had been a very challenging year, as structural changes have been made both in the executive team and the corporate teams including removing 120 posts from Corporate and back-office functions resulting in some redundancies and this clearly impacted on the staff survey results.
- However, there were positive steps forward in sexual safety particularly in the participation of managers and leads in the roll out of the sexual safety mandatory training programme and the work of the FTSU team in this area across the organisation.
- DE was pleased to report that since the last Council of Governor meeting, Stuart Rees had been appointed to the Chief Finance Officer and that Mark Ainsworth had been appointed to the Executive Director of Operations role but that the Chief People Officer role remained unfilled but that an interim plan was being put in place.

6.5 **Financial Performance**:

- The organisation ended the year with a surplus, but this is purely technical due to deficit support funding from NHS England and brokerage. This brokerage includes loans to cover redundancy costs that need to be repaid. If the brokerage and the support funding is removed, the organisation exceeded its target by a small amount which is being explained across the organisation so that all understand the context.
- CIP programme was 93 to 94% delivered recurrently so the organisation does not have recurring gaps that remain this year.

6.6 **Strategy**:

 DE explained that both SCAS and SECamb are aligned on strategies but there are differences in the way these are achieved.

6.7 **CQC Inspection**:

- A recent unannounced full inspection by the CQC was discussed. The inspection covered EOCs, 17 resource centres, rideouts, emergency departments across the geography and pharmacy departments.
- Feedback indicated no immediate safety concerns but highlighted areas for improvement, such as fleet condition and stretcher maintenance.

- SCAS were aware of these and had a plan to work on these issues but did not have a solution immediately in place.
- CQC were very complimentary about the staff and said they were very patient focused and caring and spoke openly to inspectors and were proud to work for SCAS. DE is very grateful to staff for their support in facilitating the inspection.
- The CQC report will be produced in due course.

6.8 **Anonymous concerns:**

- Two concerns were raised. The first related to an email regarding safety issues related to newly qualified paramedics and was submitted by a staff member's relative. In response, two focus groups have been organised to speak with DE and Duncan (Chief Paramedic) and once they have been completed, the themes will be identified and a piece on 'you said' 'we did' will be undertaken which will address the points in the email.
- The second was an anonymous letter related to decisions made by the Charity to reduce the number of Community First Response vehicles as they come to the end of their lease. It also raised questions around leadership in the volunteer team. Both these concerns are being addressed within an independent review. The decision taken by the Charity to reduce the number of vehicles was made by the Board of Trustees and this will be noted within the review.

6.9 Questions from Governors

Mike Appleyard (MA), Public Governor, sought assurance around the timing of the fleet resolution issues for CQC and the impact of unfilled vacancies on financial performance. DE explained there was a plan in place for the fleet issue resolution and that VoRs had fallen, aging fleet is falling, and new vehicles are being delivered and explained the unfilled vacancies at the start of the new year had enabled the Trust to mitigate the need for further redundancies within the corporate teams.

David Luckett (DL) asked if there were any redundancies in frontline staff and DE explained there were not and went into depth on how the restructuring process had been undertaken in order to deliver the budget constraints.

6.10 The Council **NOTED** the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

7. Area of assurance:

- a) Governor priorities and areas of interest
- b) Integrated Performance Report
- c) Board Committee Escalation Reports

7.1 a) Governor priorities and areas of interest responses:

Impact on staff on organisational changes

lan Green (IG) explained the staff survey had been reviewed at the April board and actions listed by the board to address concerns. NEDs were assured by the level of papers at committee meetings and through the speaking up guardian reports to the board and through site visits to speak with staff.

7.2 Reduction in Bank staff and Resilience of workforce to demand

Les Broude (LB) explained the decision had been taken at Board to reduce the number of private provider organisations to one and that some had been TUPE-d into the organisation (some of whom had worked for SCAS previously) and

that permanent staff recruitment was being used instead of contract staff. NEDs were assured that the resource and resilience was in place from this one provider. Enhanced Care Course, being discussed as a way to continue staff career development and offer opportunities for rotation.

