

## Governors Council

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| <b>Report of:</b> | Head of Communications & Foundation Secretary |
| <b>Title:</b>     | Monitor Code of Governance                    |
| <b>Date:</b>      | 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2007                    |
| <b>Action:</b>    | For information                               |

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### 1 Code of Governance

- 1.1 The current governance framework and processes were set up during the Monitor assessment in the spring/summer 2006. These all took account of the consultation on the NHS Foundation Trust Code of Governance issued by Monitor in December 2005.
- 1.2 A final Code of Governance was issued in September 2006. This has been considered in detail against the Trust's existing arrangements.
- 1.3 A small working group is being set up to review the actions necessary to ensure compliance with the Code. It is anticipated that the majority of work will be completed by the summer although timescales vary depending on each measure. The group will be led by the Head of Communications and Foundation Secretary and will include the Chief Executive, Chairman, Director of Finance and Performance and Foundation and Communications Manager.

### 2 Summary

- 2.1 Monitor has issued the Code of Governance as best practice advice. It is not mandatory guidance and non compliance with the provisions of the code will not breach the Terms of Authorisation. The 'comply or explain' approach is utilised, however, it seems prudent where possible to ensure compliance and thus avoid any complications with Monitor surrounding our Terms of Authorisation.

### 3 Recommendation

- 3.1 The Governors Council is asked to note the process.