New Trust chairman appointed

Former BT director and Trust non-executive director Ian Morfett takes up Trust chairman role from April 2012

*Stevenage, UK – 20 March 2012* – The Appointments Commission has confirmed the appointment of Ian Morfett as the Trust’s new chairman from 1 April 2012. Ian has been one of the Trust’s non-executive directors since 1 August 2005. He was reappointed from 1 August 2009 and has been the vice-chairman for the last 18 months. Ian, who lives in Letchworth Garden City, will serve as the Trust’s chairman for a four-year period from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2016.

Commenting on Ian’s appointment, the Trust’s outgoing chairman, Richard Beazley, said:

“I was delighted to hear that, following successful interview, the Appointments Commission had written to Ian inviting him to become the Trust’s new chairman. Having served on the Board as a non-executive director since August 2005, Ian has already developed positive links with the Trust’s staff and the communities it serves.

“With decisions now taken and being implemented around the future configuration of Hertfordshire’s health service and the Trust just about to enter the final phase of its application to become an NHS foundation trust, Ian’s appointment provides the Trust with valuable continuity at a very important point in its future development.”

Prior to his teaching role at University College London, Ian was the deputy director of the Better Regulation Executive within the Cabinet Office until 2006. In this role, he worked with stakeholders to identify and reduce the negative impact of regulation on business.
Prior to that, Ian worked for BT for 30 years, most recently as managing director of strategy and business development for BT Wholesale – the network and carrier services arm of BT. He has also been group director of regulatory affairs for BT and has held a number of senior roles covering finance, commerce and customer service.

On learning of his appointment, Ian commented:

“Having been a member of the Board for some time now, I was really pleased that I had been successful in being appointed its new chairman. In doing so, I would like to pay tribute to Richard Beazley, who steps down from the role at the end of the month. There is no doubt that without Richard’s robust and clear leadership, the Trust would not have achieved the many successes that it has enjoyed over the last 10 years.”

Established on 1 April 2000, the East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust is responsible for four main hospitals: Hertford County in Hertford, the Lister in Stevenage and the Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) in Welwyn Garden City. From 1 April 2005, the Trust took on management responsibility for the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre, based on the Mount Vernon hospital site in Northwood, Middlesex.

All non-executive appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees' political activity, if any is declared, to be made public; Ian Morfett has no declared political activity in the last five years and neither does he hold any other ministerial appointments. As the Trust’s chairman, he receives an annual remuneration of £23,366.

The appointment has made in line with Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments (OCPA) code of practice.

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