

Is your Trust applying to become a Foundation Trust? Are you approaching Monitor's 'Board-to-Board'? HLSP and partners Bentley Jennison and The Campaign Company have an excellent track record of helping NHS Trusts meet the NHS Foundation Trust programme requirements.

Collectively, we have helped over 25 Trusts with all aspects of the application process including ensuring that the Board is fit for purpose and able to perform successfully during the challenging 'Board-to-Board' session.



Positive impacts
through practical
solutions

NHS Foundation
Trusts: Board-to-
Board Programme



The 'Board-to-Board' event organised by Monitor towards the end of the application to become a Foundation Trust is widely accepted as one of the most difficult and stressful parts of the process. Your Board will have one chance to impress the Monitor Team and to 'get it right'.

Our 'Mock Board-to-Board' programme has been designed to help you to prepare. It will ensure that the Board is able to deliver a credible and impressive performance demonstrating its understanding of the Integrated Business Plan, its ability to function as a collective whole and its compliance with the requirements of Integrated Governance and Monitor's Code of Governance.

Client Testimonials

"The 'Mock Board-to-Board' was extremely well received by all Board members and exposed a number of important development areas that we now have the opportunity to work on prior to the real thing. It showed us where we had knowledge gaps that needed addressing but also where we needed to work better as a team to sell our unique organisation. The event was extremely well organised and executed and helped identify where further areas of support could be offered." *Penny Venables, Chief Executive, Royal Orthopaedic Hospital*

"Working with Bentley Jennison to prepare our Board for the business assurance challenges required to become a Foundation Trust has been exhilarating. The learning, collectively and as individuals, has been helpful in building our knowledge, competence and evidence as we prepared to become a Foundation Trust". *Mike Cooke, Chief Executive, South Staffordshire Healthcare NHS Trust*

Our approach

Together with our partners Bentley Jennison and The Campaign Company, HLSP can provide NHS Trusts with a full range of specialist assistance to guide them through the FT application process.

Our people include nationally recognised experts who have been responsible for preparing many of the policies and principles underpinning effective governance and Board working in the NHS.

The 'Mock Board-to-Board' programme works well as a stand-alone exercise conducted over a few weeks. Alternatively, it can be incorporated as part of a larger programme of work to develop the Integrated Business Plan and undertake a Public Consultation.

Benefits

We have found that participation in a 'Mock Board-to-Board' programme often acts as a useful catalyst to ensure the Board fully understands the scale of challenge it faces, that the right people are undertaking the right roles and that the Board is truly functioning as a unitary body. Benefits include the following:

- Examination and assessment of documentation provides an opportunity to amend Board papers and ensure their optimum quality, relevance and appropriateness
- A 'Role Play' exercise on site, simulating the 'Monitor' Board-to-Board meeting, gives Board members more confidence and enables the Board to develop a 'handling strategy'
- Board Members are able to rehearse their presentation/contribution in the presence of independent assessors
- Question and challenge tests the entire Board's understanding of the application itself, gaps in knowledge and the implications of FT status
- Immediate feedback means strengths and weaknesses are identified and action can be taken to ensure a strengthened performance on the day
- An assessment report to the Chief Executive highlights our overall findings and includes recommendations for further action
- We can provide assurance that your Trust is as well prepared as possible for the Monitor Board-to-Board meeting

Our expertise

HLSP provides a wide range of support and advice for clients across the public and private health sectors, focusing on business strategy and planning, service redesign and organisational development. We are a preferred provider to the Department of Health in England, NHS Wales and the Welsh Assembly Delivery and Support Unit. HLSP is part of the Mott MacDonald Group, an independent management, engineering and development consultancy with over 10,000 staff working in 100 countries.

Bentley Jennison provides traditional auditing, accountancy, taxation, business planning and consultancy services to businesses throughout Europe. Acclaimed as "the fastest-growing firm in 2005's Accountancy Age top 20", it is now 14th in the 'Top Twenty' table for UK accountancy firms. Its client list covers health, local and central government, social housing and education and includes a number of high profile Trusts, PCTs and SHAs.

The Campaign Company (TCC) is a specialist communications agency delivering active engagement across a whole range of communities, including 'health communities'. TCC focuses on connecting people, organisations and communities, facilitating the development of key relationships and providing the tools for increased and enduring public participation.

Together our three companies have worked with many aspirant Wave 3 and 3a Trusts through the application process, acted as first wave assessors for Monitor, advised a number of clients on the implications of Payment by Results, organised many Board development programmes including mock Board-to-Board sessions, and worked with over twenty NHS Trusts on their public consultation and membership strategies.

Contact us

To find out how we can help you as an aspiring or established Foundation Trust, please contact:

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