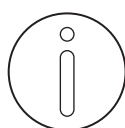


CANDIDATES' ELECTION STATEMENTS

Election to the Council of Governors
Public: Manchester

Please read carefully before casting your vote.



INFORMATION

Neither Civica Election Services nor the Trust has corrected or edited the candidates' statements in any way. The views expressed on the following pages are those of the candidates only, and similarly the statements of fact and assertions expressed are made solely by the candidates and have not been validated by the Trust.

If you require these election statements in large print or in another language, please contact Ciara Hutchinson at CES on 020 8889 9203, or via email at ciara.hutchinson@cesvotes.com

Aysha Ahmad



I'm a Manchester resident, a patient at MFT, and someone who has spent their career working in healthcare. I'm standing to be a Public Governor because I care about what really matters to people: being heard, treated with dignity, and getting the care they need when they need it.

My work in the NHS and wider health sector has focused on improving patient experience and supporting change that makes services more accessible and inclusive. I've helped bring in digital tools and new ways of working, but I've always believed that real improvement starts with listening to people and understanding their lived experiences.

As a woman from a British Asian background, I know how important it is to feel represented in the systems that serve us. I've worked with local communities to help people from all backgrounds have a stronger voice in their care. That matters to me deeply.

The role of a Public Governor is to represent the views of patients, families, and communities and to make sure decisions reflect their needs. If elected, I will listen carefully, ask the right questions, and speak up on behalf of the people MFT serves.

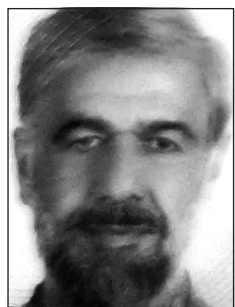
Thank you for taking the time to read my statement, and I hope I can earn your support.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Dr Mahmoud K. Alavi



I am honored to be nominated for the position of Governor at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust.

As a retired academic in the fields of culture and communications, and a long-standing social activist, I have always been committed to community wellbeing, social inclusion, and equity in public services.

Throughout my career, I have worked closely with diverse communities, promoting understanding, access, and representation. I believe these values align deeply with the NHS's mission to serve all people with compassion, dignity, and fairness.

Now retired, I am eager to give back by using my experience, knowledge, and energy to support the Trust in its vital work. I am particularly interested in ensuring that the voices of patients, carers, and underrepresented groups are heard in decision-making processes.

As someone who has lived and worked in this area for 22 years, I care deeply about the wellbeing of our neighborhoods and the health services that support them.

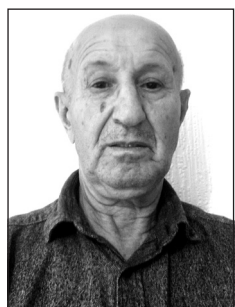
Serving as a Governor would allow me to continue contributing meaningfully to the community, ensuring that the Trust remains responsive, transparent, and accountable to the people it serves.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Abbas Ali



Information not provided.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: Labour

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Mandy Ali

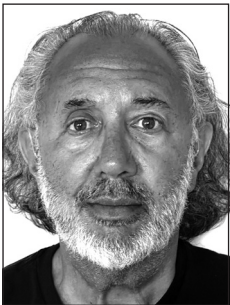


Working at CanSurviveUK, a community charity, I've been able to speak to patients about their experiences receiving care and treatment from the NHS. It consisted of many positives like its links to support groups such as Mind to help with mental health and understanding different patient priorities. As recently, I was involved in a texture tasting session, so the NHS can continue to cater for all needs. There are also areas of improvement that could drive the NHS to be something even better. Unfortunately, some patients endured discrimination and that ignited me to make change towards it. So I started learning BSL, which I hope to use as medical student and future doctor to reach a variety of groups. Now I have the opportunity, to present these and other issues to a larger audience, where change can be granted, alongside other public governors. I have experience advocating for my school body and most recently my age group, in the Manchester Youth Council for Post-16 education as a result, I have little doubt I won't be able to successfully do it here. My close work with the charity, means I'll be able to communicate greater concerns members of the public have and this allows for closer and more guided conversations about what we can do to enhance the system. Not just the charity, but as an active MFT volunteer, I have weekly opportunities to speak to service users for changes they'd like to see in their services.

Declaration of Interests:
Political Party: None
Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Dr Ivan Benett

Standing for re-election



I have completed my first term as a Governor. Now, as Lead Governor, I believe I have made significant changes to better hold the Manchester Foundation Trust (MFT) Board to account.