Lloyd Day (LD) Staff Governor raised the concern that bank staff had to book onto at least one bank shift within 90 days and that all training had to be in place in order to book on to this but there were currently no advertised bank shifts in Hampshire so there was a risk that the bank staff would not be able to meet the requirement and their contract would lapse so bank staff could be lost. DE explained that the priority was that the staff vacancies were filled, as in the past 30 to 40% of the work was being done by private providers, overtime and incentivised overtime (including bank shifts). Now SCAS were in a position for 100% of work to be done by staff. But that the bank staff issue would be reviewed, and an action was taken.

- 7.3 Action: review policies and procedures around the minimum requirement of bank staff to do one shift in 90 days to ensure future bank staff.
- The LD raised the concern around the TUPE staff conditions from private providers may cause conflict with existing SCAS staff. DE explained that the TUPE rules were subject to strict legislation so SCAS could not change this, and Hilary Foley (HF) Public Governor raised the concern around the communication has been taken around the positive and negatives and the legal obligations to staff.KW confirmed an action would be taken to review the communication to explain more about this process to reassure staff.
- 7.5 Action: to check sufficient communication is in place to ensure staff understand the nuances of TUPE terms in transfer of private provider staff to SCAS.

Wellbeing week for frontline staff

7.6 IG explained a co-production process was in place with staff to ensure a better range of activities was in place across different times of the day and outlined some of the new initiatives and asked governors to be involved in the co-production. HR (Public Governor) raised the concern of protected time for frontline staff to be able to take advantage of the wellbeing initiatives and DE explained there was a significant cost to take people offline that could impact on the ability to get to patients in time and a consequence to performance.

SECAmb /SCAS governors

7.7 Current collaboration between SECamb and SCAS has been board to board and executive to executive and some 1-to-1 conversations and are now moving into the phase where the strategic officers met and the NEDs would meet to share best practices. KW would keep governors informed but the collaboration is exploratory at this stage and that governors can seek assurance through their NEDs.

Governor Elections to fill vacancies and a Table of Governor Terms

BS explained that Susan Wall was looking into the elections with Civica and this would be continued on her return. Tony Jones (TJ) Public Governor queried governor terms and BS took the action to complete a table of governor terms. Tony Nicholson (TN) Public Governor raised the concern about significant number of governors retiring next year so asked for assurance on all the

- vacancies to be filled and KW gave assurance around the communications that would be undertaken to ensure the elections were successful.

 7.9 Action: Governance to provide governors with a table showing governors' terms
- 7.10 Action: Governance to provide governors with a list of vacancies for the forthcoming governor election at the end of 2025.
- 7.11 **b) Integrated Performance Report**No questions had been raised in advance of the meeting and reports had been discussed as part of the Board in Public March 2025 meeting.
- 7.12 **c) Board Committee Escalation Reports**Alan Weir (AW) asked who would be the Chair of the Quality and Safety Committee following the departure from the Trust of Dhammika Perera. KW confirmed the new Chair was Katie Kapernaros. BS took an action to update the governors on the Chairs of the committees and the areas of responsibility for the new and existing NEDs and the new Governor/NED Buddy list.
- 7.13 Action: Governance to update governors on: the Chairs of committees; NED areas of responsibility; and NED Buddy list.
- 7.14 The Council **NOTED** the Area of assurance for: questions and Governor priorities and areas of interest; IPR; and Board Committee Escalation Reports.
- 8. Strategy updates:
- a) South East Coast Ambulance (SECAmb) collaboration update

 The intention behind the collaboration from a strategic perspective is to enable both SCAS and SECamb to learn from each other and speak with one voice to commissioners about what both believe is 'the right thing to do' (and not to solely focus on cost but also address quality of care). LD (Staff Governor) asked if other members of SCAS operations could also undertake shifts at SECAmb

to further learning and DRC took an action to review this.

