



Introduction from Our Chair:

As the NHSA moves into a new era of Research England-funded activity and as the political and economic development landscape is reshaped across the North, the NHSA Board are working to position and influence accordingly.

To this end we have undertaken a review of our Non-Executive Director requirements, including the constituencies from which they are drawn and within which they are able to influence on our behalf.

We are now undertaking a formal, open recruitment process of recruitment, opening on Monday 3rd February and closing on Friday 28th February 2020 and seek to recruit up to three Non-Executive Directors (NEDs).

We seek to recruit NEDs of significant national and international standing with sufficient access to the corridors of power as to be able to influence effectively on behalf of the NHSA and its member organisations. Constituencies from which candidates might ideally emerge can be found on page 4 of this job pack.

For an informal discussion prior to applying, please contact either myself David.Burn@newcastle.ac.uk or Dr Séamus O'Neill, Chief Executive of the NHSA, Séamus.ONeill@theNHSA.co.uk.

Best Wishes,

Professor David Burn, Chair of NHSA Board
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University

Role Title: Non-Executive Director of the Northern Health Science Alliance (NHSA)¹

About the NHSA

The NHSA was established in 2011 and acts as a front door to the North of England's health research system, working for a healthier, wealthier region across our 15 million population. As a partnership established by the leading universities, NHS Hospital Trusts and all four Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs) in the North of England, the NHSA provides a gateway to its internationally recognised health science excellence.

The NHSA has enjoyed significant success in creating opportunity and value for its member organisations and currently comprises 24 constituent organisations, which include research-intensive universities, research-active NHS trusts and four Academic Health Science Networks. The NHSA has grown its membership through recruiting new members and expects to grow further over the next 24 months.

The Alliance has been able to leverage individual organisational strengths and capabilities for greater impact, raising the profile of life sciences in the North of England, attracting research funding from traditional and non-traditional sources, and contributing to better patient outcomes.

NHSA Vision

To end Northern health and wealth inequality through health research and innovation.

NHSA Mission Statement

Establishing the North of England as an internationally recognised health research system.

NHSA Values

We ensure that each and every stakeholder with whom we work is treated with respect and courtesy and that in all our interactions with stakeholders, the service we provide is to the highest standards.

We ensure that our employees are supported and developed in their day to day tasks. As an organisation, we encourage a transparent, friendly and open, yet professional, culture, and we hope that this leads to a stimulating and rewarding career with us. We look forward to a long and successful working relationship with you, and we sincerely hope that your time with us is enjoyable

Role Overview

Acting as an ambassador and a champion of the NHSA in partnership with the Chair, fellow Executive Directors and Chief Executive, a Non-Executive Director of the NHSA will support the remit of the Board and NHSA Executive Team in delivering the NHSA's mission and vision. This

¹ Copies of the NHSA Articles of Association and Member Agreement are available upon request

will involve shaping strategy, scrutinising finances and signing off the annual accounts, representing the NHSA at events, commenting on bids/ proposals and working with partners in key meetings (e.g. the Annual General Meeting).

We are looking for a credible and respected senior executive, with an evidenced record of accomplishment, aligned to the vision of the NHSA.

As a member of the NHSA Board, he or she will be committed to fulfilling their duties and responsibilities for the effective governance of the NHSA.

The Non-Executive Director will also support, and, where appropriate, challenge the Chair, Chief Executive and Directors to ensure that the Board functions coherently in delivering the NHSA's Mission and objectives.

Role Description, Responsibilities and Duties:

External

- The NHSA Board of Directors supports and champions health research and health innovation for the North of England. In this capacity a Non-Executive Director may be called upon to represent the North at national and sometimes international meetings with stakeholders from the political, industry and funding environment with the expectation to occasionally deliver keynotes and to represent the organisation at round table discussions.

- The role of a NHSA Non-Executive Director supports a complex, multi-sector stakeholder group, including but not limited to higher education institutions, NHS institutions, Academic Health Science Networks, industry partners, trade bodies (e.g. ABPI), HM Government departments and funding bodies (e.g. UKRI).

Internal

- Attend Meetings

- NHSA Board meetings four times a year, one of which is the Annual General Meeting

- Support the Chair of the NHSA Board and the Chief Executive of the NHSA, along with other Executive Directors and the NHSA Council, to fulfil the purpose of the NHSA.

- Support the maintenance of effective relationships between:

- the NHSA Board and the Council

- the NHSA Board and its employees

- the NHSA Board and external stakeholders/community

- Support the Chief Executive and NHSA Executive Team in the effective delivery of the mission, vision, objectives and values

- Support the NHSA to dispense its financial duties and responsibilities



- Ensure effective management of conflicts of interest, including your own, in line with NHSA governance processes, ensuring equity and trust across the NHSA membership
- Participate in a formal review of the Board Non-Executive Directors' performance

Operational

- Be available for a time commitment of four meetings per annum, which will be notified in advance and also be flexible to respond to ad-hoc diary requests/ requests to comment on documents.
- When required review grant funding applications, external documents and draft submissions.

Qualifications, Experience and Personal Qualities

- Senior leadership within any of the following constituencies:
 - ⇒ Capability building in life sciences cluster development
 - ⇒ International profile and engagement
 - ⇒ Industrial Strategy delivery
 - ⇒ Health and care research setting and/or health and care innovation setting
 - ⇒ Health and care delivery setting
 - ⇒ Health and care related industry setting
 - ⇒ HM Government departments responsible for policy within health and care
- A good understanding of the political landscape for the life sciences industry, academic and NHS sectors.
- Whilst making decisions for/representing the NHSA, the ability to prioritise the NHSA over your own organisation or others you are affiliated to.
- Ability to work at a strategic level but to be able to assimilate and understand sufficient detail to be an effective Non-Executive Director.
- Experience of making constructive challenge that leads to positive change in a Board setting.
- The level of diplomacy, negotiating and influencing skills that enable the ability to bring together multi-sectoral stakeholder groups as identified above.
- Strong financial acumen and ability, with experience of managing large accounts.

