NHS
East of England
Community Health and Care
NHS Trust

Agenda item:	6
Date of meeting:	18 November 2026
Report to the:	Trust Board
Title of report:	Chief Executive Officer's Report
Report author:	Lea Fountain, Associate Director for Communications and Engagement Louisa Scoggins, Senior Executive Assistant and Team Lead
Executive sponsor:	Matthew Winn, Chief Executive Officer
Recommendation:	Approve
	Agree the updated Statement of Purpose for the Care Quality Commission.
	Agree the amendment to the Remuneration Committee's Terms of Reference

Assurance level:	**Substantial** ☐ **Reasonable** ☐ **Partial** ☐ **Minimal** ☐
Rationale:	Not Applicable

1.0 Executive Summary

1.1 The report sets out in section 6.1 recent national publications impacting the organisations, including guidance on single sex spaces, accessing patient information and to note, the upcoming industrial action by medical consultants.

1.2 Section 6.2 has a six-month update on the overall activity coming through our Freedom to speak up Guardian and this should be read in conjunction with Board agenda eight on broader people themes. The section also sets out updates to our regulatory statement of purpose to the Care Quality Commission, which the Board is asked to approve together with an amendment to the Remuneration Committee's Terms of Reference.

2.0 How the report supports tackling Health Inequalities

2.1 The Chief Executive's report supports tackling health inequalities by informing the Board of national, regional and local priorities, highlighting disparities in healthcare access and outcomes, monitoring performance data, and ensuring the Trust takes targeted action to improve equity of care for all population groups.

3.0 Board Assurance Framework and Trust Risk and Issue Registers

3.1 Many of the themes in the report impact our ability to provide high-quality care and deliver our clinical and care strategy and therefore have an indirect link to many of the risks continued in the Board Assurance Framework, as set out in agenda item fourteen in the Board meeting.

4.0 Legal and Regulatory requirements

4.1 The following legislation and regulation apply:

- Care Act 2014
- Children Act 1989 and Children Act 2004
- Working Together to Safeguard Children
- Care Quality Commission (CQC) Fundamental Standards
- NHS Safeguarding Accountability and Assurance Framework
- NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap
- NHS England's "2027 NHS Carbon Reduction Plan Requirements for the Procurement of NHS Goods, Services and Works" Guidance

5.0 Previous consideration by Committee or Executive

30 September 2026, Trust Board.

6.0 Report

6.1 National Updates

6.1.2 **Single sex guidance –** In October NHS England published and shared guidance and a letter to support NHS organisations in the provision of single-sex services and facilities. We have already completed an audit of our sites, and almost all our sites are compliant with the new equalities act guidance on biological sex. The Trust is reviewing its approach to facilities that may need adaptation, working alongside impacted staff groups.

6.1.3 **Consultant industrial action –** Due to national industrial action, Consultants will only be offering emergency cover on 25 and 26 November. The biggest impact is likely to be acute planned care for our hospital partners, and we are working with partners to understand how we can support them as well as ensure our essential consultant led services are not impacted.

6.1.4 **The 2025/26 National Cost Collection** data has been published, which includes provider-level cost data and the National Cost Collection Index. The Trust will be using this information, alongside the national pricing guidelines (published as part of the block contracting deconstruction approach) to support and inform our 2027/28 budgetary process.

6.1.5 NHS England has published a reminder on the **Unauthorised, inappropriate and unjustifiable access to confidential patient information**. The Trust has already reviewed relevant Trust policies and processes and in our communication with staff reinforced the zero-tolerance approach to inappropriate access. We are taking actions to strengthen the automated flagging of suspicious patient records access and will be including in our auditing programme for 2027/28.

6.2 Matters related to our Trust

6.2.1 **Chair recruitment and non-executive directors** - The recruitment process for our new Chair is underway with interviews being held in November. During the past few months, we also said goodbye to Anna Gill and David Crawford. We wish them both all the very best and thank them for their time on our Board.

6.2.2 In October Sir Ciarán Devane, Chief Executive of **The NHS Alliance**, visited The Poynt in Luton. He reported the visit in the Alliance's Start the Week publication where he said: "I had the pleasure of visiting East of England Community Health and Care NHS Trust's Luton base – the Poynt – which brings together a number of teams under one roof, including children's community nursing, district nursing, rapid response teams, alongside a Single Point of Access – which connects residents to the majority of the Trust's services. I'm hugely grateful everyone for having us and sharing such valuable insights."

6.2.3 **Care Quality Commission Statement of Purpose**

The Trust's Statement of Purpose has been updated to reflect changes to registered services and ensure compliance with Care Quality Commission registration requirements.

The amendments include the Trusts planned cessation of providing the Mill Lodge short break respite service for adults with learning disabilities, effective 31 December 2026; updates to the Oral Health Improvement Service locations following commencement of the West Northamptonshire and Norfolk Oral Health Improvement Contracts.

The changes ensure the Statement of Purpose remains an accurate and up-to-date reflection of the services provided by the Trust. The revised Statement of Purpose (Version 1.2) has been submitted for approval and will be notified to the Care Quality Commission in accordance with regulatory requirements.