Governors have two main roles, as well as some statutory functions, like the appointing Chair and Non-Executive Directors (NEDs).

The first is to be a voice for the people of Manchester, and the patients and members of MFT. I have promoted better access to patient groups and we are in the process of developing closer links to better understand their concerns and expectations.

Secondly, we seek assurance that the MFT Board, through the NEDs, is making progress on its strategy, and providing safe, effective care for patients. Governors are now better placed to challenge and interact constructively with the Trust Chair and NEDs about our concerns. We have improved the interactions of Governors and NEDs. We have supported the Trust's work on a patient focused culture, with its emphasis on care and compassion, supporting excellence and a learning environment, and the wellbeing of 'our people', the workforce.

We find ourselves at a time of momentous change. The new 10 year plan will revolutionise how the Trust works. Also, MFT Governors, will also be appointing a new Chair and several NEDs in the coming year. Continuity and leadership will be critical to achieving the best outcomes.

I believe I provide that continuity, and have demonstrated the leadership necessary to see the transition through to the next phase of MFT.

Declaration of Interests:
Political Party: Labour
Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

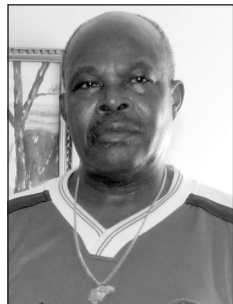
Ivan Benett: Attendance during current 1st Term of Office at MFT (3-year period: September 2022 – current date)

2022	2023				2024					2025			Total
23 rd Nov	8 th Feb	2 nd May	12 th July	22 nd Nov	21 st Feb	14 th May	24 th July	20 th Nov	17 th Dec	19 th Feb	14 th May	23 rd July	
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓= 12/13 attendances

Manchester Public Constituency

Key = ✓ - Attended
X – Did Not Attend

Yohanna John Bitrus



I am very passionate about patient care and their well-being since childhood. I attended nursing preliminary training school in Kano Nigeria after my primary school education, but left as I found out that I could not study medicine because I did not attend secondary school, college to read double science, biology, physics and mathematics.

I studied anatomy and physiology of human body for six months. I am very fascinated to read medical journals and watch critical accident and emergency programme on Channel 5.

I would like to be involved to give my objective, unbiased views and opinions on patients safety, care and support when there would be a meeting of elected public and staff meetings.

I trained as an electrical and electronic engineering at the then the Manchester Polytechnic, Manchester, now called Manchester Metropolitan University from 1977 to 1981.

I would like to be part of the already achieved progress of the Manchester National Health Service Trust to suggest some views to take the Trust to the next level, if, elected.

I speak Hausa one of Nigeria's languages fluently and I write and speak French fluently as I lived in France for seven years. These two languages might become useful to the Manchester Trust.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Jake Buckingham



Hello,

My name is Jake Buckingham and I am a professional airline pilot living in Manchester. Myself and my family have been reliant on NHS care for as long as I can remember, including in 2011 when my father almost lost his life in a motorcycle accident. This, and other personal and family based interactions with our Health Service, have made me passionate about the success, survival and future of the NHS.

I worked briefly as a COVID-19 vaccinator during my time away from flying in the pandemic and saw first hand how professional and dedicated the full time NHS staff around me were. It inspired me to learn more about our NHS and educate myself in its struggles and successes as an

institution.

Looking forward, I believe the NHS and especially our Manchester University Foundation Trust must modernise and embrace progress and change in order to continue to deliver the care we all want within the constraints of a tough financial picture nationally. It is my view that with the help of digitisation, integration of AI and also a lot of work on recruitment and retention, we can help the service be better at helping us when we need it the most.

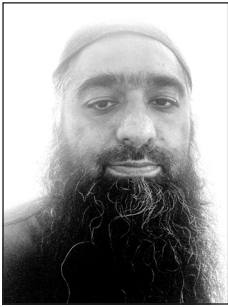
As a member of the general public, it would be an honour and a privilege to assume a role which would allow me to oversee such progress and improvement alongside our dedicated health professionals.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Hamad Chaudhry



I would like to insure the continuation of the NHS keeping it in the interest of the public and not the private companies and/or politics.

I intend to encourage more research into the most appropriate medicine / treatment / and estimated timing for birth for minorities instead of a time table that usually is not accurate or in accordance to that demograph / ethnic minority. This will make treatment better for them according to timings suitable to their natural build and nature of their body.

I would like patients to know what they will go through for treatment before they are put through it r arrive to the hospital to ensure they can have their religious needs fulfilled without burdening the staff.

Religious minorities can be treated better in comfort as removing the discomfort will help their treatment.

