

Deputy Director of Nursing Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group

- Royal Manchester Children's Hospital
- Saint Mary's Hospital
- Manchester Royal Eye Hospital

Candidate Information Pack

March 2026



Contents

Welcome from Ursula Martin Clinical Group Chief Executive - Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group	3
The Greater Manchester System	4
About MFT	5
Overview of our Services	6
Our Trust Strategy 2024-2029	7
Our Values & Mission	8
Strategic Development and Opportunities	9
MFT Leadership	10
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion	11
MFT Operating Model	12
Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group	13-14
Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group Senior Leadership Team Structure	15
Role Description and Person Specification	16-33
How to Apply	34-36
Contact Details	37

Welcome from Karen Vaughan, Director of Nursing, Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group

I am delighted to share this opportunity with you, as we search for our next Deputy Director of Nursing for our Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT).

MFT is one of the largest NHS Trusts in England, with a turnover of £3.0bn, providing exceptional integrated health and social care services to over 1 million patients annually.

Comprising of our Royal Manchester Children's Hospital (RMCH), Saint Mary's Hospital (SMMCS), and Manchester Royal Eye Hospital (MREH), our Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group brings together three of our renowned hospitals, delivering a range of local and specialist services for people across Greater Manchester, nationally and internationally. Around 6,500 staff work across these hospitals which have a combined budget of over £600m. Each hospital has an active, well-regarded programme of research and innovation.

As the Deputy Director of Nursing, it is a huge privilege to be part of the Trust Leadership Team for one of the largest family of hospitals and community organisations in the country, working alongside some of the greatest talent in the NHS. It is in this context that MFT is seen as an organisation of national significance.

We have circa 16,400 nurses, midwives, allied health professionals and nursing and maternity support workers who the Chief Nursing Officer, Deputy Chief Nurse and Directors of Nursing for our Clinical Groups hold professional leadership responsibility for. It is therefore imperative to attract an experienced and innovative nurse leader to work with to continuously drive improvements and the quality of our services for patients and their families.

I am looking for an exceptional, inspirational, dynamic and highly experienced senior nurse whose role is key to support us consistently meet and exceed regulatory and statutory requirements, embedding robust clinical governance and fostering a culture where quality and safety are central

With extensive senior level nursing leadership and managerial experience within an acute NHS Trust (or comparatively large and complex multi-disciplinary organisation), you will display inclusive leadership to encourage collaboration in the development of services and the delivery of high-quality care continually identify opportunities for improvement to ensure the best possible care is provided to our patients and their families.

For Join us, and become an integral part of MFT, united in its values, purpose, and commitment to improving people's lives across Manchester, Trafford, and beyond.

I look forward to meeting you during the process.

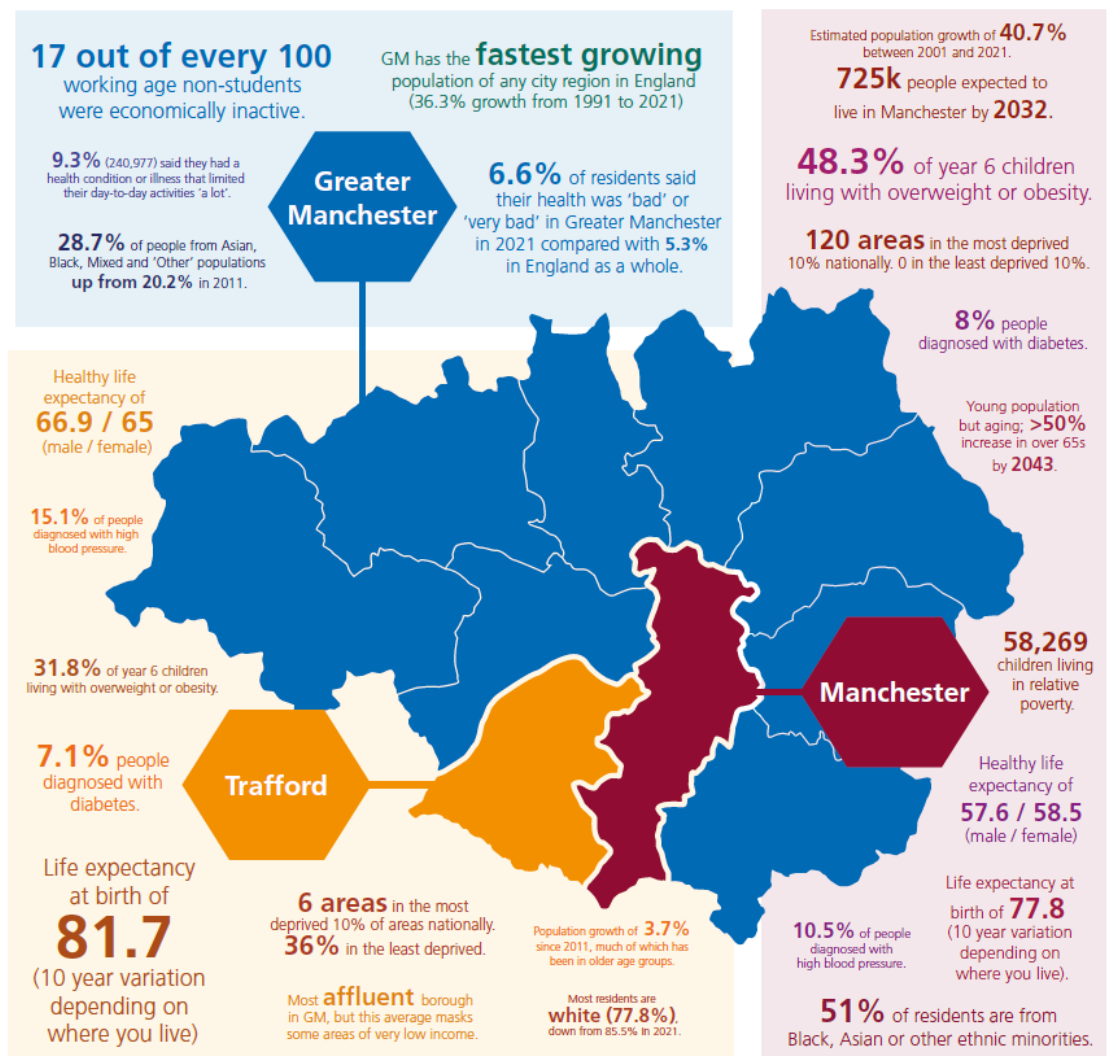
Karen Vaughan
Director of Nursing, Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group



