

# TRUST MATTERS

News • Awards • Membership • Governors • Information • and much more...

Be the voice for your community

Join our Council  
of Governors  
Election 2026

Have **you** got what it takes?  
Are you interested in becoming  
one of our hospital governors?

Are you passionate about the NHS  
and would you like to be a voice for  
patients, their families, carers and  
NHS staff? If so, why not stand for  
election as a governor of our NHS  
Foundation Trust?

## Governor Election Special Edition

## Chair's welcome



Dear Foundation Trust Members,

As we step into 2026, I am delighted to welcome you to what promises to be another significant year for our Trust and to present details of our upcoming Governor election.

Over the past 12 months - my first as Chair since taking up the role on 1 January 2025 - we have continued to make progress on our improvement journey.

I am proud of the dedication shown by our teams, Governors, and members in supporting our shared ambitions.

This year, we will maintain our focus on strengthening financial recovery, delivering high-quality care, and advancing our improvement agenda.

Alongside this, we are excited about opportunities that will shape the future of healthcare for our communities.

Our Council of Governors plays a vital role in representing the views of members and the wider public, and I am grateful for their commitment.

We will continue to build strong relationships between Governors and the Board, ensuring that your voice helps guide our priorities and decisions.

### Governor Elections - Your Chance to Make a Difference

Our election to the Council of Governors is an important date in the Trust calendar, and I'm pleased to say that nominations for the public constituency open on Tuesday 6 January 2026.

Becoming a Governor gives you the opportunity to have your say on the Trust's performance and forward plan, influence developments in healthcare, and represent our Trust, local community, and wider system. It's an exciting time to become a Public Governor!

Our Chief Executive, Professor Silas Nicholls, and I look forward to working alongside you. Governors play an important part in helping people understand our core programmes of work, particularly around financial recovery and overall improvement.

There are seven Governor vacancies available within the public constituency, with the deadline for nominations closing at 5pm on Tuesday 3 February 2026.

Please take a moment to look through this publication and consider whether becoming a Governor is for you.

Don't miss out on your chance to represent the interests and views of our local communities!

With best wishes,

**Prof. Mike Thomas**  
Chair

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# Governors

We're here  
to listen

## Be part of our future – join our Council of Governors

How would you like to be the voice for your community and have the chance to make a difference? We are looking for foundation trust members to join the Council of Governors at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Governors have a key role in representing the interests and views of our members, both colleagues and the public, as well as the wider general public. They are essential in making sure that their views and opinions are considered in providing and developing our hospital services, making a huge difference to the lives of those we help.

The Elections to the Council of Governors will be held in February/March 2026 with nominations opening on **Tuesday, 6 January**. There will be seven governor vacancies available within the public constituency and three within the staff constituency (representing non-clinical; unregistered healthcare and support workers, and Doctors and Dentists).

## What is the commitment expected of Governors?

A Corporate and Governor Calendar is produced each year and for the year 2026/27 has been published on the Trust's website. It is expected that Governors commit to attend the following each year:

Four formal Council of Governors meetings

Informal Council Workshops and joint development sessions with the Board of Directors

Governor Subgroup meetings

Annual Members' Meeting

Ongoing training and development

## Is it for me? What does a governor really do?

To find out more and if it is right for you then come along to our virtual prospective governor information workshops. You will get a chance to hear from Electoral Reform Services about the election process, learn more about the role and the expectation of a governor, meet existing governors, and hear about how you can make a difference. The workshops will be held on:

### Expectations and Responsibilities of the Role –

Wednesday 14 January 2026 from 10am - 11am in Seminar Room 5 in Education Centre 1 at Royal Preston Hospital.

### Understanding the Election Process –

Friday, 16 January 2026 from 11am -12pm via MS Teams

### Expectations and Responsibilities of the Role –

Thursday 22 January 2026 from 1pm – 2pm in Seminar Room A in Education Centre 3, at Chorley and South Ribble Hospital.

To book your place on the virtual workshop or for any further information, please email [corporateaffairs@LTHTR.nhs.uk](mailto:corporateaffairs@LTHTR.nhs.uk) or call **01772 523980** and leave your contact details (please state your name and telephone number) and arrangements will be made to send joining instructions to your calendar.

If you are interested in becoming a governor, we strongly advise booking a place on the workshops.

