

[UHB NHS FT_Statements Governor Election 2017- Public Bristol.pdf](#)

[UHB NHS FT_Statements Governor Election 2017- Public North Somerset.pdf](#)

[UHB NHS FT_Statements Governor Election 2017- Patient Local.pdf](#)

[UHB NHS FT_Statements Governor Election 2017- Carer for patients under 16.pdf](#)

[UHB NHS FT Candidate Statements Governor Election 2017 - Nursing and Midwifery.pdf](#)

[UHB NHS FT Candidate Statements Governor Election 2017 nonclinical staff.pdf](#)

Dr Bishnu Upadhaya



I believe passionately in preserving the NHS, especially our NHS Trust as a force for improving healthcare & well-being of our community as a centre of learning, development and best clinical practices. My desire to ensure trust to continue the focus on balancing the competing priorities and challenges we are facing today, and in the future, whilst safeguarding its principal purpose of providing high-quality health care to our community.

I want to develop a specific hub in physical, psychological diseases and mental health problems and intend to play a vital role in the implementation our NHS strategy to improve innovative better services. I am passionate about improving the quality and safety of patient care through consultation, research, innovation and educational ways of working on patient whole healthcare.

I hope to build strong relationship between the Trust and local community and facilitating diverse programs of work across all health sectors.

I know clearly, together we must give our NHS the best possible chance to deliver its purpose, focus always on the needs of patients and community. It reinforces me the need and meaningfully engage with patients, staff and the general community to fully understand the competing challenges of all sectors in our healthcare future.

I intend to listen to your views and interest with using all my experience and expertise's whilst acting as the eyes and ears for the local community. Knowing the internal and external groups involve, I can utilize my knowledge and make sure that the agenda is the (Statement cut at word limit)

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: Yes

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Mary Whittington



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

An Architect and Project Manager, I have spent the last 20 years working in the private sector, advising and supporting NHS Trusts to make better use of their estate and improve the patient experience through the provision of quality buildings and efficient non-clinical services to generate savings.

Now retired, I would like to use this experience and my understanding of health and care delivery combined with my commercial expertise to contribute to the work of the Trust Board, helping to ensure the delivery of safe, high quality healthcare to the people of Bristol in a continually changing health economy. I believe that the NHS is one of the world's best healthcare systems and that we are fortunate to be served by a Trust rated as "outstanding" by the CQC. A fantastic achievement at a time when the

NHS faces considerable challenges nationally and locally.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

- An experienced Project Manager, strategic thinker, used to working in and leading teams;
- A good understanding of NHS policy, how the NHS functions, its financial and operational challenges and constraints;
- Experience of acting as a "critical friend" to several NHS Trusts;
- Business development and commercial expertise.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I have lived in Bristol over 30 years.

I have worked at Board level in the private sector and with NHS Trusts.

I am an active member of Rotary, involved in community projects and charity fundraising.

My daughter is a doctor in the NHS, giving me an insight into the challenges faced by many medical staff.

Declaration of Interests:

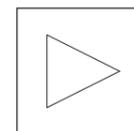
Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

CANDIDATES'
ELECTION
STATEMENTS

Election to the Council of Governors
Public: Bristol

Please read carefully before casting your vote.



INFORMATION

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Laura Bennett



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I would like to apply my knowledge and understanding of the health service to supporting and improving my local services.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I have experience working as an NHS graduate management trainee and in my current role as a health policy researcher at The King's Fund, a well respected charity that works to improve health and social care. This gives me a good understanding of the 'big picture' of health and social care, including government policy and examples of good practice, as well as practical experience of how hospitals and their commissioners operate.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Jean Denham



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

There is no doubt that health provision in Bristol will change over the next few years as we respond to changing health care needs in a climate where costs escalate and funding fails to keep pace. A Sustainability and Transformation Plan is being devised for Bristol by a group, that includes primary, secondary and tertiary care partners, GPs, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Trusts and the Local Authorities.