- Action: for DRC to consider suggestions from governors for inclusion within the SECamb collaboration and strategy work: For more operational staff to have the opportunity to work a shift at SECamb and vice versa to understand operational differences; to consider the inclusion of a specific target/measure for improved patient outcome within the strategic analysis.
- 8.3 b) Fit for the Future Strategic Framework

DRC joined SCAS 11 February 25 and completed a review of the current SCAS strategy within the context of:

- the Darcy Review: analogue to digital, hospital to community treatment to prevention;
- AACE Ambulance Vision published in 2024 and
- National Teams interest in Ambulance Strategic commissioning.

8.4 DRC explained the new BAF and Fit for the Future framework would be presented at the May Public Board for approval. There will be 5 strategic domains with the SCAS mission at the centre of the narrative: 1. Clinical Excellence (central) (how care is delivered for patients) 2. Enabling Services including fleet strategy 3. Digital Transformation (becoming more resilient in delivering care) 4. People and Culture 5. Sustainability and Partnerships (including green agenda and collaboration) 8.5 These will align with the directorates and will be clearly laid out at public board in May 25. Chas McGill (CMG) (Public Governor) asked about collaboration with the other ambulance services in the South and DRC and KW clarified that this will be addressed through the Southern Alliance and explained there will be differences in what can work at scale and what needs to remain at a local level to deliver the best care for patients. TJ asked if the strategy met 4 criteria: is it understandable, ambitious, deliverable, sustainable. DRC explained that the strategic aims had not changed significantly, there was still a key focus on the right pathways for patients but that the purpose of this work was to create a golden thread that linked all the elements of performance and accountability together with clarity. 8.6 The Council **NOTED** the Strategy updates. 9. Membership and Engagement Committee update 9.1 AW presented the MEC update from the meeting held on 25 March 2025. Key Topics Discussed: 9.2 1. Community Education Presentation Delivered by David Hagman, Community Education Operations Manager. Focused on promoting children's CPR education and community outreach. Well received by governors and highlighted in recent media coverage. 9.3 2. Membership Engagement Strategy Discussion on how to improve communication with members and the public. Emphasis on sharing good news stories and increasing visibility of SCAS activities o Aim to drive two-way engagement: information out to communities and feedback in. 9.4 3. Governor Engagement Expectations Proposal for aspirational objectives for governors, including: Monthly contact with a local constituency group. Attendance at one public event per year. Participation in at least one "Health Matters" talk (online or in person). These are not mandatory but intended to encourage active

involvement.

9.5	4. Support for Governors Margaret Eaglestone reminded governors that public engagement is a statutory duty. Offered 1:1 support to help governors meet engagement goals. Emphasis on tailoring support to individual needs, including neurodivergent accessibility.
9.6	 5. Defibrillator Awareness and Community Impact Highlighted a successful initiative in Reading to install a 24/7 public defibrillator. Sparked interest from local philanthropists for further community support. Seen as a model for governor-led community health initiatives.
9.7	 6. First Aid Training for Governors Discussion on whether governors should be offered basic CPR/defibrillator training, Acknowledged as potentially useful for confidence and community engagement.
9.8	The Council of Governors NOTED the Update.
10.	Council of Governors Governance update
10.1	BS provided an update to the Council of Governors and the key points were noted and discussed:
10.2	 1. Governor Development Programme The governor development programme was acknowledged as needing a refresh. It was noted that this would likely be addressed in August, with further discussion planned. Becky Southall (Governor Officer) mentioned aligning the Board Assurance Framework with the Fit for the Future strategy, which includes governance alignment.
10.3	 2. Governor Elections There are currently three governor vacancies. The Trust is planning to hold elections later in the year, based on advice from Civica (the election services provider). A review is underway to assess how many governors will be term-expired by spring 2026, to inform the scope of the upcoming elections.
10.4	 3. Governor Engagement Expectations A discussion was held on setting aspirational expectations for governors, including:
10.5	Support for Governors Margaret Eaglestone emphasized that while the expectations are aspirational, engaging with members and the public is a statutory

