1. INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the Investment Policy of the Essex Partnership NHS Trust General Charitable Fund.

The Trust Board of the NHS Foundation Trust have overall responsibility for the charity.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVE

The primary aim of the investment policy is to address the following issues,

1. The creation of sufficient financial return to enable the charity to carry out its purposes effectively, and without interruption, where a charity sets out to provide services over a period of time

2. The maintenance and, if possible, enhancement of the value of the invested funds whilst they are retained

3. The management of risk

4. The charity’s stance on ethical investments

3. POLICY DETAIL

With regards to the above policy objectives, the charities investment policy will operate under the following guidelines taking a balanced view towards risk,

- In order to maintain liquidity and prevent charitable events being delayed, sufficient funds will be held in short term deposit accounts which offer immediate access, at a level which is consistent with the spending plans of the organisation

- The remainder of the fund will be held in longer term investments managed by an external investment organisation, in order to maintain the value of the fund in perpetuity

- Where investments are made in the stock market, these will be split between lower risk investments such as government bonds, and the slightly higher risk but greater yielding equity investments. All such
investments will be made in line with the requirements of the Trustee Act 2006.

- The allocation of funds across approved investment holdings will be monitored and amended where considered necessary in order to seek to achieve consistent long term growth.

- Authority to sell investments in order to maintain liquidity of the charity will be delegated to the Financial Trustee based on the performance of the investment and the timescale in which the cash is required.

- Investments will not be made in tobacco; or knowingly in alcohol or armaments, relying on the integrity of investment decisions made on our behalf.

- Gains or losses on investments will be allocated across charitable funds when realised. Unrealised gains or losses will be allocated across charitable funds on a quarterly basis or once the cumulative effect represents 10% of the value of long term investments held.

4. AUTHORISATION LEVELS

The overall responsibility for deciding how to invest funds lies with the Charitable Funds Committee, as recommended by the Financial Trustee.