

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

Issue 1: January 2008

shared trust, shared success

Welcome to our Members

Welcome to our first members newsletter!

One of our aims in becoming a Foundation Trust is to secure greater engagement with local residents and patients. We have over 8,500 public and patient members and over 7,000 staff members. Each member has received a welcome letter and a special interests questionnaire. When we have opportunities for you to be involved in your special interest(s), we will contact you. Turn to page 3 to see how we have involved members so far. This is only the start, there will be lots more opportunities for involvement in the future!

We were pleased to receive the Secretary of State's approval before Christmas to proceed to the final stage of our Foundation Trust application. This now means we can start our election process. Find out more about what it means to be a governor and the elections on page 2 of this newsletter.

We look forward to meeting you in the future at one of the member events.

John Savage and Graham Rich



Chair: Dr John Savage
John has a broad range of business experience. He has strong links with the business community including Business West, West of England Partnership, etc. He was awarded a CBE in 2006 for services to business and regeneration. He joined as Chair of UBHT in 2006.



Chief Executive: Dr Graham Rich

Graham qualified in medicine and undertook a variety of hospital clinical roles as part of GP training and has 22 years in healthcare. His roles included Director in Newcastle Health Authority, Chief Executive at West Hull Primary Care Trust and recently Chief Operating Officer here at UBHT.

Elections to appoint Governors

Our governor election process at United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust will start on 24 January 2008.

Governors will represent the views of the members in the constituency from which they are elected. For example the governors elected from the Bristol constituency will represent the views of members who live in the City of Bristol. There are 27 governor vacancies for election. See page 2 for the list of constituencies and sub groups.

The role of a governor includes:

- Attending three Membership Council meetings per year.
- Attending the Annual General Meeting.
- Communicating with members within their constituency.
- Representing the views of the members.
- Plus other statutory and mandatory tasks for example Selection of the Chair and Non-Executive Directors.

Governors will receive support by attending a programme of induction, training and development opportunities. Read more on the inside pages.



About the Elections

What does it mean to be a governor?

Governors represent their membership by bringing their ideas, skills and experience to discussions and debates about our future plans. They are one of our links to the community, representing the views and opinions of our membership. This type of public involvement helps ensure that our services best reflect the needs of the local community. That's what being a Foundation Trust is all about.

The requirements for eligibility to stand for election to be a governor are simple:

- You may stand to become a governor if you are a member of the UBHT Foundation Trust.
- You are over 16 years of age.
- You must not already be a director or governor of another NHS Foundation Trust.
- You may not be eligible to become a governor if you have had, in the last five years, un-discharged bankruptcy or served a prison sentence of more than three months.
- Finally, you must not be incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of managing and administering your property and affairs.

Questions about the election process? Don't hesitate to call our office and speak with one of our dedicated staff on **0117 928 3763**

The Membership Council

The UBHT Membership Council will have 38 governors in total with 27 elected (voted by you) and 11 non-elected governors (our key stakeholders). The elected governors will represent the following constituencies: public constituency, patient constituency and staff constituency. The elected governors will be:

9 public governors

- Five governors for Bristol members
- Two governors for South Gloucestershire members
- Two governors for North Somerset members

12 patient governors

- Two governors for carers of patients 16 years and over
- Two governors for carers of patients under 16 years
- Six governors for patients from local areas
- Two patients governors for the rest of England and Wales

6 staff governors

- Two governors for nursing and midwifery
- One governor for medical and dental
- One governor for other clinical healthcare professionals
- Two governors for non-clinical healthcare professionals

11 stakeholder governors will be appointed by:

One governor from each organisation: University of the West of England, University of Bristol, Bristol Primary Care Trust, South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust, North Somerset Primary Care Trust, Bristol City Council, Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Trust, Great Western Ambulance Trust, UBHT Joint Union committee, community group, voluntary group.



The Election Timetable

The timetable for the election is:

24 January 2008: All members who have expressed an interest in becoming a governor will automatically be sent a Nomination Pack and an application form. Any member can request a Nomination pack by contacting the Membership Office on 0117 928 3763.

8 February 2008: Deadline for all application forms to be returned.

29 February 2008: Voting packs to be sent to all members (public, patient and staff). You can then vote for your governor to represent you.

19 March 2008: Closing date for election.

**Make your voice heard
and your vote count!**

About Our Membership

Get involved: Help us recruit children and young people to become members

So far, we have 8,500 public and patient members and over 7,000 staff members!

