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Dear Colleagues

NHS Boards – Standing Orders

1. I am writing to advise you of the new model Standing Order templates which have been developed for use by all health bodies. These were approved by the Corporate Governance Steering Group on **9 October 2019**.

Background

2. Following the introduction of the “[Blueprint for Good Governance](#)” in February 2019 the Corporate Governance Steering Group was established to review current practices within NHS Boards. One of the areas identified for review was the production of model Standing Orders which reflect best practice.

3. As part of this work, the Board Secretaries Group have created a new standardised template for use by all health bodies in Scotland. This is now available under the Board Governance – Standard Documents tab on www.nhs.scot.

Action

4. The new model Standing Orders template should now be used by all health bodies, replacing existing standing orders already in place.

5. It is noted that Healthcare Improvement Scotland and NHS National Services Scotland are constituted under a different legal basis which may necessitate different Standing Orders. It is recommended that the model template is considered for partial adoption, where appropriate, by these bodies.

Yours sincerely

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New Model Standing Orders