	 requirement. She offered one-to-one support to help governors engage locally and meet their responsibilities.
10.6	 5. Governance Framework Review The Council of Governors Development Plan was acknowledged as time expired. A review is underway to update it, led by Becky Southall, in collaboration with the Lead Governor, with input from governors and the Membership and Engagement Committee (MEC). The goal is to modernize the framework and align it with current governance needs and strategic direction.
10.7	The Council of Governors NOTED the Governance update.
11.0	Any Other Business
	There was no other business discussed at this meeting.
12.0	Questions from Members/Observers
12.1	There were no questions from members.
13.0	Review of meeting effectiveness
13.1	 Reflections on Format and Participation The meeting was described as very different from those held a year or two ago, with a more structured and engaging format. There was positive feedback on the structure and flow of the meeting, with several attendees noting that everyone had the opportunity to speak and contribute meaningfully.
13.2	 Hybrid Meeting Format The hybrid format (in-person and online) was acknowledged as working better than in the past. However, there was disappointment that more governors were not attending in person. It was suggested that hybrid meetings should continue, but with encouragement for more in-person participation where possible.
13.3	 Technical Improvements Concerns were raised about sound quality, particularly for online participants. A new AV system is being implemented, including: A camera that follows the speaker Improved microphone and sound quality The aim is to make remote attendees feel more included and better able to follow the discussion.
13.4	 Attendance There were 26 attendees in total, which was noted as a significant improvement compared to previous meetings. In the past, there were instances where more executives than governors were present, which was seen as inefficient.

13.5	 Future Direction The meeting concluded with a sense of progress and optimism. There was recognition that the Council of Governors is evolving and becoming more effective in its role.
13.6	The next meeting is scheduled for 21 July 2025, with a CPR training session planned beforehand.
14.	Date, Time, and Venue of next Meeting
14.1	Monday 21 July 2025.



South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

	Council of Governors ACTION LOG Status						
Minute Ref:	Agenda Item	Action	Owner	Due Date	Update		
Meeting	g date: 12 May	2025					
4.2	Action Log & Matters arising	Becky Southall (BS) took the action to compile a next phase of Governor Development through discussion with the Lead Governor (Helen Ramsay).	Becky Southall		The outstanding topics on the list are either no longer relevant or not required. Governor development activity will be linked to the 5 strategic priorities Fit for the Future Framework and will form part of the main agenda for the Council of Governors. The agenda has been updated to reflect this. A schedule of presentations is in development	Close	
7.3	Area of assurance	Review policies and procedures around the minimum requirement of bank staff to do one shift in 90 days to ensure future bank staff.	Becky Southall	21.07.25		Open	
7.5	Area of assurance	To check sufficient communication is in place to ensure staff understand the nuances of TUPE terms in transfer of private provider staff to SCAS.	Southall	21.07.25	TUPE requirements have been followed. 1:1 meetings with individuals have been arranged in line with this.	Close	
7.9	Area of assurance	Governance to provide governors with a table showing the governors' terms	Becky Southall	21.07.25	On the agenda	Close	
7.10	Area of assurance	Governance to provide governors with a list of vacancies for the forthcoming governor election at the end of 2025.	Becky Southall	21.07.25	On the agenda	Close	
7.13	Area of assurance	Governance to update governors on: the Chairs of committees; NED areas of responsibility; and NED Buddy list.		21.07.25	Committee Chairs/membership is on the agenda. Buddying arrangements have been agreed with RW as the new NED. The final list will be circulated when the buddying arrangements for the two new NEDs are finalised.	Close	
8.2	Strategy update –	For DRC to consider suggestions from governors for inclusion within the SECamb collaboration and strategy work: For more operational staff to have	Ruiz-	21 May	The work around the scope of the collaboration work is still in train. Opportunities to utilise governors will be explored as the work progresses. Operational teams	Close	



South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

collaboration	the opportunity to work a shift at SECamb and vice versa to understand operational differences; to consider the inclusion of a specific target/measure for improved patient outcome within the strategic analysis.	across the two organisations are already working together as part of the functional elements of the collaboration work to understand where closer working will be beneficial to the patient population.	