UH Bristol has already made great strides in changing to adapt to new circumstances and our CEO leads the STP planning group. I would like to be part of the debate that expands and continues that work across the whole of services that provide help and support to the people of Bristol.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I am an experienced corporate governor with excellent organisational, analytical and communication skills, which I have exercised in education, the magistracy and voluntary organisations. I understand the role of being a critical and constructive friend in providing support and challenge to individuals and teams and can commit the time needed to do the job properly.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I am a lay member of the End of Life Steering Group for the Trust. This has given me a unique opportunity to learn more about the Trust and a vital part of its work. As an active member I have enjoyed the Health Matters events hugely and learned a great deal from them. I hope to encourage greater attendance at them. I also have a particular interest in how patient complaints are handled and resolved.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Robert McDonald Edwards



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

My Name is Robert Edwards the reason why I want to become a Governor is to be a voice for the community to represent the views of all members and the public. I hope to help patients, their families, carers, workers and local residents get better services I am a dedicated and caring person who enjoys volunteering to support those in need.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I am a Victim Support Officer my role involves either speaking to people over the phone, or carrying out home visits, with in the community, where I offer emotional and practical support to victims, which might involve helping people to fill out forms, or speaking to other organisations on behalf of victims.

In doing this, I liaise with several other services, including the police and housing associations. I describe my volunteering, intense, enjoyable and fulfilling.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I started volunteering for Victim Support in September 2012. After a close family member of mine was a victim of a serious crime, I saw for myself how much victims can be impacted by crime. Physically they can be seriously affected, but the psychological and social impacts can also become deeply rooted. For this reason, I wanted to join an organisation that specialised in helping victims of crime.

I've gained invaluable experience working with professionals in a modern and dynamic organisation. I feel like I am now more thoughtful and empathetic towards others.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Jenny James



As a Bristolian I am proud of our outstanding Foundation Trust. I would welcome the stimulating and challenging role as a Governor. I would be able to help maintain and always look to improve our service, respecting everyone, embracing change and working together for our Hospitals.

I am always COMMITTED to everything I undertake. I have EXPERIENCE of working in the Trust and life. I have KNOWLEDGE as a retired Nurse and UNDERSTANDING of Health issues. TEAMWORK and being part of a team has always been a part of my working and personal life. I always enjoy contributing and gaining from other members of a team. LISTENING and HEARING what patients, staff and visitors say would enable me to raise concerns and issues to the Board of Governors. I am a member of the public and will represent them.

I trained as a Nurse at the BRI and worked in the Trust most of my working life. Being a Daughter, Parent and Grandparent has brought me into contact with the Trust as a relative and as a patient. I now enjoy being a Volunteer in the Information and Support Centre at BHOC. The last 10 years of my Nursing career the Trust enabled me to undertake further studying to become a Cancer Nurse Specialist. I found it stimulating and enjoyable and will bring this enthusiasm to the role of Governor should I be successful.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Maureen Ann Phillips



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I have experience of the NHS dealing with the elderly, including dementia and strokes, and successfully secured care funding for elderly parents at an Appeals Tribunal. I am a great supporter of the NHS but appreciate the impact of financial and organisational restraints, and the ever increasing demand for its services. I am interested in how the NHS can move forwards, with Community care and self help and also want to ensure that patient communication is given high priority. The right information at the right time and involvement in decisions does not have to involve expenditure. I believe that without a medical background I can approach the role of governor from a different perspective.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I am a 55 year old retired solicitor and as a former partner in a large Bristol practice am experienced in running a business. I have good communication skills. I am used to working with others and managing expectations and opinions, all skills which were essential in my professional life. I am not afraid to ask questions and challenge the status quo.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

In retirement I have the time and energy to devote to the role and to learn how the management of the hospital Trust works. I have lived in Bristol for 50 years and seen the changes in healthcare provision. In my spare time I am a netball player, rugby fan and love the outdoors. I am by nature optimistic; there is a solution to most problems!

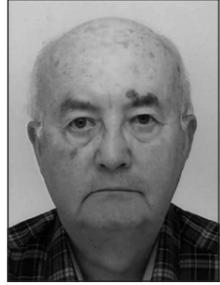
Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Please see overleaf

John Leslie White



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

During my career as a Chartered Accountant I have enjoyed being involved in the running of client businesses. I would like to bring these skills and knowledge to UHBT in the hope that this will be of benefit to both hospital and patients alike. In the past, two very clever surgeons saved my life and I would like to repay that by contributing time and effort to UHBT.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

