National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Vice chair and Audit and Risk Committee chair

NICE’s standing orders make provision for the Board to appoint one of the non-executive directors (NEDs) as the vice chair. The role of vice chair is to act as chair where the chairman of NICE has ceased to hold office, or where they are unable to perform their duties as chairman owing to illness, or any other cause such as a conflict of interest.

The role became vacant when Tim Irish, NICE’s previous vice chair, reached the end of his term of office as a NED on 31 October 2021. In November, the Board through correspondence, appointed Dr Mark Chakravarty as interim vice chair, pending a substantive appointment at the January Board meeting. Given his contribution in this interim role, the recommendation is to appoint Mark as vice chair on a substantive basis.

Tom Wright, the current Audit and Risk Committee chair, is due to reach the end of his term of office as a NED on 31 March 2022. A new chair for the committee will therefore be required, either from the existing NEDs or one of the candidates appointed in the current around of NED recruitment. Given the timescale for completing the NED recruitment is to be confirmed, an acting chair for the committee may be required and discussions are underway with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), which is responsible for appointing the NEDs and the Audit and Risk Committee chair.

The Board is asked to

1. Appoint Mark Chakravarty as vice chair until the end of his term of office as a NED or any earlier date subsequently agreed by the Board.
2. Note the update on the Audit and Risk Committee chair role.

Sharmila Nebhrajani

Chairman

January 2022