Southern Health and Social Care Trust

TOGETHER, IMPROVING CARE, TRANSFORMING LIVES

TRUST BOARD COVER SHEET

<table>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="2">The cover sheet purpose is to provide the Trust Board/Committee with a clear summary of the paper being presented, how it impacts on the people we serve, key matters for attention and the ask of the Trust Board/Committee

The Accountable Director must satisfy themselves that the cover sheet is accurate and fully reflects the paper. The expectation is that the Accountable Director has read and agreed the content of both the cover sheet and paper.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting and Date of meeting</td><td colspan="2">Trust Board
28th May 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td>Title of paper</td><td colspan="2">Standing Orders including Reservation and Delegation of Powers</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Accountable Director</td><td>Name</td><td>Eileen Mullan</td></tr>
<tr><td>Position</td><td>Chair, Trust Board</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Report Author</td><td>Name</td><td>Stephen Wallace, Head of Office</td></tr>
<tr><td>Email</td><td>stephen.wallace@southerntrust.hscni.net</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">This paper sits within the Trust Board role of:</td><td>Accountability</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">This paper is presented for:</td><td>Approval
(Notes on completion at end of document)</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="5">Links to Trust Strategic Priorities</td><td>☒</td><td>Collaborative Working</td></tr>
<tr><td>☒</td><td>Learning Organisation</td></tr>
<tr><td>☒</td><td>Safety, Quality & Experience</td></tr>
<tr><td>☒</td><td>Community First</td></tr>
<tr><td>☒</td><td>Whole-Life Approach</td></tr>
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1. Reason for Presentation of Paper / Report

The Southern Health and Social Care Trust (the Trust) is required to have Standing Orders, Schedules of Powers Reserved to the Board and Powers Delegated by the Board and Standing Financial Instructions (SFIs).

The Standing Orders, Reserved and Delegated Powers and Standing Financial Instructions provide a comprehensive business framework for the Trust and enable the organisation to discharge its functions. They are split into two documents with Standing Orders including Reservation and Delegation of Powers in one and SFIs in another.

2. Detailed summary of paper contents:

The Standing Orders were last updated in May 2025. A significant element of the current update relates to the establishment of the revised Trust Board Committee structure, including updates to the Committees established by the Board (Section 4.5) and the Scheme of Delegation in respect of Trust Board Sub-Committees.

In addition, the following changes are highlighted:

• **Section 2.1** – Updated to reflect current arrangements for Directors in attendance at Trust Board meetings.

• **Section 3.16** – Amended to reflect current practice in relation to the approval of meeting records.

• **Section 6** – Inclusion of a new reference to the Partnership Agreement and the *Code of Conduct and Code of Accountability for Board Members of Health and Social Care Bodies (2022)*, clarifying the arrangements for handling staff concerns or complaints in respect of Non-Executive Board members.

3. Areas of improvement/achievement:

4. Areas of concern/risk/challenge:

5. Impact on Statutory Duties: Provide details on the impact of the following and how.	
Financial Impact	***Safety and Quality Impact***
No, there are no Financial Impacts	*No*

6. Risk Assessment (Risk level and state if a risk assessment be completed)

7. Other Business Intelligence/data (If appropriate)
None

8. Impact: Provide details on the impact of the following and how. If this is N/A you should explain why this is an appropriate response.	
Corporate Risk Register	
Board Assurance Framework	
Equality and Human Rights	

Trust Board Role Fulfilment

Strategy	*Papers in this category should address forward-looking priorities, long-term objectives, or service transformation. These are typically focused on shaping the future of the organisation and will often involve decisions on direction, investment, or innovation.*
Culture	*These papers aim to influence or reflect the values, behaviours, and staff or patient experiences within HSC. They may relate to leadership development, equality, diversity and inclusion, staff engagement, or initiatives intended to reinforce our organisational ethos.*
Accountability	*Papers falling into this area relate to governance, assurance, performance monitoring, compliance, and risk. They provide*

	evidence that responsibilities are being fulfilled, standards are being met, and corrective actions are being taken where necessary.

Reasons for Paper Presentation

Approval	*Used when an item requires formal agreement or endorsement by the meeting/committee members. Examples include approving minutes, budgets, proposals or policies.*
Assurance	*Used when an item can be measured against a certain criteria / standard. Examples are a project is on course with delivery or financial targets are being met.*
Information	*Used when an item is presented for the purpose of updating or informing the attendees without requiring a decision or action, such as reports, updates, or announcements.*
Discussion	*Used when an item is listed primarily for open discussion, brainstorming or gathering input from the members without requiring an immediate decision.*