



**Lancashire Teaching
Hospitals**
NHS Foundation Trust

Information pack for prospective governors

**Join our Council
of Governors**
Election 2026

Be part of our future

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If you require this information in an alternative format please contact
the Corporate Affairs Office: 01772 523980
or e-mail corporateaffairs@LTHTR.nhs.uk

Profile Of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust was established on 1 April 2005 as a public benefit corporation authorised under the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003. We are registered with the Care Quality Commission without conditions.

We serve a local population of 400,000 and provide a number of specialised services to around 1.6 million people across Lancashire and South Cumbria. Most of the clinical services are provided on the two hospital sites – Chorley & South Ribble Hospital and Royal Preston Hospital. We also have the Finney House Community Healthcare Hub, a specialist mobility and rehabilitation service in Preston and the Broadoaks Child Development Centre in Leyland. General hospital services are provided as follows:

- 24-hour emergency department facilities
- intensive, high dependency and coronary care units
- general medicine, including elderly care
- general surgery and urology
- child health
- ear, nose and throat surgery
- orthopaedics
- maternity services
- gynaecology
- anaesthetics
- oral and maxillofacial surgery
- ophthalmology
- support services for diagnosis and treatment, such as pathology, x-ray, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and specialist nurses
- rehabilitation services.

People in Lancashire and South Cumbria also access the following specialist services:

- neurosurgery and neurology
- oncology (radiotherapy and chemotherapy) and complex cancer surgery
- renal, burns and plastic surgery
- specialist mobility and rehabilitation services
- major trauma services
- regional vascular centre.

Our Mission

Our mission is to always provide excellent care with compassion.

Our Strategic Aims

The Trust has three strategic aims which are:

- To provide outstanding and sustainable healthcare to our local communities
- To offer a range of high quality specialist services to patients in Lancashire and South Cumbria
- To drive health innovation through world class education, training and research

Our 3 Strategic Ambitions

- Our role as the provider of specialist care for Lancashire and South Cumbria and the provider of local services for Central Lancashire
- As a leading centre for continuous improvement, education, research and innovation, gaining University Hospital status
- As an Anchor Institution, where social value and sustainability is aligned to the health and wealth of our population

Our Trust Values

In order to ensure that staff behave towards each other, patients and their families in a consistent way and so that everyone has a shared understanding of how they can expect to be treated, we have developed a set of values in conjunction with staff and foundation trust members.

Caring and compassionate

We treat everyone with dignity and respect, doing everything we can to show we care.

Recognising individuals

We respect, value and respond to every person's individual needs.

Seeking to involve

We will always involve you in making decisions about your care and treatment, and are always open and honest.

Team working

We work together as one team, and involve patients, families, and other services, to provide the best care possible.

Taking personal responsibility

We each take personal responsibility to give the highest standards of care and deliver a service we can always be proud of.

The Role Of Foundation Trusts

NHS foundation trusts support the notion that sustained improvements in the NHS can only be secured if staff have more control and if local communities have a bigger say over how hospitals are run.

NHS foundation trusts have more freedom to decide locally how to meet their obligations, and they are accountable to local people, who can become members and governors. These governance arrangements enable local communities and staff through membership to be more involved in how healthcare services are developed and delivered.

NHS foundation trusts:

- are established as independent public benefit corporations modelled on co-operative and mutual traditions.
- free to invest in the development of services for the benefit of their local community and patients.
- free to retain any surpluses they generate and to borrow in order to support investments.

Roles And Responsibilities Of The Council Of Governors

Governors are a very important link between the members of the NHS foundation trust, the wider community and those who run the Trust.

In summary, the Council of Governors:

- acts as a source of ideas about how the NHS foundation trust can provide its services in ways that meet the needs of patients, members and the wider community
- makes sure that the NHS foundation trust operates in a way that follows NHS principles and values
- receives the Trust's annual report and accounts and the auditor's report
- appoints the Trust's Chair and Non-Executive Directors, and the Trust's external auditor
- approves the appointment of the Trust's Chief Executive
- is consulted by the Board of Directors on the development of future plans for the Trust
- reviews the success of the Trust in meeting its objectives for the provision of high quality services

- ensures that members are kept informed and updated on developments and on the work of the Council of Governors.
- approves significant transactions

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 introduced increased responsibilities for the council of governors. The council now has a statutory duty to hold the non-executive directors to account for the performance of the board and also to represent the views of both the foundation trust members and those of the wider public.

Appendix one has more information about eligibility to become a governor.

Frequently Asked Questions

What skills and experience do I need to be a governor?

You don't need any specific skills or qualifications to become a governor. The most important attributes required are enthusiasm and a willingness to represent the wider views of the people in the membership and the local community. Some understanding of the NHS or Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is advantageous but by no means essential, as training will be provided and there will always be people on hand to offer advice and support.

What support and training is provided to enable me to fulfil the role of governor?

The Trust has a learning and development programme in place, incorporating all stages from induction, post-induction through to development. All new governors are provided with an induction pack containing a variety of information.

How do I represent foundation trust members?

In order to promote positive working relationships with the public and the wider public and help the Trust to make sure it is responding to the needs and views of the people who use its services, an important part of the governor's role is to communicate and meet with members of the public. Using both remote and personal contact, governors can listen to views and provide feedback to the Trust.

Will I get paid?

Although governors are not paid, they can claim expenses such as travel incurred in carrying out their duties.

How long can I be a governor for?

Terms of office will normally be for three years. Governors may apply for re-election at the end of this period, but cannot hold office for more than nine years in total.

