

Love your NHS?

Become a governor

of your local hospitals

Become a Public  
Governor and make  
a difference



Information on the role of public governors at Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and how to stand for election in our public governor elections in 2017

# Who are the Governors?

## Governors are trust members just like you

Governors are elected by the public membership we have, so that their views and thoughts are brought into the trust's planning processes. At the same time, Governors are a way for us to tap into community thinking on the provision of hospital services the trust provides within Warrington, Halton and surrounding areas.

Governors are the conduit through which the community of Warrington, Halton and surrounding areas influences the types of services the hospitals provide and help us ensure that the patients we look after get the best possible treatment and quality of care.

The area that the hospitals serves is divided into 16 areas and there is a Public Governor to represent each one of those areas. To be a Public Governor they must live in the region they represent.

### Our Governing Council

- 16 Public Governors, including 'Rest of England and Wales'
- 5 Staff Governors
- 6 Appointed Governors (our partners from across our health and social care economies)

### Time Commitments

- ❑ Four 2-hour Council of Governor meetings per year (75% attendance expected)
- ❑ Ten 1-hour Chairman's briefings per year (attendance optional)
- ❑ Six 2-hour Committee meetings per year (*chose from Governor Engagement Group or Quality in Care Group*) 50% attendance if possible
- ❑ One Annual Members Meeting each September
- ❑ As required – Nominations and Remuneration Committee

# Being A Governor

## Meet David Ellis

I served as a Governor for six years, and with regret was unable to serve another term and stepped down at the end of last year. I previously had a background in marketing in the chemicals industry before becoming a Governor, but I was always very passionate about the NHS and wanted to bring some of my skills to helping ensure excellence in healthcare at my local hospital. During my term of office I have had many more opportunities to make a real difference than I could have imagined.



I have a special interest in carers' issues and was able to work with a team to put together a carers' strategy that the hospital has now implemented. I attend the Council of Governors' meetings as well as several other committees that provide many opportunities to ask questions of the management team. I am currently Chair of a Governor Committee, which has developed focus groups with patients to look at specific areas and carry out surveys with a view to helping management identify what can be done to improve services. My time as a governor has been very rewarding and fulfilling.

I can thoroughly recommend becoming a Governor. It provides an opportunity to support our local hospitals and influence the way services are developed without having any specialist knowledge, just a keen interest and a positive attitude.

## Governors of our Trust

- Play an important part in our work to improve local health services
- Help shape the future development of health and social care services in Warrington, Halton and surrounding areas
- Are more informed about why changes are made to the Trust's services
- Use their personal experiences, and those of the members they represent, to make positive changes
- Enjoy meeting and working with other like-minded people who want to make a difference.

# What we want you to do now

After reading this leaflet we hope that you might be interested in putting yourself forward as a Public Governor for your area.

If you are interested in putting yourself forward for election you will need to complete a Nomination form available from UK Engage who run our Governor elections:

UK Engage  
Tel: 0345 209 3770  
<https://pre.ukevote.uk/whh>

## Just a reminder.....

This is a really important role, but one that is enjoyable too!

- by becoming a Public Governor you can help shape the future of your hospitals' services
- you don't have to have any experience in health services
- but you should have a passion to make things better in the NHS

**We look forward to hearing from you.**