

## **Independent Breast Screening Review**

### *Background*

On 2 May 2018 the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care reported to Parliament a serious failure in the national breast screening programme in England. He announced an independent review into the circumstances of the failure, and has appointed independent chairs to lead the review.

Co-chairs: Lynda Thomas, Chief Executive of MacMillan Cancer Support and Professor Martin Gore, Consultant Medical Oncologist and Professor of Cancer Medicine at the Royal Marsden.

Vice Chair: Peter Wyman, Chair of the Care Quality Commission.

### *Terms of reference*

1. To investigate and report on the circumstances of the breast screening failure, including:
  - The reason/s why certain cohorts of women were not called for a final screen;
  - Establishing the timeline of relevant events from 2009 to 2018 of the Age X trial and the national programme, including their administration and governance;
  - Identifying why the problems were not detected earlier, including whether there were missed opportunities to identify and rectify the failure earlier;
  - Assessing the governance, assurance and accountability processes;
  - The clinical implications for the affected population as a whole; and
  - How the issue came to light, and the handling and escalation progress in 2018.
2. To make any appropriate recommendations based on the findings of point 1 both on breast screening, and any wider organisational or other issues that arise to ensure that such failures are not repeated.
3. To make any recommendations for any further reviews/analysis/investigation of the breast (and potentially other) screening programmes based on information gathered during this review.
4. To report by November 2018.
5. Secretariat to be provided by DHSC.