***For immediate release***

**Senior Beachcroft Consultant Appointed Chairman**

**of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust**

Peter Lee, former Partner and now consultant at Beachcroft, the leading commercial law firm, has been appointed Chairman of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.

Based in Beachcroft’s Leeds office, Peter has been a non-executive director of Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust, a mental health and community services trust providing services in South Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire, for the past four years and is presently Vice Chairman of the Trust.

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust provides services principally from Rotherham Hospital and Rotherham Community Health Centre in South Yorkshire. It has a turnover of approximately £230m and around 5,000 staff. The Trust provides general medicine, healthcare for the elderly and several surgical specialities, in addition to acute hospital and now community-based and accident and emergency services.

In his role as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Council of Governors of the Trust, Peter will begin his duties on 1st November.

Peter Lee said: “I am absolutely thrilled to have been appointed as Chairman of such a wonderful organisation.  The move from a mental health and community trust to an acute and community services trust will no doubt present challenges for me, but the opportunity to be part of the successful team at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust is a real privilege.”

Margaret Oldfield, who has been Chair of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust for the past 9 years decided to stand down at the end of October and believes that Peter will make a strong Chair for this progressive Trust.

Margaret Oldfield said: “We are all very pleased at Peter’s appointment and believe he will bring a breadth of knowledge and experience that will only continue to strengthen what is already a great Trust. He has the skills needed to support the Trust successfully through its next stage of development and take it forward into the future.

With over 300 health clients Beachcroft is widely regarded as the leading legal adviser to the health and social care sector. Having advised the NHS since 1948, Beachcroft helps clients make sense of, and negotiate, significant changes to the NHS and the firm prides itself on the depth of its knowledge of the health sector, as well as the strength of its client relationships.