NHS Blood and Transplant

Board Meeting in Public
Tuesday, 01 December 2026

Title of Paper	Governance Update	**Agenda No.**	5.2
Nature of Paper	☒ Official	☐ Official Sensitive	
Author(s)	Silena Dominy, Company Secretary		
Lead Executive	Helen Gillan, Director of Quality and Governance		
Non-Executive Director Sponsor	Peter Wyman, Chair		
Presenter(s) at Meeting	Silena Dominy, Company Secretary		
Presented for	☒ Approval ☐ Assurance	☒ Information ☐ Update	
Is there a plan to communicate this to the organisation?	☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yet to be determined		

Executive Summary

This report provides the Board with an update on corporate governance matters in NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT).

Previously Considered by

N/A

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the report and to:

- Approve the appointment of Dr Jayan Parameshwar to the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee with effect from 1 January 2027.

Risk(s) identified (Link to Board Assurance Framework Risks)

BAF P11 Corporate Governance

Strategic Objective(s) this paper relates to:

☒ Collaborate with partners ☒ Invest in people and culture ☐ Drive innovation
☒ Modernise our operations ☐ Grow and diversify our donor base

Appendices:	

1. Background

This report provides the Board with an update on Corporate Governance matters in NHSBT.

2. Board Level Policies

This meeting presents the following Board Level Policy for approval:

- POL2 – Confidentiality and Data Protection Policy (agenda item 4.1)
- BLP10 – NHSBT Health Safety and Wellbeing Policy (agenda item 4.3)

The meeting will also present amendments to the Scheme of Delegation following changes made by DHSC (agenda item 4.2)

3. NHSBT Board Sub-Committees

New Research and Innovation Board Sub-Committee

Terms of Reference for the new Research and Innovation Board Sub-Committee have been further considered by members of that Committee and are presented to the Board for approval (agenda item 5.2.1). Following approval meetings will be scheduled for the Committee to commence its role.

Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

Subject to Board approval, it is proposed that Jayan Parameshwar be appointed to the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee with effect from 1 January 2027.

4. Board Skills and Capability

The annual review of the Board's skills, capability and diversity has been completed and the findings have been considered by the NHSBT Chair and People Committee. A report on the findings of the review is presented to this meeting (agenda item 5.2.2).

5. Board Effectiveness Review

On an annual basis the Board completes an effectiveness review. On a triennial basis this is externally facilitated, as was the case for 2024-25 when BDO LLP completed a review. In the intervening years reviews are undertaken internally, which will be the case for 2026-27. Questionnaires will be circulated to Directors for completion during December 2026, following which feedback will be analysed and a report on the findings and any recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the Board will be presented at the January 2027 meeting of the Board.

6. Stakeholder Engagement

Information in relation to engagements of the Chair and Chief Executive with stakeholders and DHSC since the last meeting is included in the Review Room for this meeting.