

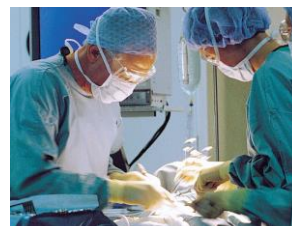
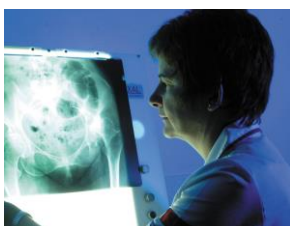


Harrogate and District
NHS Foundation Trust



Information for prospective Governors

Election to the Council of Governors, 2019



Contents

1 Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust

1.1	Welcome	3
1.2	About Us	3
1.3	What are Foundation Trusts?	3
1.4	Membership	4
1.5	NHS Foundation Trust Governance Structure	6

2 Governors

2.1	The Council of Governors	7
2.2	Role and Responsibilities of the Council of Governors	11
2.3	Eligibility to be a Governor	12
2.4	Termination of Office and Removal of Governors	13
2.5	Skills, Experience and Time Commitment	14
2.6	Governors' Communication with Members	15
2.7	Support for Governors	15
2.8	The Corporate Affairs Team	17

3 Election to the Council of Governors 2018

3.1	The Election Process	18
3.2	Vacant seats in the 2018 Election	18
3.3	The Election Timetable	19
3.4	Find out more	19

4 Further Information

4.1	Website/Social Media	20
4.2	Getting Involved – Member to Governor	20
4.3	Useful Links	20

1 Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust

1.1 Welcome

Thank you for expressing interest in the forthcoming elections and the role of a Governor at Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust. For convenience 'HDFT' or 'the Trust' will be used when referring to the organisation throughout this document.

If you have any questions regarding this document, please contact Angie Colvin, Corporate Affairs and Membership Manager in the Foundation Trust Office on 01423 554489 or by email angie.colvin@hdfnhs.uk

1.2 About Us

Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust) was founded under the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003 and authorised as an NHS Foundation Trust from 1 January 2005. The Trust is the principal provider of hospital services to the population of Harrogate and surrounding district, and also provides services to north and west Leeds representing a catchment population of approximately 1.2m. Since April 2011, the Trust has provided a wide range of community-based services covering the Harrogate and District locality and some services covering the whole of North Yorkshire. Since April 2016, the Trust became the largest provider of Children's Services in the country. Contracts are in place to provide 0-19 Children's Services in North Yorkshire, County Durham, Darlington and Middlesbrough and more recently Stockton-on-Tees and Gateshead.

The full range of services provided by HDFT can be found on our website at www.hdfnhs.uk and in more detail in the Annual Report and Accounts (<https://www.hdfnhs.uk/about/trust/statutory-info/>)

1.3 What are Foundation Trusts?

First established in 2004, Foundation Trusts are NHS organisations that are licensed as independent public benefit corporations. They are still accountable to Parliament but they are responsible for their own management and as such each has a Board of Directors that is responsible for the delivery of high quality NHS care, financial efficiency, forward planning and innovation. NHS Improvement (previously known as Monitor), the Independent Regulator of Foundation Trusts, has powers to intervene in how a Trust is run if it fails to meet standards or breaches the terms of its licence. For more information about NHS Improvement, visit their website at <https://improvement.nhs.uk/>. The Care Quality Commission is responsible for inspecting all hospitals in England to ensure they are meeting national standards. Further information, including reports on Harrogate District Hospital, Ripon

Community Hospital, and Lascelles Rehabilitation Unit can be found on their website at <http://www.cqc.org.uk/>

One of the key features of Foundation Trust status is the ability to work with an active and representative membership; drawn from the population it serves, from its staff and some of the organisations with whom it works. Though there is no cost involved in being a member, when considering the Foundation Trust structure it is convenient to think of members as shareholders; people who have a keen interest in the performance of the organisation and who exercise their right of choosing representatives by way of elections – those representatives are Governors.

