

ICSA puts the spotlight on NHS Foundation Trusts

13 May 2008: The Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA) has today published a new best practice guide on NHS foundation trusts. NHS foundation trusts differ significantly from other NHS organisations in that they are independent legal entities brought into existence by the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003 and the guide covers the history of the trusts, their objectives and their governance. Newly appointed trust secretaries, boards of directors and other interested parties will benefit from the guide's examination of the aspects of a foundation trust's life from the application status through to establishment and winding up. It also includes information pertaining to the regulation of a trust's activities.

Louise Thomson, Head of Policy Not-for-Profit comments: 'The new freedoms and demands placed upon NHS foundation trusts mean that all involved in their governance arrangements need to be fully aware of their responsibilities and the framework in which they operate. This guidance is therefore of keen interest to governors, directors and trust secretaries, as well as providing useful information to others interested in NHS foundation trusts'

A copy of the new best practice guide can be obtained for £15 from the ICSA Information Centre on 020 7612 7035 or by e-mailing informationcentre@icsa.co.uk

Editors Notes

With over 100 years' experience, the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA) is the recognised global voice on governance and regulatory issues in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. As the qualifying body for company secretaries and senior administrators, ICSA has 36,000 members worldwide.