|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | ISAB self-assessment |
| **Author** | Aidan Vaughan Chair |
| **Date of meeting** | 20 August 2025 |
| **Purpose of paper** | To demonstrate internal scrutiny through self-assessment on board effectiveness. |
| **Summary** | The UK Corporate Governance Code and the NHS Foundation Trust Code of Governance both state as a main principle of good governance that a board should undertake a ‘formal and rigorous annual evaluation of its own performance and that of its committees and individual directors’.  The Financial Reporting Council (FRC) Guidance on Board Effectiveness states that ‘evaluation should be bespoke in its formulation and delivery’ and should consider the effectiveness of Board committees and how they are connected with the main Board.  Boards should be evaluated through comparison between what the committee is responsible for doing in its terms of reference and what it has actually done. To obtain practical value from the evaluation the findings of the effectiveness review should be reported to the board and the board should act on the findings if performance is not considered to be as good as it should be  In line with corporate governance good practice, ISAB will undertake a self-assessment annually. This will allow anonymous honest feedback, providing an opportunity for board development and maturing.  In order to undertake the self-assessment there must be a baseline understanding to measure improvement or retraction. With the recent recruitment of a new board and style of board engagement, this is an ideal opportunity to undertake the initial assessment with a re-assessment in seven months to then bring in line with the annual financial year audit.  The feedback for the audit will be presented to board in September 2025.  The assessment form utilises the key components from the Good Governance Institute and governance audit control measure from the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA)  **Recommendation**:  That the board undertakes a self-assessment now with another assessment in march 2026 |
| **Action** | ISAB is asked to discuss and agree the recommendation. |