During the course of my professional life, I have been involved in businesses of many sizes and it has been a privilege to be accepted as part of the business, working alongside my clients, hands on and sharing both the good times and the difficult times with them. This approach has provided me with a depth of understanding which an arms length relationship cannot give. I have developed good negotiating skills with financial providers and HM Revenue & Customs. Consequently, I can handle a crisis with a calm and measured approach. I was a member of the Inland Revenue Consultation Panel for many years which is a forum where HMRC met with the public.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I am currently the treasurer of the enlarged Tyntesfield Medical Group PPG where we are constantly seeking ways and events to benefit our patients. My involvement in running a large seniors group in Nailsea brings me directly into contact with the medical needs and requirements of the senior generation

Declaration of Interests:

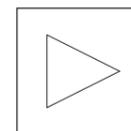
Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

CANDIDATES' ELECTION STATEMENTS

Election to the Council of Governors Public: North Somerset

Please read carefully before casting your vote.



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Graham Briscoe



For the past three years I have been one of your elected North Somerset nominees on the Governors' Council and I am seeking your support for re-election. I have resided in North Somerset for forty years and have experienced a full range of personal and family medical issues, ranging from hospital operations to emergency treatment.

I am a professionally qualified senior executive with over twenty years' extensive experience operating at Board level. A skilled change leader with a broad track record of Business Process Re-engineering, Customer Service, Talent Management, Programme Management and the delivery of transformational change programmes.

I also supported a range of non-executive roles across a number of sectors, including Further Education College Corporation and Housing Association Board governance. This experience has given me the skills to recognise and understand this particular Governor role as being one of a "critical friend", scrutinising, operating checks and balances and holding the Non-Executive Directors to account for the performance of the Hospitals' Board of Directors.

We are all too aware of the current financial pressures on the Health Service. The current "Sustainability and Transformation Plan" has identified a way ahead, but a satisfactory outcome for Weston Hospital is still sought.

I believe my enthusiastic, committed and motivational approach will enable me to inspire and deliver excellent and robust challenge as a Governor of University Hospitals Bristol. Thank you for your support.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Mike Lyall



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I am a member of the Foundation Trust United Hospitals Bristol. I attend regular meetings of the Board and Governors plus Foundation Trust events.

Finding meetings and events invigorating and of great interest, with consent, I wish to put myself forward as a candidate for Governor representing North Somerset.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I represent Healthwatch North Somerset on the Patient Experience Committee United Hospitals Bristol.
Ex Army Royal Army Medical Corps.

Former Lay Member of the Past Primary Care Trust North Somerset.

Steering Group Members for new build of A&E Weston Hospital

Currently Chairman of the Patient Experience Group

Milton Road Surgery Weston-Super-Mare.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I have been a resident of North Somerset life time experience, my occupation took me throughout the District.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: Labour

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Penny Parsons



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I believe passionately in the NHS and want to contribute all that I can to sustain it.

I have recently retired from the NHS, after working for 42 years as a Physiotherapist. During this time, I worked at Southmead, St. Michael's, BRI and Weston General Hospitals and in the community; initially in all areas of medicine, but the majority of time as a Specialist Physiotherapist in Women's Health.

By becoming a Governor I would continue my association with and support for, UHB NHS Foundation Trust.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I enjoy engaging with people, and am good at listening and being reflective.

I am used to working as part of a team.

I have a grass-roots understanding of how the NHS works and in my specialist physiotherapist role, I managed NHS budget pressures, targets and outcomes.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I have active community roles in the City of Bristol, both with care of the elderly and in a City Centre Primary School. I was a Board Member of Above & Beyond's Golden Gift Appeal, which raised £6,000,000 to provide equipment and extras for the BRI and Oncology Centre, which the NHS is unable to fund. I am a Vice-Chair of Tynesfield Medical Group Patient Participation Group in my local North Somerset Community.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

John Rose



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I live in North Somerset where there are approximately 210,000 people, compared with 446,000 in Bristol and 273,000 in South Gloucestershire. It would appear that our demographic and needs are different. These three areas share UHBT, and I would like to help bring a North Somerset perspective to any subject tabled at UHBT. As a patient, and as a carer for my wife, I have experienced some of the services provided by UHBT, NBHT, The Nuffield, The Spire, RNHRD Bath, and Weston General Hospitals. As a person who has never worked in the health sector, I believe that I can bring a detached and sensitive public insight of the patient experience to the Trust.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I am a retired consulting engineer, and have worked in the fields of design and operation of a wide range of commercial buildings for over 35 years. This includes hospitals, and technical adviser roles to Funders, with all that this means in terms of meeting and report writing/reading skills, contracts, life cycle funds, and maintenance. I believe that I can bring listening, questioning, and analysis skills to identifying ranges of alternative solutions. I believe that happy patients are the product of happy NHS practitioners. I would hope to have some influence on achieving both.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I like plain English and clear simple truthful information. Always delivered politely and with respect. It is the only way to know what to do next and move forward.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Eric Alexander Wahle