1.4 Membership

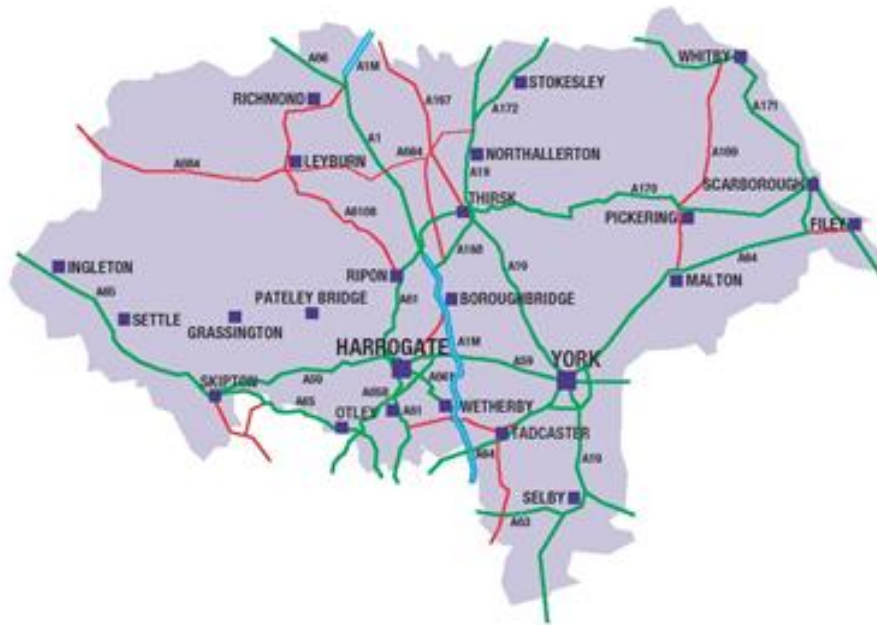
There are two types of membership:

- Public Membership
- Staff Membership

Public membership, by constituency, applies to residents aged 16 or over, across the whole of England. As the Trust is providing services further afield, and patients have the right to choose where to receive treatment, we hope to encourage a membership which reflects the wider population. Public Constituencies are:

- Harrogate and surrounding villages.
- Ripon and west district.
- Knaresborough and east district.
- The electoral wards of Wetherby and Harewood including Otley and Yeadon, Adel and Wharfedale and Alwoodley wards.
- Rest of North Yorkshire and York.
- Rest of England.

The Rest of England constituency will represent those people who access Trust services but do not live in the Trust's previous catchment area (as displayed on the map below):



Staff members are employees of Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust who hold a permanent contract of employment or who have a fixed term contract of at least 12 months. The staff membership constituency is broken down into four classes:

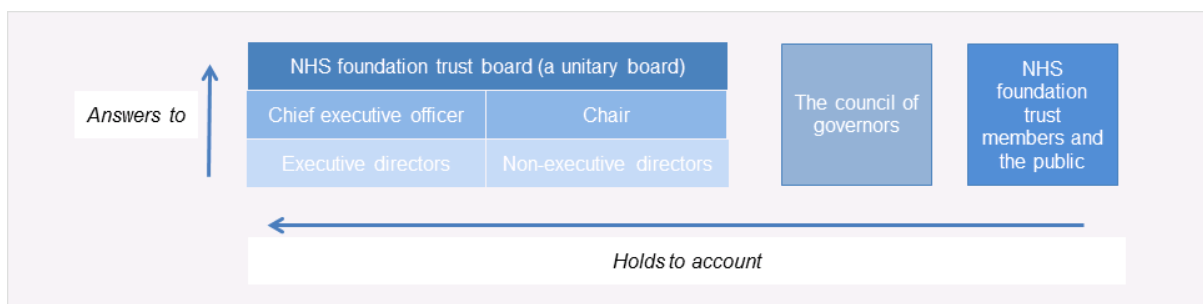
- Medical Practitioners (one Governor).
- Nursing and Midwifery (two Governors).
- Other Clinical (one Governor).
- Non-Clinical (one Governor).

1.5 NHS Foundation Trust Governance Structure

The basic governance structure of all NHS foundation trusts includes:

- Membership.
- Council of Governors.
- Board of Directors.

Figure 1: Chain of accountability in NHS foundation trusts



2 Governors

2.1 The Council of Governors

The Council of Governors consists of 13 elected Public Governors, five elected Staff Governors and six Stakeholder Governors nominated by partner organisations; a total of 24. The Chairman of the Trust is also the Chairman of the Council of Governors.



