

Young People – Make a Difference as a Governor of our NHS Foundation Trust

Information about our Council of Governors

As an NHS Foundation Trust with a large Children's Hospital, we are conscious that young people need a way to articulate their views with young people being able to become more involved by standing for election as a Governor. Young people are also provided the opportunity of joining the Trust's Youth Forum and Volunteer Services from which individuals are nominated to join our Council of Governors.

Our Council of Governors has 32 Elected and Nominated Governors which includes:

- 17 Governors who are elected from and by the public (public members)
- 7 Governors who are elected from and by our staff (staff members)
- 8 Governors who are nominated from our partner organisations including one Youth Governor and one Volunteer Governor.

The Group Chairman of our Board of Directors (people responsible for running our hospitals), is also Chairman of our Council of Governors.

What does the role of Governor involve?

Under UK law (Health & Social Care Act – 2012), the main duties of Governors (similar to a Governor found in schools and colleges) are defined as follows:

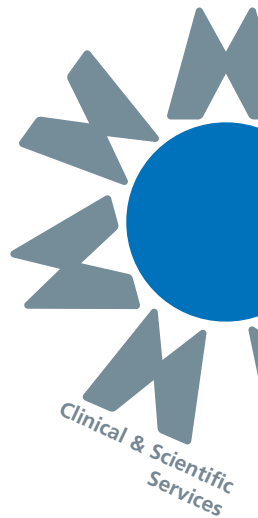
- To hold the Non-Executive Directors individually and together to account for how well the Board of Directors perform, and
- To represent the views and interests of members of the public, staff and other organisations with an interest in health.

Governors represent the interests of the public, staff and other interested organisations, in the following ways:

- Collecting the views and opinions of people in relation to how our organisation plans for the future including its main objectives, health priorities and what our services will look like in 5-10 years time.
- Letting everyone know of the Trust's future plans and the reasons for it.
- Representing the views of patients, carers, the public, other interested organisations and staff to our Board of Directors.
- Creating opportunities for engaging the wider community, including minority groups, in our activities, plans and services.

Governors undertake their key duties at formal Council of Governors' Meetings which meet four times a year alongside attending our Annual Members' Meeting (usually held September each year). Governors are also invited to participate in other Governor Groups.

Governors receive training for their role, and are supported by our Foundation Trust Membership Office in representing and communicating with members (public, staff and other interested organisations). Governors are unpaid but can claim money back for such things as travel when carrying out their duties.



University Dental
Hospital of Manchester





How do I become a Governor?

In order to stand for election as a Governor, you do need to be 16 years of age or older and a member of our NHS Foundation Trust with application forms either being completed on-line (<https://secure.membra.co.uk/MFTApplicationForm/>) or can be requested from our Foundation Trust Membership Office (contact details below).

You do not need specific qualifications for the role, other than an interest in healthcare and a commitment to representing members (public, staff and other interested organisations) to the best of your ability. A comprehensive induction programme and ongoing training are provided for Governors once they have been elected/nominated.

We are committed to equality, diversity and inclusion of staff, patients, carers, families, members and the communities that we serve and as part of this commitment, we aim to have a Council of Governors whose membership reflects our diverse communities. We believe that having a broad and representative membership community, and a Council of Governors directly elected from and by our members, is key to working together to better meet the needs of our patients and our local communities.

If you are interested in standing for election as a Governor, visit our Governor Election webpage (<https://mft.nhs.uk/the-trust/governors-and-members/elections/>) or contact our Foundation Trust Membership Office (contact details below). They will be able to give you details of when the next Governor elections will be held, and the process for standing as a candidate.



How do I contact a Governor?

If you would like to contact a Governor to share any views or comments or if you have any ideas and suggestions about our NHS Foundation Trust, you can contact the Foundation Trust Membership Office (details below).



Contacting the Foundation Trust Membership Office

The Foundation Trust Membership Office will be able to assist if you have any queries in relation to Membership or Governors and can be contacted via the following methods:

- By Post: Freepost Plus RRBR-AXBU-XTZT, MFT NHS Trust, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9WL
- By Phone: 0161 276 8661 (office hours 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday; answering machine outside these hours)
- By E-mail: ft.enquiries@mft.nhs.uk

Translation and Interpretation Service

Do you have difficulty speaking or understanding English?

আপনি কি ইংরেজীতে বুঝতে কিংবা বুঝাতে পেরেছেন ? (BENGALI)

क्या आपको अंग्रेजी बोलने या समझने में कठिनाई है ? (HINDI)

તમે ભાષા કારણે વાતચીત કરવામાં મુશ્કેલી આવે છે ? (GUJARATI)

ਕਿ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅੰਗ੍ਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਬੋਲਣ ਨਾਂ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਦਿੱਕਤ ਹੈ ? (PUNJABI)

Miyey ku adagtahay inaad ku hadasho Ingriisida aad sahamto (SOMALI)

هل لديك مشاكل في فهم اوالتكلم باللغة الانجليزية ؟ (ARABIC)

你有困難講英語或明白英語嗎 ? (CANTONESE)

کیا آپکو انگریزی سمجھنے اور سمجھانے میں دقت پیش آتی ہے ؟ (URDU)

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