

22 July 2020

Member Appointments Extended on Lothian NHS Board

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport today announced the extension to the appointments of Michael Ash, Alison Mitchell, Martin Connor and Angus McCann as Members of Lothian NHS Board.

MEMBERS

Michael Ash joined Lothian NHS Board in August 2012. He currently chairs the Audit and Risk Committee and the Charitable Funds Committee of the Edinburgh & Lothians Health Foundation. He is a member of Edinburgh Integration Joint Board, where he is leading the work on commissioning mental health services. Michael has over 50 years' experience in the public sector working in various different roles. He was a Non-Executive Director of a mental health and learning disabilities trust in England for 11 years. Since living in Scotland he has served a six year term as a member of the Accounts Commission for Scotland.

Alison Mitchell is a management consultant and brings to the Board of NHS Lothian significant experience of strategy planning, change management, performance improvement and organisational audit. Alison is also a lay member of the Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland and an ACAS Arbitrator. Previously, Alison worked in the field of Human Resources at senior and board level for over 20 years and has extensive UK and international experience across a range of sectors, including Oil and Gas, Technology and Public sectors. Alison is a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CFCIPD).

Martin Connor is a qualified accountant and M.B.A. who returned home in 2016 after a long and successful career in England. He is presently the Treasurer of a food bank based in Fife. Before returning to Scotland Martin had been a Non-Executive Director with a Worcestershire NHS Trust where he chaired their Audit Committee and was a member of the Quality and Safety Committee. He was also a Non-Executive Director with the RAC Pension Scheme where he chaired the Audit Committee. He was on the Board of several charities in the Midlands. Martin previously worked for the Department of Work and Pensions and spent 20 years working for the RAC in a variety of senior management roles.

Angus McCann worked for a global information technology firm for 30 years until 2018, latterly specialising in the use of IT in the healthcare industry. He has degrees in Electrical Engineering, Healthcare Informatics, Public Health and Business Administration. Angus is a Fellow of the British Computer Society (BCS), a Chartered IT professional and a Chartered Engineer.

EXTENSION

The extensions will be for nine months. Michael Ash and Alison Mitchell's extensions will commence on 1 August 2020 until 30 April 2021. The extensions of Martin Connor and Angus McCann will commence on 1 September 2020 until 31 May 2021.

The extensions are regulated by the Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland.

REMUNERATION

The extensions are part-time and attract a remuneration of £8,584 per annum for a time commitment of one day per week.

OTHER MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

Alison Mitchell is a Member of the Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland and receives remuneration of £296 per day, for a time commitment of up to 40 days per annum.

Michael Ash, Martin Connor and Angus McCann do not hold any other public appointments.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

All appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees' political activity within the last five years (if there is any to be declared) to be made public.

Michael Ash was elected to serve on the Executive Committee of Scottish Liberal Democrats in May 2021.

Alison Mitchell, Martin Connor and Angus McCann have had no political activity in the last five years.

BACKGROUND

NHS Lothian is responsible for protecting and improving the health of the 850,000 population across Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian and West Lothian. They provide a comprehensive range of primary, community-based and acute hospital services for their resident population, as well as providing some services for patients in the Borders and in Fife. NHS Lothian is a national centre of expertise for some specialties provided to people across Scotland and they work closely with local authorities and third sector partners in providing an integrated system of community-based health and social care.