Angela Schofield, Chairman

The current structure of the Council of Governors is as follows:

Elected: Harrogate and surrounding villages (five Governors) – two current vacancies



Pat Jones



Tony Doveston



Martin Dennys

Elected: Ripon and West District (two Governors)

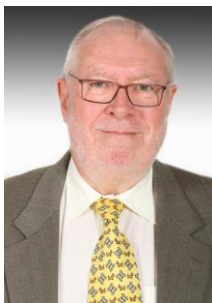


Sue Eddleston



Dr Christopher Mitchell

Elected: Knaresborough and East District (two Governors)



Robert Cowans



John Batt

Elected: Electoral Wards of Wetherby and Harewood, Alwoodley, Adel & Wharfedale and Otley & Yeadon Wards (two Governors) – one current vacancy



Steve Treece

Elected: The Rest of North Yorkshire and York (one Governor)



Cath Clelland MBE

Elected: The Rest of England (one Governor)



Ian Barlow

Elected: Staff (five Governors) – two current vacancies, one in Nursing and Midwifery and one for Medical Practitioners



Emma Edgar
Nursing and Midwifery



Mikalie Lord
Non-Clinical



Neil Lauber
Other-Clinical

Stakeholder Governors, nominated (six Governors – one vacant seat)



Carolyn Heaney
Patient Experience



Clare Cressey
Harrogate Healthcare
Facilities Management (HHFM)



Dr Pamela Bagley
University of Bradford



Cllr John Mann
North Yorkshire County Council



Cllr Samantha Mearns
Harrogate Borough Council

Vacant seat
Voluntary Sector

2.2 Role and Responsibilities of the Council of Governors

The Council of Governors represent the interests of the Foundation Trust members and the general public; they have an important role in acting as the eyes and ears of the membership with regards to the quality of service the Trust provides

The Council of Governors does not undertake the operational management of the Trust; rather they provide a vital link to the wider community, challenge the Board of Directors and collectively hold them to account for the performance of the Trust. The role of a Governor is to question, challenge and gain assurance – not to manage, supervise or do the job of the Non-Executive Director or Executive Director. It is the Non-Executive Directors role to scrutinise and the Governor's role to ensure that the Non-Executive Directors are doing this.

Governors are responsible for regularly feeding back information about the Trust, its vision and its performance to the constituencies and stakeholder organisations that either elected or nominated them.

In summary, successful Governorship is essential to a successful Foundation Trust.

The statutory responsibilities of the Council of Governors (including additional duties and powers set in the Health and Social Care Act 2012) are to:

- Appoint or remove the Chairman and Non-Executive Directors.
- Approve the appointment (by the Non-Executive Directors) of the Chief Executive.
- Appoint or remove the Trust's External Auditor.
- Set the remuneration and allowances, and the other terms and conditions of office of the Chairman and Non-Executive Directors.
- Receive the Annual Accounts, Auditor's Report and Annual Report.
- Bring their perspective in determining the strategic direction of the NHS Foundation Trust.
- Convene the Annual Members' Meeting.
- A duty for the Council of Governors to hold Non-Executive Directors individually and collectively to account for the performance of the Board of Directors.
- A duty to represent the interests of the Members of the Trust as a whole and the interests of the public.
- A duty to approve any merger, acquisition, separation or dissolution and the entering into of any significant transactions.
- A duty to approve any proposed increases in private patient income of 5% or more in any financial year.
- A duty to approve any amendments to the Trust's Constitution.

2.3 Eligibility to be a Governor

Any member of the Trust aged 16 and over can apply to be a Governor when a vacancy arises in the appropriate constituency, either public or staff.

For **Public Governors**, the relevant fact is where you live; you can be elected to a vacancy in your area (*section 1.4 refers*). For **Staff Governors**, the relevant fact is your primary role; you can be elected to a vacancy in your class (*section 1.4 refers*).

The constitution contains details of some reasons why a person is not eligible to be a Governor, and if already holding such office will immediately cease to do so if:

