

The Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability

The Role of Chair

The role of the Chair is to provide inspiring leadership and effective governance to the Royal Hospital for Neurodisability (RHN).

The Trustee Board is responsible for setting the strategic aims, objectives, direction and culture of the Hospital, including ensuring its long term sustainability. The day to day management of the Hospital is delegated to the Chief Executive (CEO) and executive team. The Trustee Board is responsible for holding the Chief Executive (CEO) and executive team to account for the delivery of the Hospital's strategic aims.

The Chair ensures the Board is effective, cohesive, and collaborative. The Chair, alongside the CEO, acts as an ambassador and visible champion for the Hospital and the care it provides.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

Leadership

- Provide clear and engaging leadership to the Hospital and its Board, ensuring that impact for beneficiaries is maximised, and set the tone and culture of the organisation.
- Leading the Board of Directors in setting and upholding the Hospital's culture, values and standards, including being visible and engaged with patients, their relatives and staff through formal and informal visits and events.
- Ensure that the Board has the requisite range of skills, expertise and life experiences, encouraging all Trustees to contribute and ensuring challenge, scrutiny and diversity of perspectives are welcomed.
- Ensure effective and constructive relations are established and maintained between executive directors and Trustees, building and maintaining these relationships based on candour, trust and mutual respect.
- Safeguard the reputation of the Hospital, upholding the values.
- Ensure the Board operates within its charitable objectives and provides a clear strategic direction, developing and implementing a strategy to ensure the delivery of excellent patient outcomes, and makes contribution to the pursuance of innovation, research and policy development in the field of Neurodisability and aligned services.
- Ensure that the Board fulfils its duties and responsibilities to ensure the sound and sustainable financial health of the Hospital and its services, with systems in place to ensure financial accountability.
- Lead the annual appraisal of the CEO.
- Provide support and guidance to the CEO, to whom the day-to-day management of the organisation is delegated, ensuring that the Trustees hold the CEO and executive team to account for the delivery of the RHN's strategic objectives.

Governance

- Ensure that the governance arrangements are effective, including Board sub-committees, and that the Board regularly reviews major risks and associated opportunities; satisfying itself that systems are in place to manage and mitigate those risks and maximise the opportunities.
- Chair meetings of the Board of Trustees effectively and efficiently, bringing impartiality and objectivity into the decision-making process.
- Ensure that Board members are fully informed about all the issues on which the Board will have to make a decision and have the necessary skills and access to information in order to make decisions and to hold the executives to account for their delivery.
- Ensure policy, financial and regulatory compliance is maintained in all areas of operation and engage the Board in risk identification and management.
- Ensure the membership of the Board of Trustees is regularly refreshed in line with the agreed constitution and that the Board incorporates the right balance of skills, knowledge and experience necessary to govern the Hospital effectively.
- Promote the highest standards of governance, ethical standards, compliance within the Board and the wider organisation, ensuring the Hospital complies with regulations set by the Charity Commission, the Care Quality Commission and other regulators.
- Appraise the performance of Trustees on an annual basis.

Ambassadorial

- Act as an effective ambassador for the Hospital and its services, working with the CEO to maintain, enhance and further develop, close and productive relationships, with key external stakeholders, influencers, partner organisations and donors.
- Champion the Hospital and its services, supporting and helping to identify and develop new opportunities for increasing fundraising and other revenue streams and influencing healthcare policy.