If you want to know more about the voting system then Civica Election Services can be contacted via the details below:

Civica Election Services
33 Clarendon Road
London
N8 0NW

Tel: 020 8889 9203
Email: lth@cesvotes.com

Further Information

More questions?

The role of governor is an important one and we hope that after having read this information pack it will have helped you to decide whether you would like to put yourself forward for election. If you have any further questions that have not been answered in this information pack, please contact the Corporate Affairs Office on 01772 523980 or corporateaffairs@LTHTR.nhs.uk.

Suggested further reading

Annual Report and Accounts 2023–24

<https://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/annual-reports-and-reviews>

Care Quality Commission (regulator)

<http://www.cqc.org.uk>

Your Statutory Duties: A Reference Guide for NHS Foundation Trust Governors

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/addendum-to-your-statutory-duties-reference-guide-for-nhs-foundation-trust-governors/>

Appendix 1: Eligibility to be a member of the Council of Governors (Extract from the trust constitution)

- 11.16 A person is not eligible to become a governor and, if already holding such office, will immediately cease to be eligible if:
- 11.16.1 they are under sixteen (16) years of age;
 - 11.16.2 they are a director of the Trust, or a governor or director of an NHS body or of another NHS foundation trust;
 - 11.16.3 they are the spouse, partner, parent or child of a member of the Board of Directors of the Trust;
 - 11.16.4 being a member of the public constituency, they refuse to sign a declaration in the form specified by the Company Secretary of particulars of their qualification to vote as a member of the Trust, and that they are not prevented from being a member of the Council of Governors;
 - 11.16.5 they are subject to an order under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and/or their name is included in the Sex Offenders Register;
 - 11.16.6 they have been adjudged bankrupt or their estate has been sequestrated and in either case they have not been discharged;
 - 11.16.7 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;
 - 11.16.8 they have within the preceding five (5) years been convicted in the British Islands of any offence, and a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of three (3) months or more (without the option of a fine) was imposed;
 - 11.16.9 they have within the preceding two (2) years been dismissed, otherwise than by reason of redundancy or ill health, from any paid employment with a health service body;
 - 11.16.10 they are a person whose tenure of office as the chair 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;
 - 11.16.11 they have had their name removed, other than by reason of resignation, from any list prepared under sections 91, 106, 123 and 147A (when or brought into force) of the 2006 Act and have not subsequently had their name included on such a list;
 - 11.16.12 they have within the preceding five (5) years been involved as a perpetrator in an incident or incidents of serious abuse or violence at any of the Trust's hospitals or facilities or against any of the Trust's employees or other persons who exercise functions for the purposes of the Trust, or against registered volunteers;
 - 11.16.13 they are an unfit person within the meaning of the Trust's provider licence, save where NHS England has provided its approval in writing to them becoming or continuing as a governor;
 - 11.16.14 they fail to provide the required confirmation of their fitness to continue as a governor to the Company Secretary, in the form prescribed by the Trust, within fourteen (14) days of such confirmation being demanded without reasonable cause;
 - 11.16.15 they are a person in relation to whom a moratorium period under a debt relief order applies (under Part 7A of the Insolvency Act 1986);
 - 11.16.16 they are included in any barred list established under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Act 2006 or any equivalent list;
 - 11.16.17 they fail to submit to a check through the Disclosure and Barring Service when requested by the Trust;
 - 11.16.18 with reference to information disclosed as a result of a check through the Disclosure and Barring Service, they are considered by the Trust to be ineligible to become or continue as a governor of the Trust on the grounds that their appointment as a governor may affect public confidence in the Trust or bring the Trust into disrepute; or.
 - 11.16.19 the Council of Governors has ever resolved in accordance with paragraph 11.18.8 of the Constitution that his or her tenure as a governor be terminated.

Appendix 2: Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust ("The licensee") declaration of eligibility to serve

1. Condition G4(1) of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's Provider Licence ("the Licence") provides that the Licensee shall ensure that no person who is an unfit person may become or continue as a governor, except with the approval in writing of Monitor.
2. An "unfit person" is defined at condition G4(5) of the Licence as:
 - (a) an individual:
 - (i) who has been adjudged bankrupt or whose estate has been sequestrated and (in either case) has not been discharged; or
 - (ii) who has made a composition or arrangement with, or granted a trust deed for, his creditors and has not been discharged in respect of it; or
 - (iii) who within the preceding five years has been convicted in the British Islands of any offence and a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months (without the option of a fine) was imposed on him; or
 - (iv) who is subject to an unexpired disqualification order made under the Company Directors' Disqualification Act 1986; or
 - (b) a body corporate, or a body corporate with a parent body corporate:
 - (i) where one or more of the Directors of the body corporate or of its parent body corporate is an unfit person under the provisions of sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph, or
 - (ii) in relation to which a voluntary arrangement is proposed under section 1 of the Insolvency Act 1986, or
 - (iii) which has a receiver (including an administrative receiver within the meaning of section 29(2) of the 1986 Act) appointed for the whole or any material part of its assets or undertaking, or
 - (iv) which has an administrator appointed to manage its affairs, business and property in accordance with Schedule B1 to the 1986 Act, or
 - (v) which passes any resolution for winding up, or
 - (vi) which becomes subject to an order of a Court for winding up.

I acknowledge the extracts from Licence condition G4 reproduced above. I confirm that I do not fit within the definition of an "unfit person" as listed above and I undertake to notify the Licensee immediately if I no longer satisfy the eligibility criteria to be a governor.

Name:

Position: Governor

Signed:

Date:

(Successful candidates will be asked to sign this declaration upon appointment)