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

NHS England have failed year after year to secure the surviving of our services. With every new government time after time the NHS leadership has been driven more into a limbo of incompetence. I strongly believe that CEO's and Chair's of trust's nationwide are too cosy and tied up with our politician and governments. As a new Governor for Bristol NHS Trust I will fight for more direct involvement in executive decisions from the People of Bristol the Trust Members and the Council of Governors.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

As a former Chief Nursing Officer with a master in business management, strategy and business developments I do understand hospital politics and the decision making executive process for changes and new developments in a hospital environment.

To make decisions just on the basis from statistics is not only dangerous it is also hypothetical, risky and unprofessional. To make the right decisions you need to analyse problems and the practical experience input from the medical professionals on the front line and most of all the Patients and the public must be involved. To make decisions without a collective responsibility could risk the life of many patients.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

NO COMMON SENSE:

I strongly oppose that the Chair of Bristol Trust is also Chair of the Council of Governors. This is a clear Conflict of Interest and this is unacceptable. The Council's right to make independent decisions without the influence of the Board of Directors is vital and imperative for the Council's autonomies. The Chair of the Council must (Statement cut at word limit)

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Derek John Wholey



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

It sounds a cliché to say I am passionate about the NHS, but that is the word. It is an advantage being old enough to remember before the NHS, when poor working class families struggled to pay for healthcare, often not seeking treatment until too late for a satisfactory outcome. Returning to that is unthinkable for a civilised society.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

Having 40 years in public service with wide experience working with a diverse spectrum of people, from Government Ministers, companies large and small, and individuals. I was Government Representative on 7 tripartite bodies, (Industry Training Boards) with senior industrialists, Trades Union General Secretaries and senior educationalists. I was Government Representative at 2 International Labour Organisation Conferences in Geneva. Progress was made by consensus, on all of these bodies. I am used to sitting on committees as chairman or member, conducting many interviews, speaking in public and some training including Quality Management.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I was my wife's carer for over 7 years with daily experience of health and care services. Since then I wanted to give something back. A few months ago 111 Service phoned saying that my neighbour, who is 81 and lives alone, had an uncontrollable nose bleed and would I take him to A & E? I still drive, so I did, but the request shook me into realising the problems the NHS faces. The idea to serve as a Governor came to me shortly after that, and I believe that I can make a valuable contribution.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

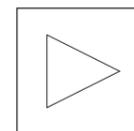
Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

CANDIDATES' ELECTION STATEMENTS

Election to the Council of Governors

Patient: Local

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Bill Payne



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I have been a patient at the BRI for almost 50 years and have always been well looked after. But in these difficult times the NHS needs friends even if it means being a critical friend. And at such times I have found it very hard to sit back and watch the services we all rely on diminish. Joining the Council of Governors seemed to me to be a positive way of getting involved in the work of the Trust and seeing that standards are maintained.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I was until last year a Bristol City Councillor representing the Ward in which I live and was recently made an Honorary Alderman. I bring the skills learnt as a Councillor to the Trust.

For several years I was Chair of Governors at the Bristol Hospital Education Service, during which time Ofsted gave the service an Outstanding inspection.

I am also Chair of a local group of The Haemophilia Society, a national charity providing support to people with a bleeding disorder.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

The NHS is continually portrayed as being in crisis with little mention made of the staff who work tirelessly, helping us when we most need them. Whilst I'm sure there are things with the NHS that need to change, I would like to join the Council and speak up for all the things the Trust is doing right and a voice for positive change.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: The Labour Party

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Stephen Rockey



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

For the past three years I have been an outpatient of the Bristol Royal Infirmary. Throughout this time I have continuously been impressed by the level of care, support and professionalism of all the doctors and staff that it has been my pleasure to come into contact with. Having received so much, becoming a governor would be my opportunity to give something back. Working with the other governors I would like to use my skills and experience to help shape and further improve the services offered by UHBT for the benefit of all patients and staff.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

- Experience and knowledge of how large public sector organisations run, having worked in local government and the civil service for fifteen years.

