

# Governance Bulletin

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November 2023

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## Context

Following a July 2022 Board conversation around Board development for the forthcoming year, an Interim Board Governance Statement endorsed at October 2022 Board and further Governance updates tabled at January, April and July 2023 Board meetings, this paper has been prepared to set out further observations and priorities for the Board team and organisation.

Healthwatch Cornwall is focused on making governance accessible for all and combining a balance of professional knowledge and skills with a passion for diversity and conveying the voice of the people in organisational operations.

## Governance themes for 2023/24

The July 2022 meeting of the Board considered a paper tabled by the Chair setting out three main themes for the development of the Board and in turn, the organisation and its governance. These themes were:

- Growing, developing and delivering as a Board
- Excellence in Governance
- Organisational Effectiveness

These are being used as a structure for Board considerations of governance over the coming period, to the end of our current core contract in March 2024.

A series of recommendations have been collated from professional discussions, 1-2-1 and appraisal settings and routine observations and have been included in Governance Papers passim after formal



consideration and adoption by the Full Board. These recommendations have continuous improvement at their core and are designed to scaffold the new CEO and team in efficient and effective operations and business planning.

The further recommendations it is proposed for Board to adopt for the current period are as follows:

1. Install a buddy scheme for new directors to aid onboarding and induction process, with suggested health/non-health background pairings for peer-to-peer learning:  
Anna Pascoe & Dr Keith Judkins  
Dr Christine Hunter & Richard Williams  
Tracey Camps & Dr Clive Acraman  
Dr Deryth Stevens & Michael Wall
2. Approve the Governance & Probity training for staff and directors, as per the quotation provided by Justin Day.
3. Work with the new CEO and team to develop an additional Communications and Impact group, comprised of director, staff and volunteer/public representatives, further enhancing how the public voice is amplified and external communications are developed.

**Anna Pascoe**

**Chair of Healthwatch Cornwall CIC**

**November 2023**



## HEALTHWATCH CORNWALL BOARD DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE 2022-24

MONTH	ACTIVITY	THEME	AIM
<b>Jul-22</b>	Directors' meet and greet	Growing, developing and delivering as a Board	Old and new directors to get to know one another and pool thoughts on board development
<b>Aug-22</b>	Skills Audit for directors	Growing, developing and delivering as a Board	Identification of development and peer-to-peer learning areas for members of the Board
<b>Sep-22</b>	Chair & Board member 1-2-1s	Excellence in Governance	Positive Board relations and productive forward planning
<b>Oct-22</b>	Board paper	Excellence in Governance	Crystallise learnings and recommendations from year-to-date on Board development and leadership
<b>Nov-22</b>	Directors attending Team Meeting	Growing, developing and delivering as a Board/Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Directors to meet with staff, interface with current core and key projects
<b>Dec-22</b>	End of year social		
<b>Jan-23</b>	Skills Audit review	Growing, developing and delivering as a Board	Distil development needs
<b>Feb-23</b>	Finance roundtable	Growing, developing and delivering as a Board/Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Plan forthcoming financial year Board development and consider financial principles of service design offer
<b>Mar-23</b>	CEO RECRUITMENT		
<b>Apr-23</b>	CEO RECRUITMENT		

<b>May-23</b>	Business Planning session	Organisational effectiveness	Board to actively feed in to Workplan review for forthcoming year and round table on delivering the objects of our CIC
<b>Jun-23</b>	Board and CEO appraisals	Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Positive Board relations and productive forward planning
<b>Jun-23</b>	Year 1 Review - Directors' Awayday	Growing, developing and delivering as a Board/Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Review, Reflect, Refine to feed into 2023/24 Board Development Schedule
<b>Aug-23</b>			
<b>Sep-23</b>	CEO RECRUITMENT		
<b>Oct-23</b>	Re-commissioning and budget bidding season	Organisational effectiveness	Finalised service design offers to be agreed with contracting organisations for HWC 2024 onwards
<b>Nov-23</b>	Re-commissioning and budget bidding season	Organisational effectiveness	Finalised service design offers to be agreed with contracting organisations for HWC 2024 onwards
<b>Nov-23</b>	Governance & probity training	Excellence in Governance	Enhanced governance structure with more deeply embedded culture of governance
<b>Nov-23</b>	Chair & Board member 1-2-1s	Excellence in Governance	Positive Board relations and productive forward planning
<b>Dec-23</b>	As informed by FGPS July risk prioritisation exercise	Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Focus on active risk identification and mitigation
<b>Dec-23</b>	10 Year Retrospective		



<b>Jan-24</b>	Business Continuity Plan stress testing	Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Resilience testing for 2024/25 budget and business planning cycle
<b>Feb-24</b>	Finance roundtable	Growing, developing and delivering as a Board/Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Plan forthcoming financial year Board development and consider financial principles of service design offer
<b>Mar-24</b>	Lived Experience Healthcheck	Growing, developing and delivering as a Board/Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Service user review of our 2024/25 workplan and supporting objectives
<b>Apr-24</b>	Board Development Half Day	Organisational effectiveness/Excellence in Governance	Annual Board Healthcheck, create and implement Directors' Dashboard
<b>May-24</b>	Board and CEO appraisals	Excellence in Governance/Organisational effectiveness	Positive Board relations and productive forward planning