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust Governor Terms

Name	Constituency	Report of Voting	Elections Due	Elections Due	Elections Due
			end 2025	end 2026	Spring 2027
Mark Davis	Berkshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2022	1		
Tony Jones	Berkshire Public Governor	Contested December 2023		1	
Mark Potts	Berkshire Public Governor	Contested December 2023		1	
Mike Appleyard	Buckinghamshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2023		1	
Paul Kelly	Buckinghamshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2023		1	
JohnPateman	Buckinghamshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2023		1	
Hilary Foley	Hampshire Public Governor	Contested December 2022	1		
Vacant	Hampshire Public Governor	Malc Carpenter - unopposed Oct 23		1	
David Luckett	Hampshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2023		1	
Charles McGill	Hampshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2023		1	
Tony Nicholson	Hampshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2023		1	
Chris Wood	Hampshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2023		1	
Helen Ramsay	Oxfordshire Public Governor	Contested December 2022	1		
David Wesson	Oxfordshire Public Governor	Unopposed Oct 2023		1	
Vacant	Oxfordshire Public Governor	Heather Wicks - April 2024			1
Vacant	Rest of England Public Governor	Loren Bennett - unopposed Oct 23		1	
Tariq Khan	Staff Governor: NHS 111	Unopposed October 2022	1		

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust Governor Terms

Rachael Cook	Staff Governor: 999 EOC	Unopposed October		1	
		2023			
Chris Jenner	Staff Governor: NEPTS and	Unopposed October		1	
	Logistics Field	2023			
Ian Sayer	Staff Governor: 999 Operations	Unopposed March			1
	(North)	2024			
Lloyd Day	Staff Governor: 999 Operations	Unopposed October		1	
	(South)	2023			
Alan Weir	Staff Governor:	Contested December	1		
	Corporate/support/other	2022			
Tim Ellison	CRF Governor (cannot stand as a	Contested December	1		
	Public Governor)	2022			
Vacant	Air Charities Partner Governor	N/A			
Anne Crampton	Local Authority Partner Governor	N/A			
Graeme Hoskin	Local Authority Partner Governor	N/A			
Barry Wood	Local Authority Partner Governor	N/A			
TOTALS			6	15	2

South Central Ambulance Services NHS Foundation Trust Non-Executive Director Committee Membership July 2025

Audit Committee	Remuneration Committee	Quality & Safety Committee	Finance & Performance Committee	People & Culture Committee	Charitable Funds Committee
Mike McEnaney (Chair)	lan Green (Chair)	Katie Kapernaros (Chair)	Les Broude (Chair)	Ian Green (Chair)	Ruth Williams (Chair)
Katie Kapernaros	Harbhajan Brar	Gary Ford	Harbhajan Brar	Harbhajan Brar	Mike McEnaney
Les Broude	Katie Kapernaros	Ruth Williams	Gary Ford	Ruth Williams	Gary Ford
	Keith Willett				
Deputy Chair	lan Green				
Senior Independent Director	Les Broude				
South Central Fleet Services Chair	Mike McEnaney				



Council of Governors 09 July 2025

Report title	Governor priorities and areas of interest
Agenda item	7
Report executive owner	Becky Southall, Chief Governance Officer
Report author	Helen Ramsay, Lead Governor
Governance Pathway: Previous consideration	
Governance Pathway: Next steps	

Executive Summary

Following a pre-meeting of the Council of Governors, the Governors would like to seek assurance on the topics in the report.