- Experience of working on several boards within local government and the voluntary sector, including as chair of Bristol's second largest youth project for three years.

- Experience of reviewing, developing and implementing policies and procedures, interrogating performance and financial data and engaging with customers and staff to improve services in response to their priorities, needs and ideas.

- Excellent leadership, negotiating, listening, oral and written communication skills.

- Ability to digest and understand complex reports and information.

- Commitment and passion for the delivery of high standards whilst ensuring the achievement of demanding objectives and targets.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: Labour

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

John Martin Sibley



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

Our NHS is precious, it is our Nation's pride and we all must play our part in protecting, preserving and improving our greatest single achievement. I recently had the opportunity to witness at first hand, how difficult and challenging it is to care for so many with such varied conditions. My mother, aged 89, was looked after in The BRI for 6 months because there were no nursing home places available. Through my visits I saw just how wonderful our doctors, nurses and ancillary staff are. Time and again they went above and beyond normal duties to care for my mother. I have become passionate about the care of older people, especially those with Dementia. I have recently worked with The BBC to bring the plight of these patients trapped unnecessarily in hospital to National attention. Because of the care my mother received I would like to support The Trust and becoming a Governor would enable me to give something

back to The Trust and also serve our community.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

In my working career, I have developed many skills through my role as a trade union negotiator, working with young offenders and most recently in pastoral work with young people in education. These skills are transferable to a Governors role.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

As a proud Bristolian, I know that The Trust is at the centre of life in this city for thousands of our citizens. It would be an honour to serve The Trust and this great city of Bristol if elected.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Tony Tanner



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I would like to become a Governor of the Trust once again for the following reasons.

Firstly, having been a former patient, I would like to give back some of my time and experience to enable the Trust to maintain and continue its good work.

Secondly, skills and experiences gained over four decades in a continuous working environment starting as an apprentice, managing a business, running my own business and finally working for Her Majesty's government. If I can improve the quality of care by sharing my experiences and applying skills I have obtained, then I hope to help design the future of healthcare in Bristol.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I have previously served as a Governor for 3 years at the UHB NHS. I also have a wide range of skills in communications, marketing, advertising, photography and print. I listen and I am not afraid to stand up and ask "Why".

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

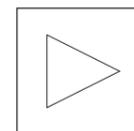
Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

CANDIDATES' ELECTION STATEMENTS

Election to the Council of Governors Carer of Patients under 16 years

Please read carefully before casting your vote.

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John Chablo



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

My son was diagnosed with Leukaemia when he was 8 years old, and received excellent ongoing treatment at the Childrens Hospital for the next three years, when he was declared to be in remission. We still attend regular clinics with him, so I do have a current insight into the workings of the UHBT as a patient/carer.

The hospital has provided great service to my family over this time, and I believe my experiences during this period will enable me to provide a reciprocal service which will help the Trust to grow even stronger.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I run my own local marketing business, so I'm experienced and aware of all the aspects required to enable a successful venture, and I'm able to make key decisions. I also feel this background will enable me to bring a different perspective on the role of governor, and will help me to provide a voice within the UHBT for the greater community.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I am really proud of the work done in all areas of the UHBT and the level of care it provides.

But everything can be made better.

I'm not putting myself forward as a candidate just to fill my time, I truly believe I can help make a difference if I was elected onto the board of governors, in helping drive the Trust forward over the next few years.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Lucas James



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I've always believed in the importance of everyone playing their part in society, according to their skills and interests. I'd relish the opportunity to represent the views of younger patients and carers to the Trust, to play a part in ensuring that the quality of care for which the NHS is known throughout the world continues, despite current financial constraints. Over the last fifteen years I've seen positive changes in the way health professionals (on all levels) work with young people and carers, and I'd love to be involved with ensuring that continues. I'd like the chance to use skills I've learnt through caring and advocating for my son to support the Trust moving forward.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

My eldest child has a unique genetic condition that has led us to make extensive use of many of the departments at the Children's Hospital, and that lived experience continues to provide me with a valuable perspective of the Trust and the NHS as a whole.

