



MEMBERS' NEWS

Dear member,

Welcome to the January edition of your Members' News!

Want to make a difference to YOUR local healthcare provider?

Then why not stand in Derbyshire Healthcare's governor elections?!

The nominations for elections, in the following public constituencies, will be open on 15 February:

- Amber Valley North
- Bolsover
- Chesterfield North
- Chesterfield South
- Derby City East (two vacant seats)
- Erewash North
- High Peak
- Surrounding Areas.

Being a governor can be a very rewarding experience! Governors have the opportunity to:

- represent the views of their constituents and shape the way our services are delivered
- hold the non-executive directors to account for the Trust's performance
- attend events throughout the year which offer them the chance to engage with members of their constituency and members of staff
- fulfil statutory responsibilities such as the appointment of non-executive directors and the Trust chairman.

Governors serve a term of three years and reasonable travel expenses are paid.

What we need from our Governors – commitment, engagement, open and honest dialogue, feedback from your constituents, attendance at Council of Governor meetings, involvement in training, working groups and committees.

What Governors can expect from us – training, support, involvement in decision making, mentorship, paid expenses, open and honest dialogue.

If you are interested in becoming a governor for the Trust but would like more information, or

to arrange a meeting with the Chairman, please contact the membership team on 01332 623723 or email membership@derbyshcft.nhs.uk.

The Trust welcomes nominations from persons of any age (16 or over), race, economic disadvantage, gender, religion, disability or sexual orientation. Successful candidates will be required to take part in a Disclosure and Barring (DBS) check. As our governors are given access to patient areas, which sometimes means having contact with service receivers and vulnerable people in our care, we require these checks to ensure we are fulfilling our safeguarding responsibilities.

If you would like to talk to one of the team about becoming a governor we are out and about in the community throughout February at the following:

5 February – Time to Talk Day, Royal Derby Hospital main foyer

10 February – ‘Building Better Communities’, 10am – 3pm, Arena Church, 1 Rutland Street, Ilkeston DE7 8DG Erewash CVS

11 February - ‘Building Better Communities’, 10am – 3pm, Erewash Voluntary Action, Granville Avenue, Long Eaton, NG10 4HD

We are also in the process of planning special member events for each area and will be in touch shortly with details.

What our governors say:

John Morrissey, public governor for Amber Valley South:

“As governor I have been able to attend many board and council meetings and public events all over Derbyshire. I have been privileged to take part in Quality Visits that enable a much better idea of how Derbyshire Healthcare’s complex operations work in practice.”

Barry Appleby, public governor for South Derbyshire:

“The more you put into the role of the governor, the more rewarding it becomes. Listening to our members is vital in ensuring we continue to make service delivery easier.”

Look out for the latest edition of *Connections* magazine

Keep an eye for winter edition of *Connections* magazine, which will be emailed to you in the next few weeks. Included is information about our latest governors, our commitment to become a ‘smoke-free’ organisation and an in-depth look at the Trust’s physiotherapists.

Dates for your diary:

Council of Governors meetings

The Trust’s governors regularly meet the Trust’s directors to discuss issues and give feedback from their constituents. These meetings are open to the public – if you would like to attend and have any special requirements, please contact the membership team on 01332 623723 or email membership@derbyshcft.nhs.uk.

Upcoming meetings:

- Tuesday 8 March 2016, 1pm - 4pm, Conference Rooms A&B, Centre for Research and Development, Kingsway Site, Derby DE22 3LZ.
- Tuesday 7 June 2016, 1pm - 4pm, Conference Rooms A&B, Centre for Research and Development, Kingsway Site, Derby DE22 3LZ.
- Tuesday 6 September, 1pm - 4pm, venue TBC.
- Tuesday 6 December, 1pm - 4pm, Conference Rooms A&B, Centre for Research and Development, Kingsway Site, Derby DE22 3LZ.

Interview with our new Interim Chairman, Richard Gregory OBE

How long have you worked in healthcare?

Since 2006, when I became chair of Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Before that, I served on the board of organisations with a strong interest in healthcare – such as Sheffield Hallam University, which offers a range of nursing courses and has one of the largest departments for allied health professions in the country.

How well did you know the Trust before you joined?

I think I knew it pretty well. Obviously I had experience of working with the Trust as chair of Chesterfield Royal Hospital; the presence of the Hartington Unit on the CRH site meant that I had a fair understanding of the Trust's acute inpatient mental health services.

I know people who have benefited from the services of the Trust. And, as I mentioned when I joined, that gave me great admiration and respect for the services the Trust provides.

What are your first impressions of the Trust since starting in post?

First impressions are that we have some excellent staff doing really important work and providing a high quality of service. I visited the Kedleston Unit on the Kingsway Site just before Christmas, which was great.

What is your professional passion?

I'm very passionate about leadership within the NHS – and by that, I mean leadership at all levels. And, of course, I believe that our focus must always be on the patient experience. By that, I mean not only having a focus on the issues that will result in a good quality of experience, but also having a really close understanding between the Board and the point of contact with the patient.

What is your top life tip?

Be true to yourself. Set your own ambition, and treat others as you would like to be treated.

Trust Strategy

The Trust is in the early stages of developing a new strategy that outlines who we are, what we do, and how the organisation intends to move forward over the next few years.

We are increasingly working with partners in health and social care to develop new models of joined up care, and it is important the Trust strategy reflects the current health and social care environment and associated challenges and priorities.

We are at the very start of this process and would like to invite members to share their hopes and wishes for the new strategy.

If you would like to share your views, please contact Mark Powell, the Trust's Director of Business Development and Marketing via email, mark.powell@derbyshcft.nhs.uk, or telephone on 01332 623700 ext 31209.

We will continue to keep you updated as the strategy develops.

And finally.....

Can you help our older people's wards to create twiddlemuffs?

A twiddlemuff is a knitted muff with items attached which a patient with dementia can twiddle in their hands.

At a recent development session, our older people's nurses identified a journal article in which the use of sensory mats was being used for patients with dementia to reduce the incidence of restless hands; however there was limited research on the benefits. Now the nursing teams on our older people's wards in Derby would like to start their very own project to see if the introduction of these sensory mats would be beneficial for our patients in providing a purpose and engagement. But they need your help...

Can you help the team make these twiddlemuffs? The nurses are putting a call out for anyone who could donate materials to make sensory mats such as balls of wool and haberdashery items ie buttons etc. If you would like to help out even further and knit a selection of your very own twiddlemuffs for use on our older peoples wards then the team would be very grateful. Please see the enclosed pattern for guidance.

To see what a twiddlemuff is and how to make one, please visit:
www.yours.co.uk/2015/08/make-a-twiddlemuff-for-dementia-patients

For further information and to find out where to send any donations you may have, please email Rebecca.Mace@derbyshcft.nhs.uk.

To unsubscribe click [here](#).



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Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

www.derbyshirehealthcareft.nhs.uk