

Formal Tri-Partite Agreement (TFA)

For: Discussion and agreement

Summary: All NHS trusts must sign a Tripartite Formal Agreement (TFA) with the Department of Health and their Strategic Health Authority.

Once agreed, the TFA sets out this journey for each provider and is a public record of the commitments each NHS trust has made to achieve FT status by a particular date.

The strong expectation is that the vast majority of NHS trusts will achieve FT status by 2014, on their own, as part of an existing FT or in another organisational form. A small minority of NHS trusts will continue beyond this date by exceptional agreement, with a specifically agreed later date to move to FT status.

Each NHS Trust will publish their TFA once it has been agreed and signed by all parties.

The TFA for SASH was signed on 30 September and is now published on the DH and Trust websites.

NHS Sussex, NHS Surrey and Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (SASH) agree the following:

- It will not be possible for SASH to achieve FT status in its current form
- FT status through partnership(s) will be achieved by April 2014
- The Trust will in the first instance look to develop partnerships both within the NHS and private sector. Should these options not lead to sustainability, then a procurement option will be pursued.
- Commissioners will develop a strategy for community and primary care in the local area in line with national operating framework by December 2011
- The Trust will develop a series of strategic partnerships, supported by commissioners that address issues of clinical and financial sustainability.

The Trust Board has been involved in the development of the TFA, and has been discussed at length in the private board forum. This is now publicly available and therefore is formally being noted at the Public Trust Board.

Action: The Board is asked to:
To note the final version of the TFA and its public availability.

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Trust objective: Please list number and statement this paper relates to.
Effective Organisation

Legal: What are the legal considerations and implications linked to this item? Please name relevant act
Foundation Trust Legal Framework

Regulation: What aspect of regulation applies and what are the outcome implications? This applies to any regulatory body – key regulators include: Care Quality Commission, MHRA, NPSA & Audit Commission
Monitor
CQC