Alignment with Strategic Objectives

With which strategic theme(s) does the subject matter align? Well Led

Relevant Business Assurance Framework (BAF) Risk

To which BAF risk is the subject matter relevant?

SR9 - Delivery of the Trust Improvement Programme

Financial Validation

Capital and/or revenue implications? NONE

Recommendation(s)

What is the Committee/Board asked to do:

Respond to the assurance topics raised by the governors.

For Assurance	✓	For decision		For discussion		To note	
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1. Background / Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight the current governor priorities and areas of interest and to seek assurance on the topics raised in this report.

2. Detail

- 2.1 Governors understand there has recently been a period of long waits again due to the very hot weather and the reduction of hours on the road. Please can governors seek reassurance on how this is being addressed to address patient and staff welfare.
- 2.2 Governors understand the current rota designs are now no longer able to funded due to current funding restrictions. Please can governors seek assurance on how a more dynamic rota system can be implemented to minimise the impact on patients of newly unfunded but 'rota-ed' staff roles not being filled.
- 2.3 Governors understand that there may not be roles at SCAS for ECAs or AAPs currently getting to the end of their training courses that have been paid for by SCAS. Can governors seek assurance on how this is being addressed.
- 2.4 Can we seek assurance that there are plans in place to address the lack of functional air conditioning on ambulances and sufficient places to re-charge ambulances. Can governors also seek assurance that vehicle-off-road times are reducing.
- 2.5 Can we seek assurance on the financial position of the Trust currently and on whether it will meet its recovery milestones.
- 2.6 The governors understand there have been challenges around the management of the TUPE process in terms of risk and cost, please can we seek assurance that there are lessons learned.
- 2.7 There has been a recent example where the communications team have asked governors to advise of opportunities for SCAS to connect with local organisations for a paramedic to attend to support e.g. with CPR demonstrations. However, when an opportunity was identified with the U3A in North Hampshire, there were no paramedics available to do this voluntarily. Can governors seek assurance that there is guidance on what governors can and cannot offer their local communities given the current climate so that governors can maintain the trust of their contacts and be able to engage with confidence on behalf of SCAS.
- 2.8 Governors found out about the recent Ofsted inspection result from the BBC website. Please can governors seek assurance that going forward governors will be communicated to about events such as this prior to them being in the media.
- 2.9 Governors understand this may be the last Council of Governor meeting prior to the AMM. Please can governors be given an update on the initiatives highlighted at the last AMM (e.g. digital modernisation, fleet modernisation, update on pilot programmes) so that they can be communicated to the members of the public that governors are in contact with ahead of the next AMM.
- 2.10 Governors would like to seek assurance on SCAS's view on governors going forward following the 10 year plan published by the government on 3 July 25 which says they will remove the requirement for FTs to have governors (page 81).

3. Quality Impact

3.1 Does the action [or decision not to act] have an impact on patient safety, patient experience or clinical effectiveness? No quality impact.

4. Financial Impact

4.1 Does the required action [or decision not to act] have a financial impact and can this be quantified? No financial impact.

5. Risk and compliance impact

5.1 The purpose of the report is to seek assurance on the topics raised and that there is no risk and compliance impact.

6. Equality, diversity and inclusion impact

6.1 The purpose of the report is to seek assurance on the topics raised and that there is no impact on particular groups of individuals.

7. Next steps

7.1 The Council of Governors will review the responses to the assurance topics raised.

8. Recommendation(s)

- 8.1 The Group / Committee / Board is asked to:
 - 8.1.1 Respond to the assurance topics raised by the governors

9. Appendices

9.1 None



Council of Governors 21 July 2025

Report title	Membership and Engagement update
Agenda item	13
Report executive owner	Gillian Hodgetts, Director of Communications, Marketing and Engagement
Report author	Margaret Eaglestone, Stakeholder and Engagement Manager
Governance Pathway: Previous consideration	Not applicable
Governance Pathway: Next steps	Council of Governors to note

Executive Summary

An update on the activity of the MEC since the last meeting on **25 March** including a review of membership database, communication and engagement, governor objectives and involvement, governor participation in public events and engagement activities, an update on public talks and health inequalities.

