

Tom Edgell
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NHS England and NHS Improvement

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Philip Astle

Chief Executive
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
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4 Gatwick Road
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(In this letter, “NHS Improvement” means Monitor).

Dear Philip,

**South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (‘the Trust’):
Removal of enforcement undertakings and additional licence condition**

NHS England & Improvement’s Regional Support Group (South East) considered the Trust’s progress in addressing its undertakings at its meeting on 22 October 2020. The Regional Support Group decided that the Trust has complied fully with the enforcement undertakings under section 106 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 accepted from the Trust by NHS Improvement on 22 October 2015 and 24 November 2016, and with the additional licence condition under section 111 of the Act imposed on the Trust by NHS Improvement on 22 October 2015.

A compliance certificate in respect of the undertakings is appended to this letter and will also be published on NHSEI’s website. This decision means the Trust is no longer in need of mandated support and we have moved the Trust from segment 3 to segment 2 under the NHS Oversight Framework.

We would like to recognise the significant improvements the Trust has made and pass our thanks to you and your team.

Looking ahead, it is important the Trust continues to develop and cement its system leadership role as a key partner across three STP/ICS systems. As a case in point, the significant operational challenges in Kent & Medway at present require a truly joined-up leadership approach across all system partners, in which SECAMB has a critical role to play. Coordinated effort to manage patient demand effectively across all available urgent and emergency care capacity, to respond effectively and keep patients safe during periods of high ED demand, and rapid recovery and de-



escalation afterwards is essential. This will be challenging at times and we look forward to continuing to work with you and system leaders on this.

In the coming months it is important that all leadership attention and energy is on managing a safe and effective response to winter, COVID-19 and EU exit. In the new financial year, the Trust should ensure it has plans to commission an external Board governance review in line with the national Well Led framework at an appropriate point.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Edgell
Locality Director

cc: David Astley Chair, South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
Claire Fuller, Senior Responsible Officer, Surrey Heartlands ICS
Anne Eden, Regional Director, South-East
David Radbourne, Director of Strategy & Transformation, South-East

