

## Our Forward Plans (2020/21) – Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the purpose of a forward plan?

The purpose of the forward plan for our NHS Foundation Trust is to set out, in the context of our long-term vision and strategic aims, our operational delivery plans for the coming year. Specifically, it describes for the next 12 month period, how we plan to deliver all of our targets and aspirations in relation to activity, quality, safety and performance and any service developments, all within budget.

You can find more details about our vision and strategic aims under 'The Trust' section of our website:

<https://mft.nhs.uk/the-trust/>

### Where can I find out more information about the Trust's Forward Plans?

Please see 'Our Forward Plans' webpage which provides more information alongside a copy of our current plan: <https://mft.nhs.uk/the-trust/governors-and-members/our-forward-plans/>

### What areas do the plans cover?

As part of our planning process, each year our Hospitals, Managed Clinical Services and Corporate Departments set out their key priorities, which are their 'must dos' for the coming year and how they are going to be achieved. The plans cover improving the quality of care and patient experience, developing our services and our staff, extending our research studies and achieving financial stability.

### Who is involved in producing the plans?

Staff from across our Hospitals, Managed Clinical Services and Corporate Departments all help to develop our plans. We work with external stakeholders including partner organisations to ensure that our plans are aligned. We also seek the views of our patients, their families and the wider community; by understanding their views we can shape our services so that they better meet the needs of all the people that we serve.

### How can Members/Public share their views and contribute to the plans?

In order to balance the interests of patients, the local community and other stakeholders, we seek the views of our Members (public and staff) and the wider general public in a number of ways including through:

- Articles in our MFT Members' Newsletter
- Surveys and questionnaires
- The opportunity to contact Governors – details are on our 'Meet the Governors' webpage at: <https://mft.nhs.uk/the-trust/governors-and-members/council-of-governors/>
- Inviting the views and opinions of our Members and the public during Membership Events via direct engagement with Governors
- Contacting the Foundation Trust Membership Office:  
Post: Freepost Plus RRBR-AXBU-XTZT, MFT NHS Trust, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9WL  
Phone: 0161 276 8661 (Office hours 9.00am -5.00pm, Monday to Friday)  
E-mail: [ft.enquiries@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:ft.enquiries@mft.nhs.uk)

Each year we undertake a specific exercise to ask our members and the public which areas they feel that we should prioritise in the coming year. The responses received are analysed and fed into our planning process. Look out for this involvement opportunity via 'Our Forward Plans' webpage <https://mft.nhs.uk/the-trust/governors-and-members/our-forward-plans/> - process usually starts around late Summer/early Autumn each year.