I've volunteered for Bristol Parent Carers and Carers Support Centre for several years, and during that time have been involved with recruitment for several Bristol City Council posts as well as sitting on various Steering Groups, Advisory Boards and Reference Groups. This has taught me a great deal about working alongside others in order to improve services and ensure transparency.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I worked for BCC for ten years within Safeguarding (AKA child protection) and have Honours degrees in both Law and Health and Social Care, as well as postgraduate diplomas.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Graham Papworth



Why do you wish to carry out this role?

As a parent of a 13-year-old boy and a 10-year-old girl who have been patients at the hospital, I have been a user of the Trust as a parent. I have also been there as a visitor to support their friends and the children of our friends.

If there is anything I could do to help make a great service, albeit one under pressure, an even better experience for its patients under 16, their carers and its staff, I'd be happy to contribute.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

As a Cub Scout leader, I'm used to working with young people and seeing things from their perspective.

I deal with staff issues and challenges at work on a day-to-day basis and would like to think I could apply that expertise to the benefit of this role.

I have worked as a Charity Trustee at the SOFA Project and FareShare and work as a Company director. Therefore, I am used to interacting, working with and challenging other directors and non-executive directors, and holding them to account for their performance.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I hope to be an effective governor supporting young patients and their carers by bringing their views and experience of this part of the health service to the board of directors and non-executive directors.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Candidate Statements – Staff Governor: Nursing and Midwifery



Jamie Cargill

Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I have always had a strong belief in the NHS but recognise that it faces enormous challenges at the present time. The greatest asset to the NHS is the staff that works for it and we must do all we can to ensure they are supported to deliver the best possible care. UHBristol has employed me since 2004 when I started working as a senior staff nurse as part of the paediatric cancer service based in the Children's Hospital. During my time in Bristol I have had the opportunity to work in ward management, specialist nursing, education and most recently as a lead nurse for a regional service. I believe the experience I have working across both child and adult services gives me added insight into the current challenges faced by health care professionals.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

My professional career has given me exposure to both NHS and voluntary sectors, acute & community care services alongside educational and research organisations. I have excellent communication skills that include listening and teaching skills, which I believe will be important for this role. In many of the roles I have undertaken to date has been the need to advocate for those who are often hardest to hear. I believe that with these skills I can act as a conduit to make sure staff views and concerns are appropriately listened too and acted upon.



Jo Roberts

Why do you wish to carry out this role?

In recent times I have become aware of numerous issues which have eroded nursing staff morale, caused frustration in the work place and ultimately resulted in understaffing and then the consequence of employment of agency personnel. I am keen that these matters are recognized by those in the highest positions in the trust and that the governors are fully informed about the problems facing the nurses. One example would be the inequitable payments made to nurses undertaking bank shift work. Another would be the effect on nurses understaffing on wards which results in excessive, continuous work without the opportunity for refreshment.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I have extensive experience gained from working in the trust since 1988 in acute general medical wards as a staff nurse and through undertaking bank shifts in various speciality wards throughout the BRI, the General and ST Michaels. In the last two years I have developed an insight into the academic responsibilities of the trust through my work as a research nurse in cardiology. In these positions I have contributed to the development of programmes and protocols and have supervised junior colleagues including university students. I feel confident to formulate discussion documents and to speak about submissions at meetings. I have also been a school governor and contributed to developing admission policies.

Candidate Statements – Staff Governor: Non-clinical



Barry Lane

Why do you wish to carry out this role?

As an employee of UHB and a recipient of NHS services personally and for my family, I am passionate about ensuring that we are able to deliver the most appropriate services as efficiently as possible.

As Business Manager within Avon Partnership Occupational Health Service (APOHS) I have personal experience and insight into the challenges faced by the staff and Trust in delivering the increasing demand for services while simultaneously producing efficiency savings.

I fervently believe that staff at every level in the organisation needs to be fully supported in a culture that is open and lives up to Trust values in order to deliver the level and volume of care that is required. I believe that I can support the delivery of this ambition if elected as a staff governor.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I have extensive experience of working in senior management roles with, and as part of, commercial and not-for-profit organisations as well as the NHS, culminating in my current role leading APOHS. This partnership is hosted by UHB and partner with NBT and Weston Hospital, as well as providing services to other NHS and non-NHS organisations locally. This has provided an insight into shared current challenges within the NHS and possible best practice solutions. Having this experience of delivering a successful partnership across these Trusts, I believe is likely to be valuable as UHB works increasingly closer with health and social care organisations across the area.