- They are a Director of the NHS Foundation Trust or a Governor of another NHS Foundation Trust.
- They are a public member who shares the same household as a member of the Board of Directors of the NHS Foundation Trust.
- They have been adjudged bankrupt or their estate has been sequestrated and in either case they have not been discharged.
- They have made a composition or arrangement with, or granted a trust deed for, their creditors and have not been discharged in respect of it.
- They have within the preceding five years been convicted in the British Islands of any offence, and a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of three months or more (without the option of a fine) was imposed on them.
- They have within the preceding two years been dismissed, otherwise than by reason of redundancy or ill health, from any paid employment with a health service body.
- They are a person whose tenure of office as the Chairman or as a member or Director of a health service body has been terminated on the grounds that their appointment is not in the interests of the health service, for non-attendance at meetings, or for non-disclosure of a pecuniary interest.
- They have had their name removed, by a direction under section 46 of the 1977 Act from any list prepared under Part II of that Act, and has not subsequently had their name included in such a list.
- They are suffering from a mental disorder and either are admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under the Mental Health Act 1983 or an order is made by a court having jurisdiction in matters concerning mental disorder for the detention or for the appointment of a receiver, and therefore incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of carrying out the duties of a Governor.
- They are a vexatious complainant of the NHS Foundation Trust, as defined by the Trust policy.
- They are a vexatious litigant of the NHS Foundation Trust as defined by the Trust policy.
- They are a family relation or occupant of the same household of a person who is an existing Governor of the NHS Foundation Trust.

- Any amount properly owing to the NHS Foundation Trust by them remains outstanding without good cause.

2.4 Termination of Office and Removal of Governors

A person holding office as a Governor shall immediately cease to do so if:

- They resign by notice in writing to the Chairman.
- They fail to attend half of the meetings in any financial year, unless the other Governors are satisfied that: the absences were due to reasonable causes.
- They will start attending meetings of the NHS Foundation Trust again within such a period as they consider reasonable.
- In the case of an elected Governor, they cease to be a member of the constituencies by whom they were elected. However the Chairman in consultation with the Council of Governors may request that the Governor serves out their term of office.
- In the case of an appointed Governor the appointing organisation terminates their appointment.
- Without good reason they have failed to undertake any training which the Council of Governors requires all Governors to undertake.
- They have failed to sign and deliver to the Secretary a statement in the form required by the Council of Governors confirming acceptance of the code of conduct for Governors.
- They refuse to sign a declaration in the form specified by the Council of Governors that they are a member of one of the public constituencies or one of the staff constituency as the case may be and are not prevented from being a member of the Council of Governors.
- Governors from either elected staff or representatives from nominated partner organisations who are subject to on-going formal disciplinary action in respect of their employment or engagement by the NHS Foundation Trust will be suspended from Governor status, pending the outcome of the disciplinary action.
- Their name is added to the sex offenders register.
- They are removed from the Council of Governors by a resolution approved by two-thirds majority of the remaining Governors on the grounds that:
 - They have committed a serious breach of the code of conduct.
 - They have acted in a manner detrimental to the interests of the NHS Foundation Trust.
 - The Council of Governors considers that it is not in the best interests of the NHS Foundation Trust for them to continue as a Governor.

2.5 Skills, Experience and Time Commitment

Each Governor should bring with them a range of personal attributes which will collectively enable the Council of Governors to work effectively.

Key attributes include:

- A high level of interest in healthcare issues and a commitment to NHS principles (a background in the NHS is **NOT** essential).
- Good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Sound, independent judgement, common sense and diplomacy.
- An interest in understanding and reflecting the interests and views of members and the public.

Governors must be able to:

- Communicate on behalf of the membership.
- Devote sufficient time and commitment to fulfil the role.
- Attend four public Council of Governors' meetings per year, two meetings with the Board of Directors per year, six Informal Governor meetings per year, three meetings with the Non-Executive Directors per year and the Annual Members' Meeting.
- Be prepared to attend other meetings arranged by the Trust in order to fulfil the statutory duties required as a Governor, events and sub-committees based on your areas of interest.
- Keep up to date with strategic issues regarding the Trust.
- Read the materials provided to keep you up to date with health service policy and Trust business.

As you consider whether you would like to become a Governor, you should take into account the amount of time and the commitment required for the role. The majority of meetings take place on weekdays, either during the day or in the evening. It is likely that one public meeting per year will take place on a weekend during the day.

In order that Governors develop an understanding of the workings of the Trust and the impact of ongoing changes in the NHS, there will be four public Council of Governors' meetings per year, two meetings per year with the full Board of Directors, six Governor Briefing meetings per year, two meetings with Non-Executive Directors per year and the Annual Members' Meeting. These meetings are the core commitment however Governors are asked to be prepared to attend other meetings, events and sub-committees, based on your areas of expertise and interest, and there is a substantial amount of reading that is integral to efficient Governorship.

There will be other events at which Governors are required to assist the members of the Corporate Affairs team, for example Medicine for Members' Events.

Governors shall normally hold office for a period of three years (one term) and may serve, on re-election, up to a maximum of nine years (three terms).

