

## CODE OF GOVERNANCE SECTION E.1.1

E.1.1. The board of directors should make available a public document that sets out its policy on the involvement of members, patients and the local community at large, including a description of the kind of issues it will consult on.

As an acute hospital and a Public Benefit Corporation the Trust exists to deliver NHS services in line with national guidelines and also to respond to the requirements of the health community which it serves. The Trust Board welcomes the views and opinions of all individuals and stakeholders who have an existing connection, or might have a future connection, with the Trust.

The Board maintains an open communication with members, patients, clients and stakeholders and, while welcoming individual comment, will also seek to make maximum use of the various corporate relationships that exist. These will include Governors, Members, Patients groups, and external organisations such as Commissioners, and local Councils while Health care professionals will always be able to make their views known through the range of hospital departments.

The Trust Board undertakes to involve the local community in all its forms, as appropriate, in any significant aspect of physical or service change. The nature of any proposed change may require different levels of consultation from Governors only through to full public consultation. The Trust will consult formally on those matters where this is necessary. In this regard the Trust Board will take advice and guidance from Wiltshire Health Watch on the procedure/process for conducting any formal consultation where this is required.