Neil Morris

Why do you wish to carry out this role?

The most interesting and exciting element of being a Governor is ensuring accountability for decisions by our Board. During my time within this Trust I feel that I have developed a good working relationship with many people throughout the Trust and would look forward to engaging with people and taking their views forward to the board, representing the views and opinions of staff members to improve local decisions and accountability.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I feel that the biggest quality which I would bring to the role is the positivity and energy to get involved to the fullest extent possible, ensuring that you get the biggest bang for your vote. Also I have warmth, friendliness and desire which will keep me in touch with those who I represent and ensure that progress is made and consensus achieved. My strongest skills which I will bring over from my "day job" is my attention to detail and integrity to challenge that which needs to be and encourage what is best about this Trust.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

I am really and genuinely interested in the workings of this Trust and enjoy getting involved in all sorts of staff engagement. I would work hard, represent you to the best of my ability, and be open and engaged about the great work which is done by the Governors.

As a Staff Governor I look forward to the opportunity to have a positive input into the Trust I support and work for.



Jane Westhead

Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I enjoy my role as Support Medical Secretary having worked in 13 different teams throughout the Trust. I take an active interest in how and why decisions are made and how these decisions impact on staff and patients. Patient care must be top priority but our staff need to be supported to provide good quality patient care and more efficient ways of working can help. I'm interested in how technology and innovative ways of working can support us to work more efficiently and provide flexible working conditions. I am keen to promote sharing of good practice. I support the idea of team working across the Trust. I believe systems are already in place to support this and can be developed further. I believe good decision making needs to take into account evidence but also acknowledge how people feel. You win by listening.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I am a trustee with a charity called 'Up Our Street'. We encourage local residents to develop and participate in projects which benefit the local community. As a trustee, I have a say in decisions such as how money is spent and the appointment of new staff. I helped set up a group to successfully redevelop our local park. It is important to me that residents are given an opportunity to express their views and become involved in the way the local area is governed. I encourage people to move away from an 'us and them' viewpoint and think about how we can work better together.



Sharon Woma

Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I hope to become one of the many people who give their time and energy towards building a great organisation. As a staff governor I would see myself becoming an advocate for my colleagues and champion the ethos 'success for all' in the context of delivering the best patient care possible.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

I believe all staff irrespective of grade has a great deal to contribute towards the improvement, growth and change necessary to see UHB become an even greater organisation. Because my background is not corporate I believe the agility, creativity and mindset gained in a small business environment and through entrepreneurship would enable me to bring something fresh to the table. I have a keen interest in social responsibility, mentoring, sustainability and inclusion and diversity and believe my most valuable asset is a creative mind developed following my passions. Previous roles have included running my own network for women in business, providing mentoring/training for entrepreneurs from disadvantaged communities and business planning.

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

My interests and volunteer activities reflect my desire to see my community (which includes my workplace) prosper. I am a member of the Bame network at UHB, a volunteer business mentor at Princes Trust, a Bristol pound community champion and more recently part of herbalist without borders who provide herbal remedies to people who cannot access free healthcare. I enjoy networking and bringing people together with common goals for positive action.



Mily Yogananth

Why do you wish to carry out this role?

I was elected staff governor last June and kept my goals simple but realistic. When something is not right, I positively question, but understand 'all best intentions are not always possible'. When something is ideal, I appreciate and support.

Individual opinions cannot be filtered as collective but be heard across multiple channels. However, most important challenge for me is, with so much noise, is anyone actually listening to you?

Organised representation is one game in town that can fetch us that voice and you will find that in my candidature.

What skills do you feel you bring to the role?

Listening to staff is not about defusing dissent or dealing with worst-case scenarios. From suggestion boxes to engagement surveys, there is history of dialogue with staff. The key skills I bring are 'staying interested'; create opportunities to build consensual and a productive work environment.

My smile, approach and personality is my strength that promotes your view and offers alternative voice for boardroom discussions. The first thing that flashes through my mind is probably the opposite to what flashes through most of others' minds'. I think of staff I represent and You are my agenda

Any other information that you feel is relevant?

Organisations give an illusion that staff can speak to them, but then people talk around water coolers. UHBristol makes room for dissent and give our perspectives through staff governorship. I wish to continue as staff governor as I feel quite capable and believe that I could do more. I have been totally committed and also innovative in the short time I have been in this role