2.6 Governors' Communication with Members

Members are not given Governors' personal contact details. The Foundation Trust Office acts as a conduit for communication between members and Governors. Methods of communication with members include:

- Medicines for Members' Events – members are invited to attend lectures given by staff on specialist subjects and hosted by Governors. There are opportunities for members to network with Governors at these events.
- Governor meets Member Sessions – Sessions can be arranged for members to meet with Governors, alternatively Governors can attend a meeting of a group to discuss Governorship and other issues.
- Email communications, for example newsletters and informative letters.
- Public Council of Governors Meetings – members are encouraged to attend the quarterly Council of Governors Meetings and have the opportunity to raise questions through the Chairman.
- The Annual Members' Meeting attracts large numbers of members with the opportunity to meet Governors as well as engage with staff.

Governors are not expected to deal with complaints or issues from members of the public. A Governor should always ask the person to contact the Patient Experience Team who deals with all compliments, comments, concerns or complaints.

2.7 Support for Governors

It is recognised that all Governors, both elected and nominated, need the time and opportunity to develop skills in their role and to develop good working relationships with fellow Governors, the Chairman, colleagues in the Corporate Affairs Team and Trust colleagues. All Governors are therefore actively encouraged to attend an induction programme and ongoing training and development in order to maximise learning opportunities. This incorporates a number of elements:

- **Governor Resource File** – a role description, code of conduct and standing orders for Governors. This also includes the Constitution, Annual Report and Accounts, Annual Plan and Membership Development Strategy as well as further information on the Trust, its services, policies and procedures.

- **Formal Induction Session** – Governors will be invited to attend an induction session to include introductions with the Chairman, Chief Executive, Executive Directors and the Corporate Affairs Team. There will also be the opportunity to meet with other departments including the Patient Experience Team.
- **Tours** – a series of tours in a variety of departments around Harrogate Hospital is available. These are usually undertaken in small groups and can also be tailored to the specific interests of individual Governors.
- **Ongoing Training and Development, including External Training** – a series of workshops, events and training and development opportunities are arranged taking into account the existing skills and training needs identified through an annual assessment of the Council of Governors. A national training programme (GovernWell) provided by NHS Providers is also available for Foundation Trust Governors.

Upon election, every new Governor can be assigned a 'Mentor'; an experienced Governor, and if possible, one who represents the same constituency.

The Trust holds membership with NHS Providers and is involved with the activities of the Regional Governors Forum so there will also be the opportunity to network with Governors from other Foundation Trusts.

Resources will be provided to enable Governors to carry out their duties. Administrative support to the Council of Governors is provided by the Foundation Trust Office and is available during normal working hours to respond to queries from both Governors and members.

The Trust encourages prospective Governors from all parts of society and will provide support to anyone in need to carry out their role. This support will be provided by the Foundation Trust Office.

Each Governor will be given an identification badge and will receive free car parking at the Trust when attending on Governor business. The role of a Governor is voluntary and there is no payment made for the role with the exception of authorised expenses.

2.8 The Corporate Affairs Team

The NHS Foundation Trust Office is the central point of administration for Governors and members. The team consists of:

- Katherine Roberts, Company Secretary (currently on Maternity Leave)
- Andrew Forsyth, Interim Company Secretary

- Angie Colvin, Corporate Affairs and Membership Manager.

The office organises all membership events, maintains the membership database and can provide a point of liaison and contact between Governors and members.



Katherine Roberts,
Company Secretary

Tel: 01423 554452

Email: katherine.roberts@hdfn.nhs.uk

Katherine works Monday to Friday



Angie Colvin, Corporate
Corporate Affairs and Membership
Manager

Tel: 01423 554489

Email: angie.colvin@hdfn.nhs.uk

Angie works Monday to Friday



Andrew Forsyth
Interim Company Secretary

Tel: 01423 554452

Email: andrew.forsyth@hdfn.nhs.uk

Andrew works Monday to Friday

Foundation Trust Office, Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust, Trust HQ
Lancaster Park Road, Harrogate, HG2 7SX

3 Election to the Council of Governors 2019

3.1 The Election Process

Elections take place under the election rules included as part of the Trust's Constitution. The Constitution can be found on the Trust website at <https://www.hdfnhs.uk/about/trust/statutory-info/>.

To stand for election, each candidate (member) must nominate themselves on a single nomination form, which includes writing a statement in support of their nomination. There is also the option of providing a photograph and a short video.

