



COULD YOU BE A VOICE FOR PATIENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC?

It's election time at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and the Trust is looking for volunteers to become Foundation Trust Governors. Could one of them be you?

What is a Governor?

Governors are a link between Foundation Trust Members and the Board of Directors, representing the views of patients and members of the public about how our services are developed and run.

What are the responsibilities of the Council of Governors?

- to hold the Non-Executive Directors to account for the performance of the Board of Directors
- to represent the interests of Trust Members and members of the public
- to discuss strategic plans and help the Trust plan for the future
- to share information about key decisions with Trust Members
- to act as a link between the Board of Directors and Members
- to appoint the Chairman and Non-Executive Directors
- to set the remuneration of the Chairman and Non-Executive Directors

Do Governors need any special skills or experience?

Although no particular skills or experience are required, an effective Council of Governors is important so Governors need to be able to put the needs of the community above personal preference, value the contributions of different people, ask questions in a constructive but non-confrontational manner, be enthusiastic and want to work as part of a team.

How many Governors are being elected this year?

Seats are available as follows:

2 seats in

- Patient Constituency
- Public Sheffield South East

1 seat in each of the following Constituencies:

- Public Sheffield South West
- Public Sheffield West
- Public Outside Sheffield

How will the Elections be run?

Electoral Reform Services (ERS) will run the Election. ERS are totally independent and ensure that a robust process is followed. The Trust will give notice of the Election and invite Trust Members who wish to stand as Governors to register their interest; information will be available on the Trust website. Eligible Trust Members will be sent voting papers and after the ballot closes ERS will count the votes and the Trust will announce the results.

When are the Elections taking place?

Nomination packs with information about how to stand for Election will be available from **23 April 2018** from the Foundation Trust Office at the address below. Members wishing to stand for Election will be required to attend a short, informal information session prior to submission of their nomination form. Please call the Foundation Trust Office (below) for details and for a nomination pack.

Stage	Date
Formal notice of elections published/nominations open	23 April
Deadline for receipt of nominations	9 May
Voting packs despatched	30 May
Close of elections	19 June
Declaration of results	20 June





Will support be available?

Governors receive training to enable them to undertake this role and will be expected to attend an induction session and training and development events. The Trust will discuss any support that individuals need to help them stand as a Governor, or to fulfil the role should they be elected. Current Governors are happy to act as mentors and provide guidance and support.

How much time does it take to be a Governor?

As a minimum Governors must attend quarterly Council of Governors Meetings and Governors' Forum Meetings plus the Annual Members' Meeting. Meetings are held at our Hospitals. Time will also be required to read meeting papers. Governors are also offered other involvement opportunities throughout our Hospitals; this additional involvement is optional but adds value to the Governor role.

Are Governors Paid?

This is a voluntary role so Governors are not paid but reasonable travel expenses are reimbursed.

How long would my appointment last?

Governors are elected for a 3 year term of office and are eligible to stand again for 2 further 3 year terms.

Don't delay, if you're interested and would like to find out more call Jane Pellegrina, Membership Manager on 0114 2714322, email jane.pellegrina@sth.nhs.uk or write to Foundation Trust Office, Northern General Hospital, Herries Road, Sheffield S5 7AU

