

Governors Council

Report of:	Foundation & Communications Manager
Title:	Elections Process 2008
Date:	7 th March 2008
Action:	For information

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Constitution allows for a rolling programme for the first Public and Staff Governors so that the whole Governors Council is not due for election at the same time (8.10.7 and 8.10.8).
- 1.2 Governors elected for a two year period end their term of office on 31st July 2008.
- 1.3 The Board of Directors considered the process for this year at its meeting in February and has again approved engagement of the Electoral Reform Services (ERS) to carry out this year's elections.
- 1.4 The work on revising the constitution is still continuing and is due to be presented to the Governors Council in May. This has unfortunately been delayed as Standing Orders must be included in any revised constitution to accord with the latest Monitor guidance.

2. Process

- 2.1 There are six public governors and two staff governor vacancies. This includes one Public governor who resigned in-year. These governors can nominate themselves again this year if they so wish but the Trust is not permitted to encourage them to do so.

2.2 The Constitution states at **19. Method of election:**

- (1) If the number of candidates remaining validly nominated for an election after any withdrawals under these rules is greater than the number of members to be elected to the Governors Council, a poll is to be taken in accordance with Parts 5 and 6 of these rules.
- (2) If the number of candidates remaining validly nominated for an election after any withdrawals under these rules is equal to the number of members to be elected to the Governors Council, those candidates are to be declared elected in accordance with Part 7 of these rules.
- (3) If the number of candidates remaining validly nominated for an election after any withdrawals under these rule is less than the number of members to be elected to the Governors Council, then –
 - (a) the candidates who remain validly nominated are to be declared elected in accordance with Part 7 of these rules, and
 - (b) the returning officer is to order a new election to fill any vacancy which remains unfilled, on a day appointed by him or her in consultation with the corporation.

2.3 The nomination process will begin on Friday 25th April with nominations to be received by ERS by Tuesday 27th May. The results of the election will be available on Thursday 17th July 2008.

2.4 The term of office will be three years.

3. Recommendation

3.1 The Governors Council is asked to note the process and timescale.