The Trust currently works with an external company called UK Engage to administer the elections and to act as the Returning Officer.

UK Engage will send out ballot papers (either by post or email) to all members in each constituency where there is a vacant seat and this will include the election statements of each candidate. Members will then vote for their preferred candidate(s) and return their vote by post or electronically to UK Engage.

There may be circumstances when no election is needed, i.e. when there is only one person standing for one vacant seat; this is classed as uncontested.

UK Engage will inform the Trust of the results and the candidates will then be contacted by the Chairman or Corporate Affairs and Membership Manager (on the Chairman's behalf).

3.2 Vacant seats in the 2019 Election

Public Governors

Harrogate and surrounding villages - two seats
Wetherby and Harewood including Otley and Yeadon, Adel and Wharfedale and Alwoodley wards - one seat

Staff Governors

Medical Practitioners – one seat
Nursing and Midwifery – one seat

Each vacancy is for a term of three years. Governors shall normally hold office for a period of three years (one term) and may serve, on re-election, up to a maximum of nine years (three terms).

3.3 The Election Timetable

The nomination period opens on **Friday, 17 May 2019** and will close at **5pm** on **Wednesday, 5 June 2019**

A nomination form to stand for election can be obtained from the Returning Officer in the following ways:

Tel: 0345 209 3770
Email: hdfthdft@uk-engage.org
Post: UK Engage, Image House, 10 Acorn Business Park,
Heaton Lane, Stockport SK4 1AS

All nomination papers should be received by the Returning Officer, at the address detailed above by **5pm** on **Wednesday, 5 June 2019**.

Should any nominee wish to withdraw their nomination, they must put this in writing to the Returning Officer by **5pm** on **Monday, 10 June 2019**.

Ballot papers will be distributed to qualifying members on **Thursday, 20 June 2019**. Completed ballot papers must be received by the Returning Officer by **5pm** on **Monday, 15 July 2019**.

3.4 Find out more

We would highly recommend that if you are interested in standing to be a Governor that you contact Angie Colvin, Corporate Affairs and Membership Manager in the Foundation Trust Office by email at angie.colvin@hdfthdft.nhs.uk or by phone on 01423 554489 for further information or attend the information sessions detailed below.

Angie Colvin, Corporate Affairs and Membership Manager, Andrew Forsyth, Interim Company Secretary, or Angela Schofield, Chairman would be delighted to speak or indeed meet anyone who is interested in either finding out more about the elections, the Council of Governors, and the role of a Governor.

We are holding an information session on:

Tuesday, 28 May at 5.30 – 6.30pm in the Tutorial Room, Strayside Education Centre, 3rd Floor, Harrogate District Hospital, HG2 7SX. If you can attend, please let Angie know.

Further information can also be found on our website using the following link:

<https://www.hdfthdft.nhs.uk/about/council-of-governors/governor-elections/>

4 Further Information

4.1 Website/Social Media

You are encouraged to visit the Trust's website at www.hdft.nhs.uk to find out more information about the Trust, its staff and the services it provides. Further information about the Membership, Governors and the election process can be found by clicking on 'ABOUT US' at the top of the page.

The Board of Directors can be found using the following link:

<https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/about/meet/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HarrogateDistrictNHS/>



@HarrogateNHSFT

4.2 Getting Involved – Member to Governor

How much time you choose to give to being a member is really up to you. You might just want to be kept up to date with developments and receive information and newsletters. Alternatively, you might be keen to get more involved and attend an event or a public Council of Governors' meeting.

We hope that if you are considering standing to become a Governor that you have already started to find out more about the Trust. You may have looked on our website and read some of our important documents, such as the Annual Report and Accounts. You may have attended a public Council of Governors' meeting, a Medicine for Members' event, or even a public Board of Directors' meeting.

To find out more ways in which you can get involved, contact the Foundation Trust Office on 01423 554489.

4.3 Useful Links

The Patient Experience Team:

Tel: 01423 555499

Email: thepatientexperienceteam@hdft.nhs.uk

Department of Health website – www.dh.gov.uk

NHS Improvement (previously known as Monitor) - <https://improvement.nhs.uk/>

Care Quality Commission website - www.cqc.org.uk

NHS Providers - <https://www.nhsproviders.org/programmes/governwell/information-and-guidance/so-youre-thinking-about-becoming-a-governor>

UK Engage - <https://pre.ukevote.uk/hdft>