## Our current Council of Governors



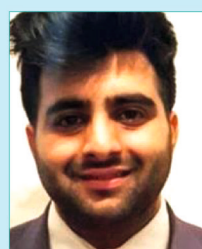
**Michelle Brown**  
Appointed Governor



**Lou Jackson**  
Appointed Governor



**Daniel Matchett**  
Appointed Governor



**Suleman Sarwar**  
Appointed Governor



**Pav Akhtar**  
Public Governor



**Takhsin Akhtar**  
Public Governor



**George Bailey**  
Public Governor



**Sheila Brennan**  
Public Governor



**Darrell Brooks**  
Public Governor



**Phil Curwen**  
Public Governor



**Margaret France**  
Public Governor



**Graham Fullarton**  
Public Governor



**Angela Kos**  
Public Governor



**Janet Miller**  
Public Governor



**Carole Oldcorn**  
Public Governor



**Enid Povey**  
Public Governor



**Graham Robinson**  
Public Governor



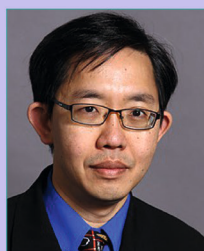
**Frank Robinson**  
Public Governor



**Tim Young**  
Public Governor



**Sonia Connell**  
Staff Governor



**Chooi Oh**  
Staff Governor



**Tom Ramsay**  
Staff Governor



Lancashire Teaching  
Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Be the voice for your community

## Join our Council of Governors Election 2026

Have **you** got what it takes?  
Are you interested in becoming  
one of our hospital governors?

Are you passionate about the NHS  
and would you like to be a voice for  
patients, their families, carers and  
NHS staff? If so, why not stand for  
election as a governor of our NHS  
Foundation Trust?

## How to apply?

If you are interested in standing for election, an information pack and nomination form can be obtained from the Returning Officer from **Tuesday, 6 January 2026**. URL: [www.cesvotes.com/LTH2026](http://www.cesvotes.com/LTH2026)

Email: [ftnominations@cesvotes.com](mailto:ftnominations@cesvotes.com)

Telephone: **020 8889 9203**

Text: **2FT LT** and your name and address to **88802**

Post: Electoral Reform Services,  
33 Clarendon Road, London, N8 0NW

Deadline for nominations: **5.00pm, Tuesday, 3 February 2026**.

Other key dates:

- Voting packs sent: Wednesday, 25 February 2026
- Close of election: Friday, 20 March 2026
- Results announced: Monday, 23 March 2026







## How do I stand for election?

If you are interested in standing for election, an information pack and nomination form can be obtained from the Returning Officer from Tuesday 6 January 2026.

URL: [www.cesvotes.com/LTH2026](http://www.cesvotes.com/LTH2026)

Email: [lth@cesvotes.com](mailto:lth@cesvotes.com)

Telephone: **020 8889 9203**

Text: **2FT LT** and your name and address to **88802**

Post: Electoral Reform Services, 33 Clarendon Road, London, N8 0NW

Don't delay – the deadline for completed nomination forms is **5pm on Tuesday 3 February 2026**

## The Nomination Form

The nomination form is only short and will have space for prospective Governors to write a short statement (50 words) about why you think you should be selected. You will also have 200 words to describe what skills and experience you believe you can bring to the role.

The information supplied by candidates is published and will accompany a ballot paper, should the seat be contested.

A full hints and tips guide, together with resource pack is available online here: [www.cesvotes.com/LTH2026](http://www.cesvotes.com/LTH2026)

We will not alter or correct your statement in any way. It will be reproduced word-for-word so remember to check it carefully. Any statements of longer than the maximum word count are stopped

at the maximum, even if this ends mid-sentence.

The nominations process will close on Tuesday 3 February 2026 and all nominations will then be validated prior to publication.

## The Election Timetable

Notice of Election / nomination open

**Tuesday 6 January 2026**

Webinar: Election process workshop (hosted by Civica) **Friday 16 January 2026** at 11am via [Microsoft Teams](#).

Election Workshop in person (Royal Preston Hospital) **Wednesday 14 January 2026** from 10-11am, Seminar Room 5 in Education Centre 1

Election Workshop in person (Chorley and South Ribble District Hospital) **Thursday 22 January 2026** from 1-2pm, Seminar Room A in Education Centre 3

For further information or to book your place on any of the above sessions please email [corporateaffairs@LTHTR.nhs.uk](mailto:corporateaffairs@LTHTR.nhs.uk) or call 01772 523980 and leave your contact details (name and telephone number).

### Need Help

If you need any help submitting your nomination you can contact the Returning Officer by emailing [fnominationenquiries@cesvotes.com](mailto:fnominationenquiries@cesvotes.com)

Nominations deadline **Tuesday 3 February 2026**

Close of election **Friday 20 March 2026 at 5pm**

Declaration of results **Monday 23 March 2026**



## Trust consultant appointed Vice President of the RCOG

A consultant obstetrician at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals (LTH) has been appointed as one of five new Vice Presidents of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG), one of the most influential professional bodies in women's health.

Jenny Barber, who joined LTH in 2023, will take up the prestigious national role for a fixed three-year term alongside her ongoing clinical work at the Trust. As part of her appointment, she will work two days a week for the RCOG, contributing to national leadership across maternity and gynaecology services.