Alignment with Strategic Objectives

With which strategic theme(s) does the subject matter align? (If more than one, please write manually)

Partnership & Stakeholder Engagement

Relevant Board Assurance Framework (BAF) Risk

To which BAF risk(s) is the subject matter relevant? (If more than one, please write manually)

SR4 - Engagement with Stakeholders

Financial Validation Not applicable

Recommendation(s)

What is the Committee/Board asked to do:

Please amend as appropriate. The following is intended as a guide only.

• Receive a report/paper for noting

1. Background / Introduction

1.1 To update the Council of Governors.

2. Detail

The next MEC meeting will take place on **22 July** and will feature a presentation on *Make Every Contact Count (MECC)*, delivered by Oxford County Council. MECC encourages individuals to use everyday conversations as opportunities to support others in making positive changes to their physical and mental health, and to signpost them to relevant support services. It is designed for anyone who interacts with people in their daily work.

The last MEC meeting was held on **25 March**, and its outcomes were reported at the most recent Council of Governors (COG).

Since then, we have:

- Reviewed the membership database to ensure members are active and engaged.
- Benchmarked our membership e-bulletin against other Trusts, with results indicating we are performing at an average level.
- Circulated a poll to governors on membership and public engagement, the results of which will be presented and discussed at the upcoming MEC meeting.
- Reviewed the current governor objectives to ensure they are inclusive and accessible with the aim to co-produce a one-page plan for membership and public engagement with governors, incorporating these principles.

We also hosted an online public talk, "Falls and Frailty: Understanding and Preventing Falls in Later Life," in collaboration with University Hospitals Southampton (UHS). The session was well attended, with over 200 registered participants. Mark Ainsworth-Smith presented alongside members of the UHS Proportionate Care Team. Helen Ramsay introduced the session, and Tim Ellison chaired a lively and engaging panel discussion.

Governor Participation in Public Events and Engagement Activities

Governors have been actively involved in a range of public and community engagement events:

- **24 May** Emergency Services Day, Gang Warily (Chas McGill, Tim Ellison, Helen, Tony Jones, David Luckett)
- **30 March** North Hinksey Primary School (Helen)
- 13 May Mental Health Awareness Week, Blackbird Leys College (Nikhyta, Helen, Sally, Steven Jephcote)
- 13 May Mayoral Inauguration, Banbury Town Hall (Helen)
- 15 May Pakistani Community Centre (Tony Jones)
- 15 May People and Wellbeing Team Governor Presentation, MS Teams (Helen)
- **15 May** Unity in Diversity: Empowering Every Voice SCAS Conference, Shaw House (Helen)
- 22 May Southampton Mosque, Abu Bakr Masjid (Tim Ellison)
- 19 June SCAS and UHS Joint Talk on Falls and Frailty (Margaret, Tim Ellison, Helen)
- 21 June Barbados & Friends Health Event, Reading (Tony Jones)
- 21 June Fareham 999 Day (David Luckett)
- 23 Jun U3A Reading (Mark Potts)
- 15 July African Families in the UK (Helen Ramsay)

Finally, we continue to monitor and strengthen our engagement with under-represented communities as part of our commitment to tackling health inequalities.

3.	Quality I	mpact
	3.1	Not applicable
4.	Financia	I Impact
	4.1	Not applicable.
5.	Risk and	compliance impact
	5.1	Not applicable
6.	Equality.	diversity and inclusion impact
	6.1	Not applicable.
7.		
7.	6.1 Next ste	
7.		
	Next ste	None.
	Next ste	os
	Next ste	None.
8.	7.1	None. endation(s) The Council is asked to note the report.
8.	7.1 Recomm	None. endation(s) The Council is asked to note the report.