

## **ICSA guidance helps NHS Executive Directors achieve balance**

30 July 2009: Although there has been considerable attention paid to the role of the Non Executive Director within the NHS Foundation Trust (FT) and the Primary Care Trust (PCT) in recent months, there has been less focus on the specific governance challenges facing the Executive Director. The Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA) aims to redress this position and has today published a new guidance note entitled 'The Governance Challenge for the NHS Executive Director'. The increasingly complex structure of organisations within the NHS means that there is an increased requirement for directors to be clear about their specific responsibilities and stakeholder expectations.

The guidance note differentiates between the governance and management roles of the NHS Executive Director and clarifies the duties of a company director as specified in the Companies Act 2006. It also sets out the principles of good governance for Directors who want to protect their own legal position as well as ensure that the Board is fully informed of underlying operational issues.

Louise Thomson, Head of Policy Not-for-Profit, comments:

'This guidance note is designed to help Executive Directors in Foundation Trusts and Primary Care Trusts to balance their management and governance responsibilities. They need to ensure that they are fully up to date with their legal obligations and able to act in the best interests of the Trust'

For further information please contact [pressoffice@icsa.co.uk](mailto:pressoffice@icsa.co.uk) or 020 7612 7062

To download the guidance note click [here](#)

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### **Editors Notes**

The Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA) is the qualifying body for company secretaries and a leading authority on corporate governance. It publishes guidance notes and best practice guides and through its subsidiaries provides events, information and training, boardroom performance evaluation and dedicated software. The ICSA has 36,000 members worldwide and is represented in over 70 countries.