As a key part of our membership strategy, we are proud to say that UBHT is the first NHS Trust to invite children, of any age, to become members.

This is based on the strong links that we have with our youngest patients through the Bristol Royal Hospital for Children.

A recent visit with teachers through the UBHT School Ambassadors programme revealed a great interest in getting young people involved in the leadership opportunities that are available through membership.

We are looking forward to continuing this exciting outreach work with local school teachers. In the meantime, we want to encourage lots more children and young

people to become members

You can help by passing along information to young people in your community.



Online registration is easy and only takes a moment at www.ubhtft.nhs.uk.

Or ring us on 0117 928 3763 to register over the phone.

How we have involved our members so far ...

Information Sessions for those members interested in becoming a governor



We have held information sessions for the public, patients and staff members to find out more about the role of governor and the Membership Council. We had over 200 people attend the sessions.

'I enjoyed the meeting and found it informative and interesting ...'

Valerie Sully, FT Member attending the Governor Information Session

Special Interests

'The courtesy given to me when I arrived on the ward from the receptionist to domestic and nursing staff made me feel at ease at once. This reflects the commitment from your staff.

Paul Hunter, FT Member experience of taking part in the Accident and Emergency Audit

Each new member receives a Welcome letter and a Special Interests questionnaire. When an opportunity arises, the member will be invited to take part. We have involved our members in:

- ✓ An Accident and Emergency Audit
- ✓ Annual Report Survey
- ✓ Patient Safety meeting

Programme for Communicating, Recruiting and Involving our Members

We are working on a programme of activity to communicate, recruit and involve our members throughout 2008. This will be based around the special interests which you have indicated are important to you.

The activities will include:

- ✓ Set up of Membership Council
- ✓ Membership Events
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Invitations to Special Interest activities
- ✓ And much more!

Who we are: United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust

United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust provides health care services to the local community and a range of specialist services for regional, national and international patients. Our hospitals and services are based at our sites.

The **Bristol Royal Infirmary (BRI)** provides general and acute medicine and surgery, as well as being a regional centre for cardiothoracic services.

The **Bristol Royal Hospital for Children** is the only dedicated children's hospital in the region. It has an internationally renowned Bone Marrow Transplant Unit.

The **Bristol Eye Hospital** is the leading ophthalmology centre in the region. The University of Bristol

Dept. of Ophthalmology is attached to the hospital, leading the field in eye research. The hospital also houses one of only two Corneal Transplant Banks in England.

The **Bristol Haematology & Oncology Centre** is the regional cancer hospital treating 5,000 patients each year from around South West England.

The **University of Bristol Dental Hospital and School** provides a comprehensive range of Dental Specialties involving patient care, teaching and research.

The **Homeopathic Hospital** has been providing homeopathic services at the Cotham House since 1921. Today it is the only hospital of its kind in the region.

St. Michael's Hospital offers obstetric, gynaecology, contraceptive and sexual health services, among others. It is also the regional referral unit for fetal medicine and provides a comprehensive community midwifery service.

The **Bristol General Hospital** provides care for the elderly. The hospital is planning to expand its role as a centre for rehabilitation and intermediate care.

The **Central Health Clinic** provides some out patient services such as family planning and breast screening.

Our Values

- ✓ We put patients first.
- ✓ We involve, develop and support staff.
- ✓ We promote innovation and improvement.
- ✓ We pursue excellence in everything.
- ✓ We respect others and treat everyone as equals.
- ✓ We work in partnership to improve the health and well-being of the community, within a sustainable environment.
- ✓ We are accountable for our use of public resources.



Contact Us

Foundation Trust Membership Office
United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol, BS1 3NU
Email: foundationtrust@ubht.nhs.uk
Web: www.ubhtft.nhs.uk
Tel: 0117 928 3763

Our Mission

We will provide patient care, education and research of the highest quality.

Special Interests: Research and Development

The trust supports research in all its main specialty areas with many of its staff and patients involved in up to 400 different research projects. We are keen to involve members in all aspects of our research including deciding on priorities, designing, influencing how the research is done and making sure the results are made available to people who are interested. Take a look on our website www.ubht.nhs.uk/r&d.

If you are interested in Research and Development complete your details below, cut out this section and return it to Foundation Trust Membership Office, United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust, Trust Headquarters, Marlborough Street Bristol, BS1 3NU

Name (first name and surname please):

Address: