NHS Providers Showcase
ELFT – Strategic Involvement of Governors

John Bennett
Public Governor, Tower Hamlets and
Chair, Significant Business Committee

Norbert Lieckfeldt
Corporate Governance Manager
Why change?

[Table showing RAG rating for CCG/STP GPFV plans and the workforce supply gap combined]

Stabilising and transforming services for the future
Governor Impact

• Governors satisfied or very satisfied with their individual impact?
  • 35% (vs 35% not at all or not very satisfied)

• Governors satisfied or very satisfied with the Council’s impact?
  • 35% (vs 22% not at all or not very satisfied)
Change idea

• Council now develops in group work list of five major strategic items
• 2020/21:
  – Transition and discharge
  – Staff Wellbeing
  – CAMHS services and early intervention
  – Integrated Care
  – Population Health
Council meetings

• Agenda split into Strategic Items and Business Items
• 45mins reserved for main strategic item
  – Executive Director/NED will update
  – Will set one or two questions to discuss (to be shared in advance of the meeting)
  – Group work by Governors and Board members
  – Feedback on the day; if Council requests, update on actions at agreed follow-up Council meeting
Governor Impact

1. How satisfied are you with your individual impact on the work of ELFT

We care We respect We are inclusive
Outcome

- The Council focuses on strategic issues and receiving assurance with a noticeable move away from ‘operational’ matters – for example the Trust approached the Council for advice re the focus on its Suicide Prevention strategy which was discussed in Council and which helped guide the Trust’s approach.
- Helps to maintain the continual conversation and flow of information between Council and Board
- Strategic items identified for the Council are matched against the Trust’s Strategic Plan’s outcomes which makes it relevant for the Council.
- ELFT culture regard governance as a joint endeavour between the Board and the Council
- Helps meaningful involvement of the Council and Governors holding the NEDs to account on the strategic instead of operational performance of the Trust