

Ref. 232

CONSULTATION TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS WITHOUT A COMPETITION: NORTH BRISTOL NHS TRUST

The Commissioner for Public Appointments has been consulted under paragraph 3.3 of the Governance Code on Public Appointments (the Code) by NHS Improvements (NHSI) to make an appointment, exceptionally, without a competition.

Ministers have delegated their responsibilities under the Code to NHSI in order for them to make chair and non-executive director appointments to NHS Trusts.

The Code requires the appointing authority to consult the Commissioner in good time before the appointment is made and to make the decision public alongside their reasons for doing so.

Appointing authority's reasons for making an appointment without competition

NHSI has decided to appoint Frank Collins without putting the post out to open competition.

A competition was held to fill the Chair vacancy which is due to occur in November 2017 when the current incumbent's term of office is due to expire. Following that competition an appointable candidate was identified however the candidate decided not to take up the position when it was offered.

NBT has identified Frank Collins as the best person to take on the Chair role of the Trust on an interim basis whilst a new competition is held to fill the post substantively.

Appointee

Frank Collins

Frank Collins is an experienced chair; he has been Chair of Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust since 2015. He is also Chair of JRI Orthopaedics Ltd, a privately owned company that which manufactures and sells orthopaedic implants and Bracebridge Corporate Finance Ltd, a corporate finance boutique and Frontier Medical Group Ltd.

Before moving into non-executive roles, Mr Collins held a number of Chief Executive and other Executive Director roles in a range of health related organisations.

Most recently, until 2013 he was CEO of Summit Medical Group Ltd (now OrthoD Ltd) and before that he was CEO of Hydron Ltd and Stamford Hospital. His earlier executive career was in various executive roles in the NHS in the South East, culminating as CEO of Kettering General Hospital and then of Heatherwood and Wexham Park NHS Trust until 1998.

Commissioner's response to the Consultation

The Commissioner for Public Appointments has considered the assessment of NHS Improvements and is content with the proposal to appoint Frank Collins without competition to the post of interim Chair of North Bristol NHS Trust to enable a competition to be held to fill the post substantively no later than the end of June 2018.

On behalf of the Commissioner for Public Appointments 8 November 2017