Women have a right to ask for another woman and should not be disencouraged in doing so just like a man is not disencouraged from doing so.

Declaration of Interests:
Political Party: None
Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Mohammed Choudhary



At the heart of my values are compassion, care, and equality for all. I consider myself to be caring, conscientious, and open-minded—qualities that are vital for a Governor role. I believe I can enrich the Board through both my lived experience and professional background in business and mental health research. I hold a BA (Joint Honours) in Economics and History, and an MA in Econometrics. I have over 40 years of experience as a director, leading technology-related projects and driving organisational change. Key highlights of my experience include:

- Successfully managing software and digital projects with Manchester, Stockport, and Sheffield councils and EU stakeholders.
- Participated in several EU cross-border innovation projects, including CROSS, STORM, SIMPATICO, and the CityVerve, in Manchester.
- Collaborating with CAMHS Manchester to evaluate the effectiveness of Augmented Reality games in supporting young people who self-harm.
- Member of EU CERIS group, which focuses on risk reduction and resilience strategies.
- I mentor new and existing entrepreneurs and businesses for GM Business Hub.
- I am a enterprise advisor in colleges to encourage apprenticeships and entrepreneurs. I am particularly keen to support good governance that keeps patients at the heart of healthcare, while promoting a culture that values and empowers staff. My experience across sectors gives me a broad and balanced perspective, which I believe will add value to the Trust Board. I welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Trust’s mission, ensuring that all patients receive the care, dignity, and respect they deserve.

Declaration of Interests:
Political Party: Labour Party
Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Gareth Fallows



When everything is a challenge, the phrase people use to portray empathy is “well, at least you have got your health.” There are so many right and wrong things with this phrase.

Manchester is a vibrant City with a wide ranging community of many backgrounds, full of diversity and limitless intersectionality across cultures, ethnicity, age, sexuality and a whole lot more.

I would relish the challenge of being a governor for our NHS Trust, representing Manchester’s community of all backgrounds, listening and transforming the Trust for the future to ensure that Manchester has a thoughtful and truly representative guide that considers individualism and the importance of person-centred care in what seems a very challenging backdrop for all, whether you are a lone parent, student, member of the BME community, LGBTQ+, male or female or a visitor to our wonderful City.

Many are experiencing mental and physical health challenges and comorbidity in between as a result of health inequalities, child poverty and their voice not being heard.

I would use my skills in education, management, regeneration and health to lead and govern, delivering the NHS Long Term Plan, preserving the NHS in Manchester for futures to come.

Declaration of Interests:
Political Party: None
Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Dr Gillian Hoad-Reddick

Standing for re-election



Having been a governor for the past 5 years I am keen to continue as I found the meetings so interesting and rewarding.

I have always worked for the NHS as a dental lecturer and understand the type of problems which NHS workers face. As a governor I tried to focus on staff experience as any hospital is so dependent on its staff; if staff feel listened to and well looked after they are better able to look after their patients with patience and understanding.

The Governors meetings are organized to give us plenty of information so that we can feel up to date; also we visit hospitals and are encouraged to ask questions. I have been very impressed by the time we have been given to question board members and get to know them so that we can be up to date.

The NHS faces several problems in the next few years. The increasing size of the elderly population, many of whom suffer from multiple ailments, means not only increased costs but also pressure on hospital services and beds. Board members need support in their decision making and I believe that a knowledgeable group of governors supporting them is very important in helping them to undertake their role.

I very much hope I will be reelected so that I can continue in the role.

Declaration of Interests:
Political Party: None
Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

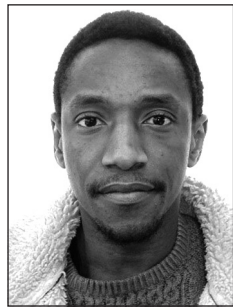
Gill Hoad-Reddick: Attendance during current 1st Term of Office at MFT (3-year period: September 2022 – current date)

2022	2023				2024					2025			Total
23 rd Nov	8 th Feb	2 nd May	12 th July	22 nd Nov	21 st Feb	14 th May	24 th July	20 th Nov	17 th Dec	19 th Feb	14 th May	23 rd July	
✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	✓= 8/13 attendances

Manchester Public Constituency

Key = ✓ - Attended
 x – Did Not Attend

Rhys John-Salmon



As a Lead Disability Adviser at the University of Manchester and a lifelong advocate for inclusive practice, I am standing for election to bring a passionate, informed, and community-rooted voice to the NHS Trust. My career has been dedicated to improving outcomes for underrepresented groups, particularly those with disabilities and neurodivergent profiles, through policy development, service innovation, and compassionate leadership.