In her Vice President role, Jenny will help shape clinical guidelines, workforce and safe staffing models, and wider national policy, with a strong emphasis on ensuring national decision-making remains grounded in frontline clinical realities. She said: "I feel hugely privileged to have been given this opportunity, but also a strong sense of responsibility. My aim is to help strengthen the connection between what happens on the ground and the policies that shape care nationally."

A central element of her portfolio will involve working with women's voices and service user groups at a national level. Jenny believes listening to women, families and staff is essential to improving care. "Patient and service user involvement is absolutely key," she said. "We need to make sure our policies are aligned with women's experiences and priorities. That lived experience should sit at the heart of how maternity and gynaecology services develop."

Jenny's appointment also brings clear benefits for LTH by strengthening links with national bodies and creating a direct route for local staff and patients to influence national policy. "This role creates an opportunity for the Trust to be closer to what's happening nationally," Jenny explained. "It allows frontline experience from LTH to help inform national conversations, while also keeping us well connected to emerging guidance and priorities. Our obstetrics and gynaecology workforce at LTH is relatively young, and it's important that those perspectives are heard nationally. This is a really exciting opportunity, and I hope it brings tangible benefits to the Trust as well as helping to improve maternity and gynaecology care nationally over the next three years."



## Trust have 15 finalists in LSC NHS Apprenticeship Awards

A grand total of 15 Lancashire Teaching Hospitals employees and students were finalists in the 2025 Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Apprenticeship Awards, with Lewis Doherty a finalist in three categories!

The Trust had two winners - Ava Bolton (Rising Star - T Level Award) and Lucy Wilson (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Award) - and two entrants were also highly commended - Cameron West (Rising Star - T Level Award) and Lewis Doherty (Team Player Award) - in the digital-first awards, which will have a physical presentation of trophies by sponsors during National Apprenticeship Week, in addition to a special excellence award for the winner of all winners.

Ava and Cameron are students of Runshaw College, who have completed their placements with LTH, while Lucy and Lewis are employees of the Trust, joining in September 2024 as apprentices on our first ever intake of Healthcare Apprentices.

Both have since completed the Level 2 Healthcare Support Worker apprenticeship, achieving the highest grade of Distinction. Lewis has also now progressed onto the Level 3 Senior Healthcare Support Worker apprenticeship.

On Ava, judges' comments were as follows: "Ava has consistently demonstrated exceptional commitment, leadership, and professionalism. She is a natural leader who remains calm under pressure, excels in teamwork, and acts as a positive role model for her peers. Ava truly represents the future of the healthcare workforce with passion, resilience, and dedication."

On Lucy, judges said: "Lucy has become a powerful advocate for inclusion within the Neuro Rehabilitation Unit at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals. Her openness, resilience and willingness to seek support have normalised conversations around neurodiversity, helping to create a more understanding and supportive environment for both colleagues and patients."

"Her natural empathy and positivity bring warmth to the ward, where she treats every patient with dignity and compassion. Lucy's ability to lift the morale of those around her, while also contributing insight on how to better support individuals with complex needs, has strengthened the team's approach to inclusive care."

For a full list of nominees and winners please [click here](#)

# Dates for your diary 2026

The Corporate Calendar can be viewed on our website or scan the code  
[lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/corporate-calendar](http://lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/corporate-calendar)



## Annual Members' Meeting

Thursday 8 October 2026	2pm–4pm	Venue to be confirmed
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## Board of Directors' Meetings

Thursday 5 February 2026	9.15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 2 April 2026	9.15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 4 June 2026	9.15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 6 August 2026	9.15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 1 October 2026	9.15am – 3pm	Lecture Hall, Education Centre 3, Chorley & South Ribble Hospital
Thursday 3 December 2026	9.15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital

## Council of Governors' Meetings

Thursday 20 January 2026	1pm–4pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 23 April 2026	1pm–4pm	Seminar Room A, Education Centre 3, Chorley & South Ribble Hospital
Thursday 23 July 2026	10am–1pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 22 October 2026	1pm–4pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital

Members are welcome to observe the public section of both the Council of Governors' and Board of Directors' meetings to listen to Governors and Board Members discussing Trust business.

Council of Governors' meetings are held four times per year and members of the public are welcome to observe virtually.

Please note that meeting dates may occasionally be subject to change.

Please email [company.secretary@lthtr.nhs.uk](mailto:company.secretary@lthtr.nhs.uk) if you would like to observe any of the meetings.

All public events are advertised on our website: [www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk)

To view **TRUST Matters** online go to: [www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/trust-matters](http://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/trust-matters)

Trust Matters is available in different versions including audio. If you require this magazine in a different format, please contact the Membership Office.

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