



The Commissioner for
Public Appointments

Rt Hon Peter Riddell CBE
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Vaughan Gething AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services

27th July 2018

Dear Vaughan,

Re: Interim Non-Executive Director Appointment to Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST)

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed interim appointment of Martin Turner as a NED on the WAST board.

I understand that there is a governance requirement to have a NED with a financial background/ qualification serving on the board. Given that my approval was granted in January for the previous appointee fulfilling this role, Martin Woolford, to be appointed as interim Chair, I do have concerns that it has taken so long for this gap to be filled.

You have stated that a competition to appoint a Chair substantively is due to commence in September, and that the outcome of this may impact upon Mr Turner's interim term. This is a competition to which Mr Woolford is of course welcome to apply, but if he does not apply, or is unsuccessful, he will revert to his position as NED once a substantive Chair is appointed. This would end Mr Turner's term as interim NED with immediate effect.

I have noted your commitment to running a fair and open competition to appoint a new substantive NED with a financial background/ qualification in the event that Mr Woolford is appointed as Chair. With this potential eventuality in mind, I am in agreement with the interim appointment of Martin Turner as NED until no later than the end of July 2019. I would not expect a request for this interim term to be extended, so please ensure that sufficient time is allowed for a competition to conclude so that there is no further period with a gap on the board.

I would be grateful if you could keep my office updated on both the competition to appoint a Chair, and any subsequent competition to appoint a NED.

All best wishes

Peter

Peter Riddell
Commissioner for Public Appointments