I bring over a decade of experience in health promotion, safeguarding, and disability support across higher education institutions. I have led award-winning services, developed inclusive training programmes, and contributed to national initiatives on accessibility and mental health. My work is grounded in lived experience as a first-generation gay Black man from a low-income background, and I understand the systemic barriers our communities face.

I will engage members through transparent communication, active listening, and co-production, ensuring their voices shape decisions. I am particularly interested in mental health, autism support, and equitable access to care—areas where I have led transformative change.

My relationship with the Trust is both professional and personal, having collaborated with NHS services to support students in crisis and advocated for joined-up care pathways. I believe in a Trust that listens, learns, and leads with compassion.

I ask for your vote so I can champion inclusive, accountable, and forward-thinking healthcare for all.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Ian Jones



I was born in Wythenshawe hospital, as were my children, and have lived in Manchester all my life.

From the illnesses of close family members, to the birth of my children, the level of care my family has received from the Manchester Foundation Trust hospitals has been absolutely superb, particularly when there were complications during the birth of my son.

My wider family continue to live locally and we are all active in our local communities, something I want to instil in my own children as they grow up.

By profession, I work in international finance and have specialised in the healthcare finance sector, providing solutions for hospitals, medical diagnostics companies, life sciences and medical research entities worldwide. I have worked closely with equipment manufacturers and medical professionals to improve critical cashflow, enabling positive outcomes for patients.

I want to use my knowledge and experiences to help improve our local communities and work with them to guide such a critical service provider as the NHS. I believe we have a duty to make a better and healthier world for our children to grow up in.

I truly believe that pressure on hospitals and the NHS can often be relieved by a number of measures: education in local communities; regular contact and engagement with those communities, not just when they need help; and working across different sectors to identify what early prevention measures can be taken.

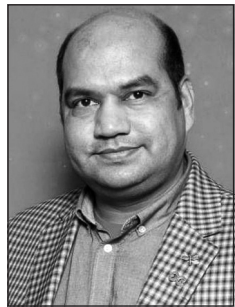
Thank you for considering my application for Governor at MFT.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: Conservative

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Mohammad Khairuzzaman



I would like to be a Governor to be a strong voice for the community and help ensure that our NHS services remain inclusive, accountable, and accessible to everyone—especially those from underrepresented and marginalised backgrounds.

Through my voluntary work and community leadership over the past decade, I have witnessed how inequalities in healthcare can negatively affect people's lives. I have led food bank projects, organised health awareness campaigns, and worked closely with the NHS during the COVID-19 pandemic to promote vaccination and health access in ethnic minority communities. These experiences have shown me how important it is for local voices to be heard in healthcare decision-making.

I currently serve as a school governor and as the BAME officer for Manchester Gorton CLP. I also lead a registered charity that supports vulnerable families across Greater Manchester. These roles have strengthened my understanding of governance, accountability, and the importance of listening to community concerns.

As a Governor, I would use my skills and experience to:

Represent patients and the public with fairness and integrity
Promote equality, diversity, and inclusion within the Trust
Support continuous improvement in health services
Help ensure openness and transparency in decision-making

I am passionate about our NHS and its values. I want to contribute positively to its future and help make sure it works for everyone.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: Labour Party

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Kuan-Cheng Liu



For many of us, the NHS is our greatest gift. It gives us opportunity, community, and new leases of life. Yet for some of us, this care unfortunately does not arrive when we need it, or in the form we need it in.

As a medical student, I am privileged to witness the impact the NHS has on so many of our lives first hand. The NHS is ever evolving along with our advancements in medicine, and as such, it is disheartening to see some of us feel that the NHS does not address the unique needs of all of us. In particular, I see too often the needs of our elderly, women, neurodiverse people, ethnic minorities, and the LGBTQ+ community left unaddressed under the belief that a "one size fits all" approach to medicine is sufficient. The NHS has unfortunately failed to represent all of us; if it does not represent us all, then it represents none of us.

Therefore, as a governor, I will work to ensure that the NHS moving forwards will actively consider the impact and requirements of those who are too often left unheard. I will help guide policy making by ensuring that all of our ideas are heard. Together, we will build the NHS of the future; an NHS which ensures all of us are given equal voice, credibility, and care: an NHS which will represent you.

In a period of uncertainty, the NHS should be a place of certainty; for all of us.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Xana Miller



I have lived within Manchester for 27 years and worked across the North, Central and South wards of the city. Member of the Royal College of Nursing, BeInvolved and Healthwatch Manchester. As an Social Prescriber I am very passionate about Public health, patient care and will use my knowledge and experiences to support patients, carers and families. Officer roles for Greater Manchester Combined Authority includes as a former Deputy Registrar based within Saint Mary's Hospital, North Manchester Hospital and Wythenshawe Hospital, Former Chair of the Parents, Teachers Association - Primary School, ESOL Teacher - Manchester Adult Education Service, Radio Presenter ALLFM 96.9 fm, Assistant Manager - Homelessness Direct Access Hostel. Governance experience will be put to great use as part of Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust's Governor role.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

David Moore



I wish to become a governor purely for the following reasons:-

- 1) As I enter retirement, still with elder relatives alive, in other parts of the country. I have seen 1st hand the way other NHS Trusts services and facilities operate compared to this Trust.
- 2) Also using the system I know 1st hand, what I think is good and those that can do with improvement. I think I can be proactive to make a difference and encourage change where change is due.
- 3) I am an excellent problem solver with a great aptitude to see solutions. Hopefully I can also be sympathetic to members of the public who have problems and be able to make their expectations lower if they are demanding unattainable or impossible outcomes.

I am not one for making long and winded speeches as an ex Scuba Driver Instructor, instructing budding instructors in presentation. I believe in positive interaction. These processes, intro, subject material, reinforcement and finally understanding of topic in discussion.

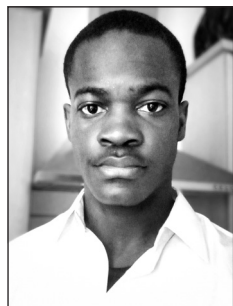
So finally, I don't mince my words, I feel I can bring a dynamic person yo this role if voted by other public members

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Jonathan Paul



As someone who has experienced first hand the effects of the strengths and shortcomings of healthcare systems, I am deeply committed to fighting for the needs of patients, families and staff within Manchester NHS Foundation Trust. Born in Nigeria, raised in Spain, and now proudly based in the UK, I come with a global perspective and a local voice. I have experienced the NHS as a patient and as an aspiring physician with a dream to hopefully become a neurosurgeon and improve access to specialised care in underserving communities like my home country.

My journey has given me resilience, cultural empathy and the importance of inclusive governance. I led a local youth initiative promoting the importance of environmental awareness and how it links to public health and I have worked across education systems in three countries, adapting quickly while maintaining academic excellence. My experience with the NHS is not limited to

only treatments but also through volunteering and medical work experiences that deepened my understanding of frontline challenges.

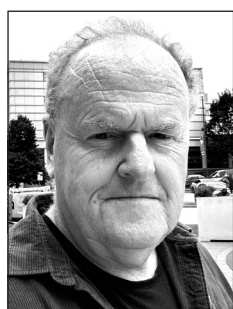
I believe governors must listen, advocate and act. I will be a strong, thoughtful voice for the diverse population our Trust serves particularly young people, ethnic minorities, and those who often feel unseen in systems of power. I will work to ensure transparency, accountability, and our continuous improvement across services. Manchester deserves governors who are not only passionate, but personally invested in the future of healthcare. I am ready to serve, and I respectfully ask for your support.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Peter Shilton Godwin



There can be no more important foundation for a good life than good health at all stages of life.

My motivation for seeking this role is, through the Council of Governors to promote an integrated GM Wide health service that not only treats patients but also supports sustainable, healthy living so citizens can benefit from the opportunities that a great city like Manchester offers.

The Trust must live up to its objectives of

- Supporting people to live healthy lives in the community with fewer people needing to use healthcare services in an unplanned way.
- Working with others to address the biggest causes of illness and health inequalities reducing the need for healthcare services.

The health system must also play its part to tackle climate change that will in due course affect all of us with detrimental health effects from amongst other things, extreme weather and in particular rising temperatures.

Patient data will play an exciting and increasing part in diagnosing and treating illness and as a public representative I will support its use in a way that respects the rights of individuals to informed consent in the control and use of their own data.

I've a wide range of work and voluntary experience, a strong interest in good governance gained as a trustee and director and a commitment to my community expressed in voluntary roles. This wide ranging, lived experience will support my effectiveness in this challenging role

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: Labour Party

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

William Simoes



Information not provided.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Gererd T-J Butler



My interest in the health service and making better I was a ppi member of the Manchester mental health and social care NHS trust where I served a year as vice chair and chair I'm my career I work as a chef

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: Labour

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None



Manchester University
NHS Foundation Trust