The Greater Manchester System

The **Greater Manchester Integrated Care System** covers an area with:

- 10 localities
- 2 Mental Health Trusts
- 7 Hospital Trusts
- 1 Ambulance Trust
- 67 PCNs
- 10 Local Authorities
- 1 Combined Authority
- 1 GM Mayor
- c16k VCSE organisations
- Social care provider



The Greater Manchester system has an active Trust Provider Collaborative of which MFT is a key member. We work closely with provider partners on strategic planning, operational decisions and performance improvement (e.g. mutual aid).

Whilst we work with colleagues at a **place** level in Manchester and Trafford, notably through our Local Care Organisations, we also work with locality colleagues in other parts of GM, particularly those boroughs that North Manchester General Hospital serves.

We support **research and innovation** across GM hosting NIHR activities and Health Innovation Manchester.

Many of these structures pre-date the establishment of Integrated Care Systems and are based on well-developed relationships.

About MFT



Manchester Royal Infirmary

Secondary and tertiary services



Manchester Royal Eye Hospital

Specialist eye hospital



Saint Mary's Hospital

Specialist Women's hospital and genomics



Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

Specialist children's hospital



University Dental Hospital of Manchester

Specialist dental hospital



Clinical & Scientific Services (CSS)

Specialist Services



Wythenshawe Hospital

Secondary and tertiary services



Withington Community Hospital

Diagnostics, day-case and community



Trafford General Hospital

Secondary care services



Altrincham Hospital

Diagnostics and outpatient care services



North Manchester General Hospital

Secondary and tertiary services



Community Health & Adult Social Care Services

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT), has moved to an enhanced clinical leadership model, consisting of **10 hospitals across 6 Clinical Groups** delivering the full range of hospital services from seven sites across Manchester and Trafford.

Imaging, Pharmacy, Anaesthetics and Critical Care, Laboratory Medicine and AHP services are provided by Clinical and Scientific Services across all 10 hospitals.

We are **the largest provider of specialist services**, and our Oxford Road Campus in Manchester is the largest health academic campus in Europe, **with a workforce of over 30,000** and a turnover of more than **£3.0 billion**.

We provide local hospital care to almost 1 million people, primarily in Manchester and Trafford and specialised services to patients across England.

We **host two Local Care Organisations (LCOs)** which **run NHS community health and adult social care services** in Manchester and Trafford, in collaboration with our Local Authority partners.

We are **the leading trust for research and teaching in the Northwest** hosting the Manchester NIHR Biomedical Research Centre and Clinical Research Facility.

There is **significant diversity** across Manchester and Trafford

- 190 languages spoken in Manchester
- The average age of people in Manchester is 31 and in Trafford is 40
- 1 in 5 of the population has a disability or long-term condition

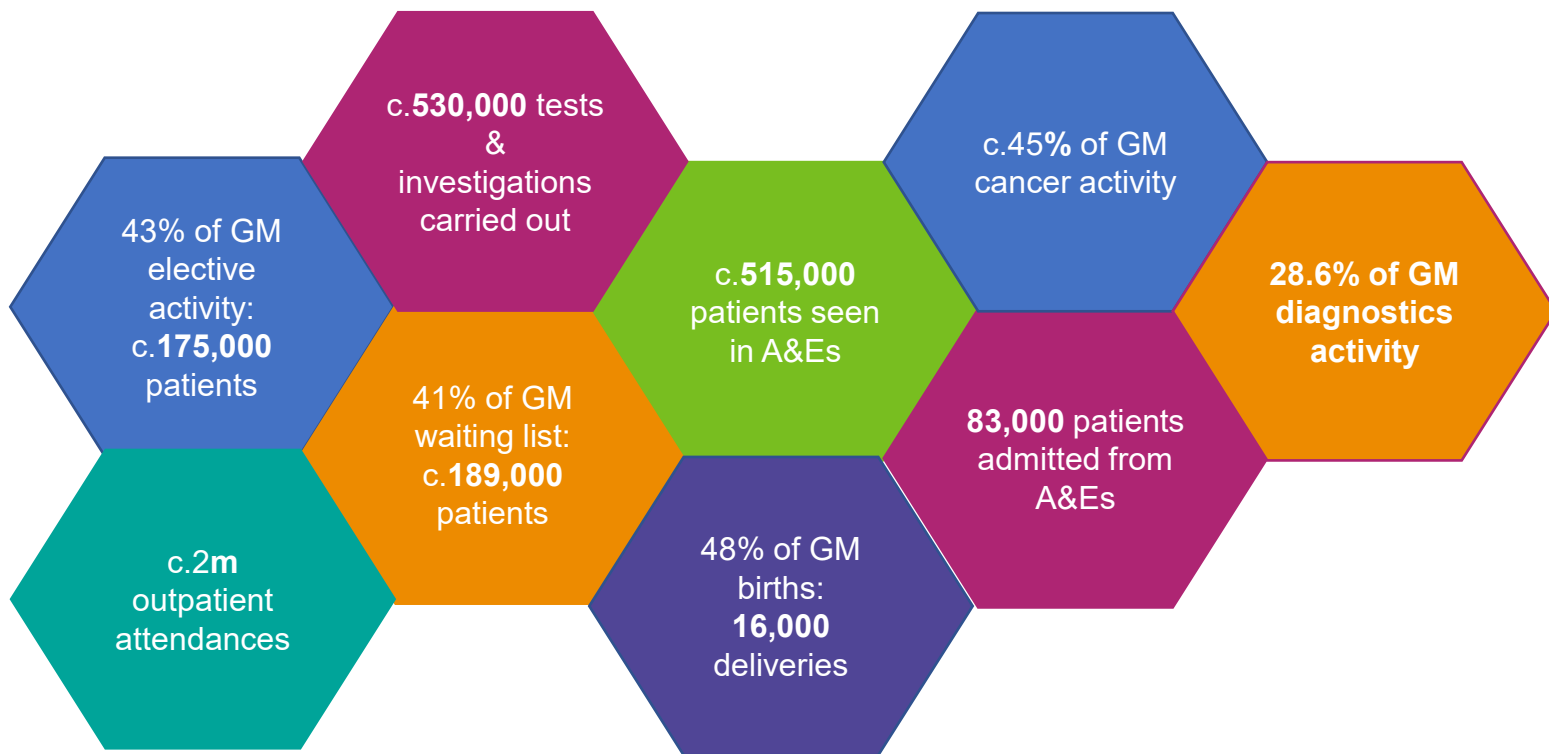
Deprivation is significant

- Manchester is the fourth-most deprived local authority in England
- More than two thirds of neighbourhoods in Manchester and Trafford are more deprived than the England average
- Over 40% of children under 16 in Manchester are living in poverty



Overview of Our Services

MFT is the largest provider of specialist services in England, covering population of 2.8m, sole provider for several tertiary services across GM whilst delivering District General Hospital services for our local population.



MFT also provides extensive community services to the population of Trafford and Manchester.

A typical day in Manchester Local Care Organisation:

- 3,300 people seen or in contact with our community health services
- 700 new referrals into our community health services
- 15 people referred through our crisis services - helping keep them out of hospital
- 165 people in our reablement services helping them stay independently at home
- 150 people are supported through our integrated care teams
- 1,100 people have care commissioned in residential and nursing homes through contracts we hold

A typical day in Trafford Local Care Organisation:

- 2,400 people supported by our Adult Social Care teams
- 304 daily visits to people by our District Nurses
- 230 contacts every day from our Health Visitors with families
- 54 contacts and visits by the Child Nursing and Paediatric medical services to children
- 16 children and 59 adults experiencing acute or chronic pain supported by our Musculoskeletal and Child Therapy services
- 31 people at immediate risk of admission are provided with a rapid health and social care



Our Trust Strategy: Where Excellence Meets Compassion

Working together to improve the health and quality of life of our diverse communities

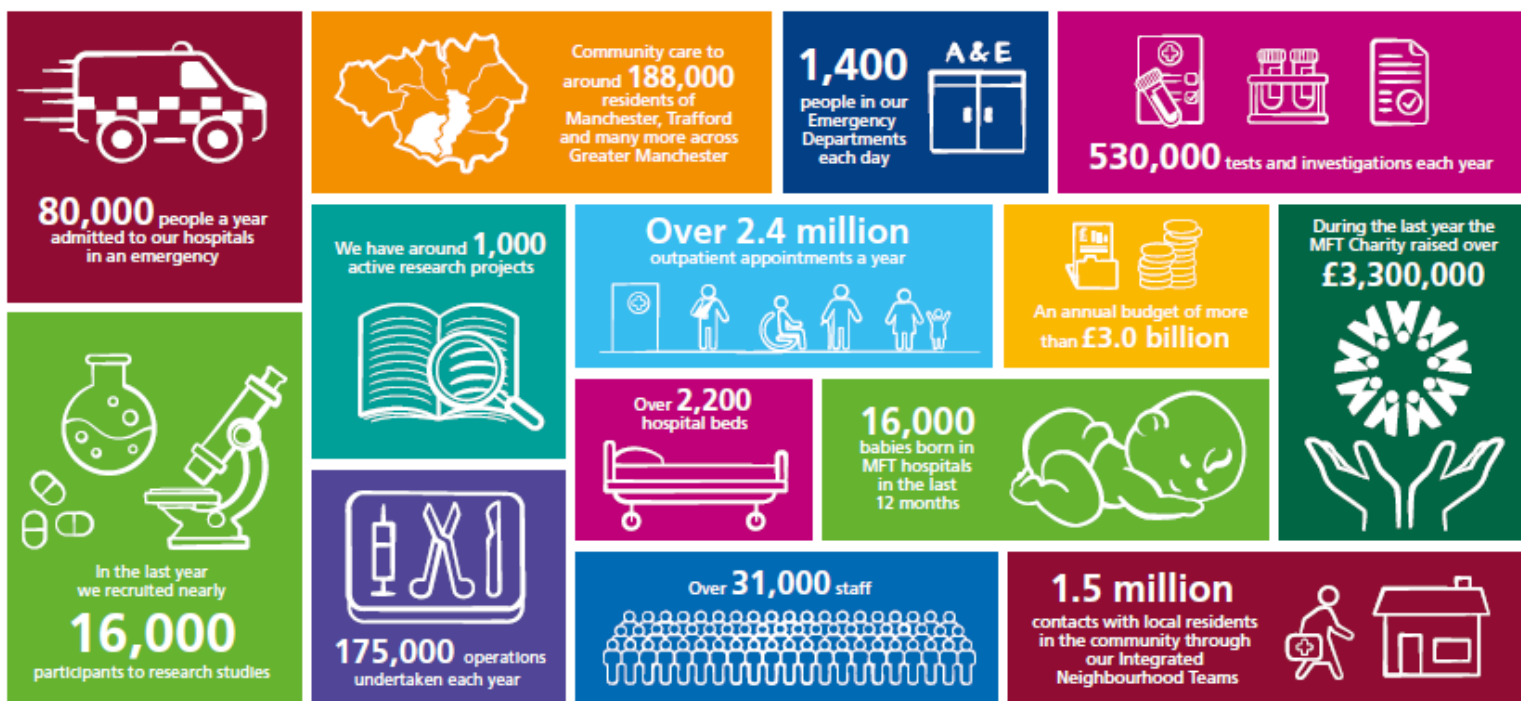
In 2024, we published our first MFT-wide strategy *Where Excellence Meets Compassion*. We developed it with support from our staff, patient and community groups, and our partners in the health and care system. We believe that having one strategy for the whole of MFT helps us to be clear about what we want to achieve as an organisation, and the things that we need to focus on to deliver this. In Summer 2025, the Government published *Fit for the Future: 10 Year Health Plan for England*, which sets out a new vision for the NHS. Whilst our strategy already aligned well with the 10 Year Plan, the planned refresh was brought forward from 2026 to 2025 to recognise progress made in delivering our strategic aims since 2024 and to make our strategy stronger and clearer about how we plan to improve our services. The updated strategy was launched in February 2026.

Our strategy is called *Where Excellence Meets Compassion* because it describes in a few words what we aim to be as an organisation. We aim for excellence in everything that we do, from the care our teams provide in people's own homes and in our hospitals, the education and training we provide, through to the research and innovation work we do to help shape the healthcare of tomorrow. And we are a caring organisation – we care for people from before they are born to the end of their life.

The Difference We Aim to Make:

- More people being supported to live healthy lives in the community with fewer people needing to use healthcare services in an unplanned way.
- More people recommending MFT as a place to be treated.
- More people recommending MFT as a place to work.
- Make the biggest possible difference with the resources we have by delivering our financial plans.
- More people, from all backgrounds, participating in and benefitting from world-class research and innovation.

Click [here](#) to read the full Trust Strategy



Our Values & Mission

At the same time as developing our organisational strategy, we have refreshed our MFT values – the principles that guide the way we work each day. Given the scale of the challenge – and of our ambition – it is important that we create the right conditions for our staff to do what we ask of them. Refreshing our values is just one part of an important piece of work we are doing to change and improve the culture of our organisation.

Our organisational values were originally developed as part of MFT’s creation back in 2017, with input from our staff and local people. We have recently engaged further with people from across our organisation to refresh these values so that they reflect the things that are important to us today. People told us that they believe in the values we have but wanted to make them more meaningful, both in how we describe them and how we all demonstrate them in our actions.

Set out below are the refreshed values that we have developed through this engagement:

- **We are compassionate**
- **We are curious**
- **We are collaborative**
- **We are open and honest**
- **We are inclusive**

We have recently added a fifth value – we are curious. It reflects how we are always searching for ways to learn and improve, as well as focus on research, innovation, education and training.

We have used these values to inform the aims, objectives and values that make up our strategy.

To achieve our mission of: ‘Working together to improve the health and quality of life of our diverse communities’...

People who we serve, our colleagues, communities and partners are counting on us, so...



We are collectively getting it right, when we can all say...

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I listen to and respect the views and opinions of others, valuing their perspectives • I promote empathy, understanding and kindness to others • I support others to deal with and respond successfully to challenges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I seek opportunities to continuously improve and innovate our care, services, research and teaching • I make a habit of asking questions and seek to notice things that may have been missed • I keep learning and support others to do the same | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I put the needs of our service users above all else to succeed together • I share information with all that need it and work together with others to find shared solutions to problems. • I celebrate the success of others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I set a good example and behave how I would want others to behave towards me • I give meaningful feedback and call it out if I see standards or patient safety not being maintained. I invite feedback from others • I acknowledge when I get it wrong and use it as an opportunity for learning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I actively ensure those around me feel valued and respected • I consider other people’s different needs and circumstances • I treat people fairly, based on the unique things each person brings |
|---|--|---|--|--|

Strategic Developments and Opportunities

We have a range of exciting strategic developments underway which will help to deliver our strategic aims and our mission to improve the health and wellbeing of our diverse communities. These include:

- Our Local Care Organisations (LCOs) are working with partners across Manchester and Trafford to further develop our pioneering Integrated Neighbourhood Teams, which provide integrated community health and care services and support the strategic shifts towards community care and prevention.
- Developing the Genomic Medicine Service including accelerating the use of automation in laboratory services, delivering our Manchester Rare Conditions Centre (MRCC) and further expansion of Advanced Therapies across MFT.
- Building on our successful deployment of Hive, our electronic patient record powered by Epic, which supports our broader transformation and improvement programme including our *Care on Time* elective care programme, exploring roll-out to the community to further drive integrated care, and expanding our significant research and innovation offering.
- Delivering world-class research and innovation that improves people's lives. Developments include strengthening our infrastructure and increasing participation, collaborating with universities and industry, supporting staff to pursue research and develop new skills, and the application of digital technologies and AI to improve health outcomes and service delivery.
- North Manchester General Hospital has been confirmed as a Wave 1 New Hospitals Programme scheme with a budget of around £1.5bn and a target building start date of 2027-2028. This investment will allow us to develop a state-of-the-art hospital as well as R&I infrastructure and commercial facilities on the campus. The scheme is part of an ambitious programme of regeneration that includes 15,000 new homes, new jobs and transport. We continue to work with our partners including Manchester City Council to deliver the maximum benefits for the investment in the locality.
- The Wythenshawe Masterplan seeks to create a modern health and care campus to support local economic developments, tackle health inequalities and promote wellbeing, all in-line with the 10 Year Health Plan. The site provides a strong candidate to test alternative models of capital investment and the GM Combined Authority have granted funding to develop the next iteration of plans for the programme.



MFT Leadership

Trust Chair

Mrs Kathy Cowell, CBE DL has been Chair of the board since 2016. She joined the Trust in 2013 as a Non-Executive Director and was appointed the Senior Independent Director (SID) in 2014.

A banker by profession, Kathy worked for Cheshire Building Society for 24 years until taking early retirement in 2006.

Kathy has held several Chair and Non-Executive roles in the health sector, in both provider and commissioner organisations, including Chair of the East Cheshire NHS Acute Trust; NHS Cluster/PCT Chair; and Vice Chair of Warrington Hospital NHS Acute Trust.



Trust Chief Executive

Mark Cubbon has worked in the NHS for many years having joined the NHS as a nurse in Greater Manchester in 1992.

Mark became Trust Chief Executive of Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust in April 2023. Prior to that, he was Chief Delivery Officer for NHS England.

Mark has held a range of senior leadership roles in his career, including Chief Executive at Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust, regional Chief Operating Officer for NHS Improvement in the Midlands and East of England, and several director roles in London NHS Trusts, including Moorfields Eye Hospital, Whipps Cross and Barts Health.



You can find out more about our senior leadership team [here](#)



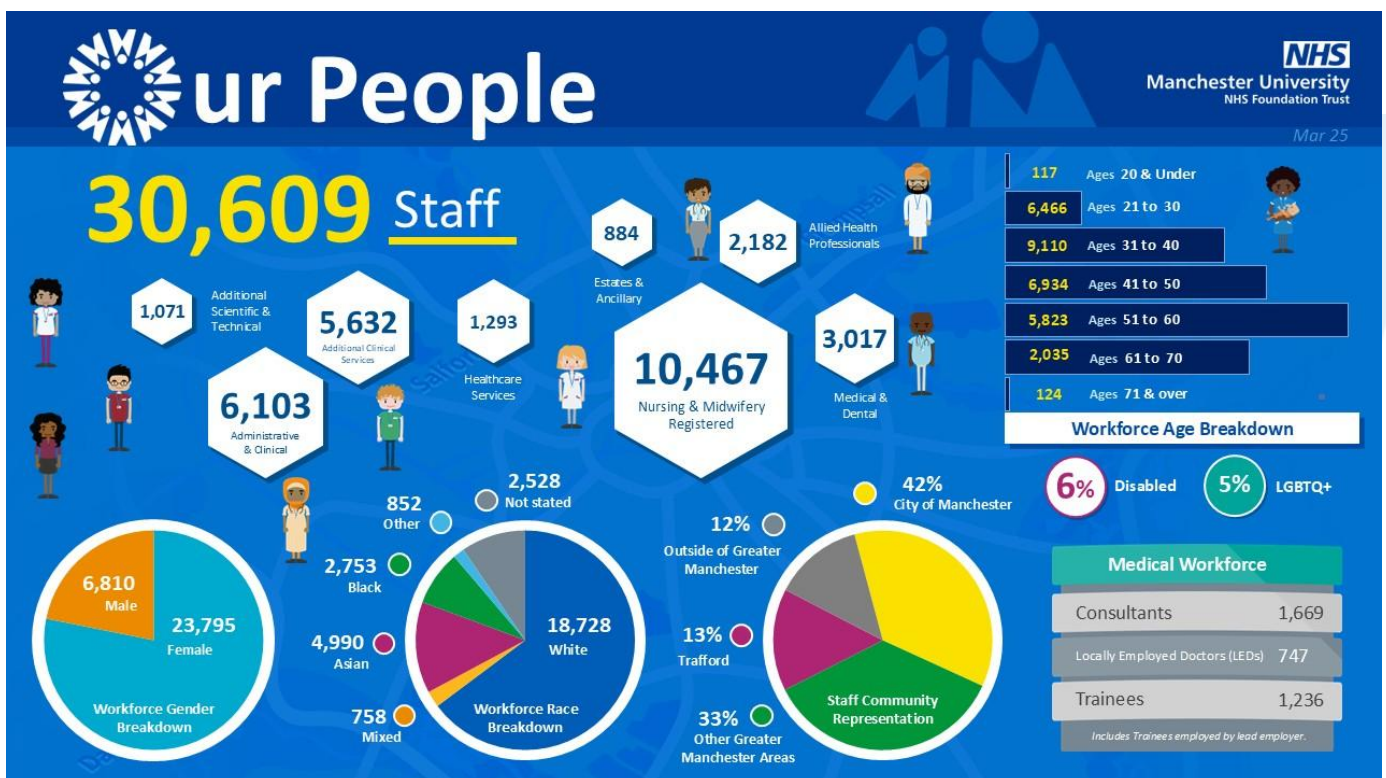
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

There is so much to be proud of at MFT but most of all, our committed and dedicated workforce. All our people, whatever job they do, contribute in some way to the positive reputation of MFT.

It is recognised that the NHS is built on the values of working together for patients, respect and dignity, commitment to quality of care, compassion, Improving lives, everyone counts, and openness. These values guide the NHS in providing healthcare services.

To build for the future, we need to inspire new staff to join and encourage existing staff to stay, whilst ensuring our teams work in an environment where they feel they belong, can safely raise concerns, ask questions and admit mistakes is essential for staff morale – which, in turn, leads to improved patient care and outcomes. This can only be done by treating people equitably and without discrimination.

The MFT People Plan provides a roadmap for all staff and supports a collective vision that we can make MFT a great place to work. This includes priorities for supporting over 30,609 people who work at MFT, with specific actions for improving their sense of ‘belonging’. The approach is shaped by the NHS England Listening Well Framework with a focus on improving the fundamental issues associated with good staff experience. This work is being led by the Trust Chief Executive with full involvement of senior leaders from across the Trust to complement delivery of the Trust ED&I strategy.



MFT Operating Model

Clinical Groups

Our structure of 10 hospitals, Managed Clinical Services, and LCOs are categorised into the following six Clinical Groups:



There is a standard leadership framework for each Clinical Group, underpinned by a new Accountability & Decision-making Framework. This includes Clinical Group Chief Executives reporting to the Trust Chief Executive and being members of the Trust Leadership Team alongside Executive Directors.

Clinical Group Chief Executives will be responsible for designated services but also hold a corporate leadership role in specific areas agreed with the Trust Chief Executive.

Clinical Group Chief Executives lead a Senior Leadership Team (SLT). SLT roles are based on a standard framework and SLT members have a professional line of accountability to the relevant Executive Director (e.g. Clinical Group Director of Nursing to Chief Nurse). Working with the SLT are aligned subject experts for strategy, improvement, R&I, education and digital.

The standard model for Clinical Groups Senior Leadership Teams includes:

- Clinical Group Chief Executive
- Clinical Group Medical Director
- Clinical Group Director of Nursing
- Clinical Group Director of Performance and Operations
- Clinical Group Director of Finance
- Clinical Group Director of Workforce & OD

Glossary:

MRI – Manchester Royal Infirmary

WTWA – Wythenshawe, Trafford, Withington, Altrincham Hospitals

NMGH – North Manchester General Hospital

RMCH – Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

SMH – Saint Mary's Hospital

MREH – Manchester Royal Eye Hospital

LCOs – Local Care Organisations

UDHM – University Dental Hospital Manchester

CSS – Clinical & Scientific Services

Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group

The Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group at MFT brings together 3 renowned hospitals delivering a range of local and specialist services for people across Greater Manchester, nationally and internationally. Around 6,500 staff work across these hospitals which have a combined budget of over £450m. Each hospital has an active, well-regarded programme of research and innovation.



Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

With approximately 370 beds and 220,000 patient visits each year, RMCH is the largest and busiest children's hospital in the UK.

RMCH provides a wide range of services to children and young people in Greater Manchester, the North West, nationally and internationally. This includes local community mental health services, a dedicated paediatric emergency department, regional specialist hospital services (including mental health services), through to highly specialised cell and gene therapies for which it is the only commissioned provider in the country. Specialties include:



- Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Oncology
- Haematology
- Bone Marrow Transplant
- Burns and Plastics
- Paediatric Surgery
- Orthopaedics
- Children's Major Trauma Centre
- Paediatric Intensive Care
- Ear, Nose and Throat
- Gastroenterology
- Endocrinology and Metabolism
- Nephrology and Urology
- Neurology and Neurosurgery

As well as the purpose-built Royal Manchester Children's Hospital on the Oxford Road Campus, RMCH delivers children and young people's services from across Manchester University Foundation Trust hospitals, working closely with Local Care Organisations on the delivery of community services.

Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group



St. Marys Hospital

Saint Mary's Hospital

Saint Mary's provides a wide range of services for women, babies, children, and families from across the North-West. This includes:

- Maternity
- Newborn Services
- Gynaecology
- Genomic Medicine
- Sexual Assault Referral Centre

Saint Mary's delivers women and children's services across MFT sites as well as in the community. As well as local services – around 16,000 babies are born each year across MFT – Saint Mary's is also home to a range of regional and national services. It hosts one of 7 Genomic Laboratory Hubs in the country and manages the largest clinical genetics service in the North-West.



It also provides specialist care to women, children, and families in its regional neonatal critical care services and fetal medicine department, for example. Saint Mary's SARC was the first in the country to be established and, as well as providing specialist services to people from across the North-West, has provided support to similar services across the world.



Royal Manchester Eye Hospital

Providing care to the City of Manchester for over 200 years, MREH provides an extensive range of eye services for both adults and children across Greater Manchester, the North West, and the wider country. It was rated 'Outstanding' by the CQC in its most recent inspection, the only eye hospital in the country to have achieved that rating.



The Manchester Royal Eye Hospital on the Oxford Road campus is the main site providing a full range of elective and non-elective eye health services, including a dedicated Eye Emergency Department. A range of specialist services are delivered by MREH at other sites across Greater Manchester. Three specialist macular treatment centres serving North Manchester (Cheetham Hill Shopping Centre), South Manchester (Wythenshawe Civic Centre) and Trafford General Hospital have also

been opened more recently. Withington Cataract Centre at Withington Community Hospital provides a dedicated cataract service and a range of outpatient, and diagnostic clinics are also held at Altrincham Hospital.

Our Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group Structure

Specialist Hospitals Clinical Group Senior Leadership Team



Ursula Martin
Chief Executive



Rachael Barber
Medical Director



Kathy Murphy
Director of Nursing
and Midwifery



Karen Vaughan
Director of Nursing



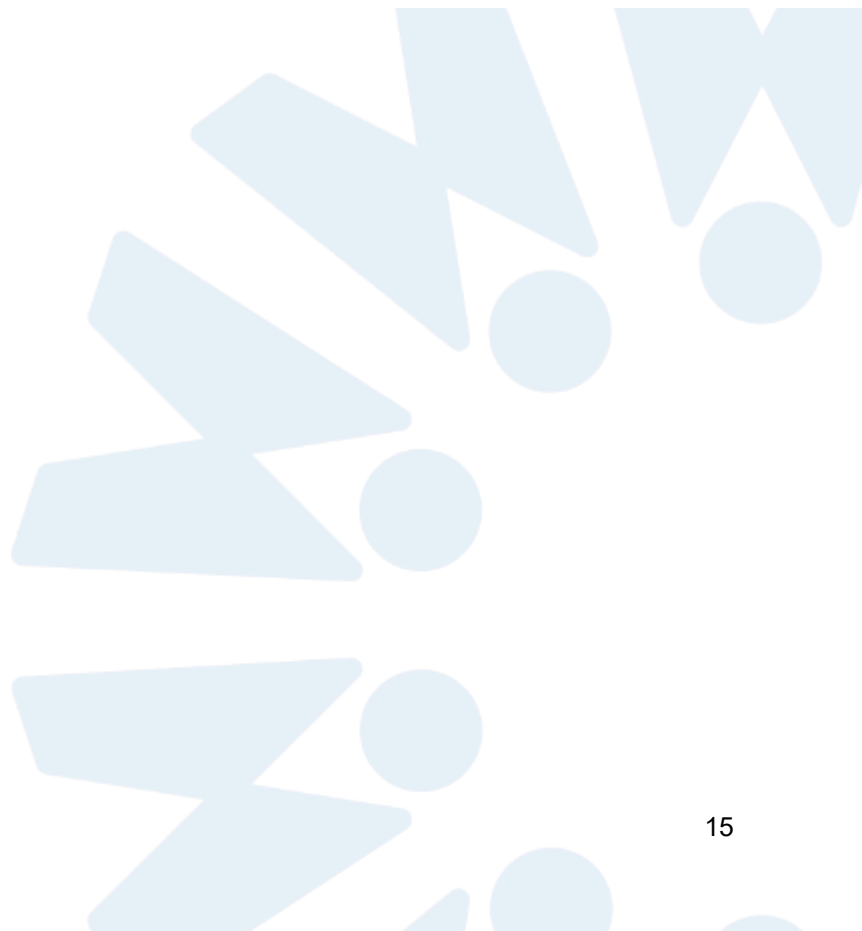
Andrea Myerscough
Director of Performance
and Operations



Ahti Khan
Director of Finance



Louise Royle
Director of
Workforce and OD



Role Description and Person Specification



Role Description and Person Specification

Post:	Clinical Group Deputy Director of Nursing
Department:	Clinical Group
Band:	9
Hours Per Week:	37.5
Reports to:	Clinical Group Director of Nursing
Responsible for:	Nursing portfolio on behalf of Director of Nursing
Work Base:	Travel across sites as required.

Job Purpose

The Deputy Director of Nursing will support the Director of Nursing in the professional development of nurses and allied health professionals (AHP) at all levels within the Clinical Group and will champion and embed a culture of quality improvement, research and innovation (R&I), ensuring that all services are of high quality now and in the future.

The Deputy Director of Nursing will be a key member of the Clinical Group senior management team, with specific responsibility to support the Director of Nursing in delivery of their portfolio. The Deputy Director of Nursing is accountable to the Director of Nursing. The Deputy Director of Nursing will deputise for the Director of Nursing as the key decision maker for all internal and external decisions in their absence.

Working as part of the senior nursing team the Deputy Director of Nursing will provide expert advice to the Director of Nursing and other deputy senior management team members on all matters relevant to the clinical and professional nursing and AHP agenda, clinical governance, compliance and safety matters pursuant to the Clinical Group.

In partnership with the Deputy Clinical Chair, the Deputy Director of Nursing will be responsible for providing strong and effective clinical leadership, improving and sustaining clinical practices and standards across all services. This will reflect namely the Director of Nursing's portfolio of; quality, patient safety and compliance, patient experience and clinical effectiveness, forming part of the overarching responsibility for the delivery of clinical governance and any regulatory and / or statutory requirements pertinent to the service.

They will also support delivery of effective provision of nursing and AHP education within the Clinical Group, including delivery against quality and experience metrics.

At the request of the Chief Nursing Officer/Director of Nursing take the lead on a specific Trust wide portfolio of work, working with key stakeholders to ensure delivery against programme objectives.

The postholder will have Clinical Group on-call responsibilities.

Role Description and Person Specification

Key Duties & Responsibilities

Leadership

- Support the Director of Nursing to provide leadership to the Clinical Group; taking an active role in, all of the Clinical Group's services and functions.
- Work alongside the Deputy Clinical Chair and Deputy Director of Performance & Operations to provide strong operational and clinical leadership to the Clinical Group.
- Take a lead role in providing professional leadership to the nursing and AHP workforce at all levels within the Clinical Group, and for ensuring appropriate compliance.
- Be a highly visible leader of the nursing and AHP workforce ensuring that the values and behaviours of MFT are met whilst ensuring that professional standards are maintained.
- Work as a dynamic, innovative, compassionate and inclusive leader using a positive, strong influencing and coaching style, and with an emphasis on high standards of patient care, safety and efficient and effective use of resources.
- Take a lead within the Clinical Group to ensure that the patient and staff voice is heard and listened to in the development of services and delivery of care, exercising skills of professional curiosity and appropriate challenge.
- Ensure that inclusive leadership is displayed, to encourage collaboration in the development of services and the delivery of high-quality care continually identify opportunities for improvement.
- Ensure that staff are supported to develop skills to deal with risk and challenging circumstances whilst maintaining supportive oversight. Where significant risk is identified, support the Director of Nursing to lead this work.
- At the request of the Trust Chief Nursing Officer/Director of Nursing, take the lead on specific programmes or projects across the Trust/Clinical Group, working closely with colleagues from other Clinical Groups to ensure effective delivery of the programme's objectives.
- Take a lead role in ensuring that the nursing and AHP workforce is adequately trained, skills are maintained, and development opportunities are made available.
- Take a lead role in Clinical Group workforce modelling ensuring it is fit for purpose recognizing capacity, demand and acuity, forming part of workforce reviews as required.
- Represent and deputise for the Director of Nursing as required, acting as the key decision maker for all internal and external decisions in their absence, and representing them at Trust and external forums.

Role Description and Person Specification

Strategy and Policy

- Provide expert advice and guidance to the Director of Nursing and the rest of the SLT on all aspects of patient care and professional issues related to the nursing and AHP workforce.
- Horizon scan, identify and act upon current and future strategic opportunities for the Clinical Group, ensuring they are aligned with the objectives of MFT as a whole.
- Review, evaluate and act upon present and future risks to the delivery of strategy.
- Support the Director of Nursing and Trust Chief Nursing Officer in the development of MFT's strategy for non-medical professionals and ensure the progress of actions and monitoring arrangements within the Clinical Group.
- Contribute to MFT's Quality and Patient Experience Strategy, and support the Director of Nursing in the alignment and implementation within the Clinical Group, ensuring that a positive improvement trajectory is maintained, with any risk to delivery identified.
- Contribute to and ensure effective delivery in accordance with Trust strategies, encouraging innovation and change.
- Working with the Director of Nursing, and other nursing and AHP colleagues across the Trust, anticipate and interpret national and regional policy for the Clinical Group and support the implementation of any changes to practice that may be required.
- Use patient and public engagement and relevant data to understand the needs of patients, communities and families in relation to the Clinical Group's clinical services to help guide and support strategic decision-making

Clinical Governance: Quality, Safety, Patient Experience and Compliance

- Take a lead role to support the Director of Nursing in managing all quality assurance and compliance functions within the Clinical Group, ensuring regulatory compliance information is high quality and timely.
- Provide assurance and oversee that appropriate systems, processes, policy and risk management are in place within the Clinical Group alongside clear assurance of actions and mechanisms of monitoring.
- Support the Director of Nursing and Medical Director to implement and embed the compliance strategy across the Clinical Group.
- Take a lead role in identifying and mitigating compliance risks ensuring the Clinical Group operates within relevant legal and regulatory frameworks.

Role Description and Person Specification

Clinical Governance: Quality, Safety, Patient Experience and Compliance

- Take a lead role to support the Director of Nursing in managing all quality assurance and compliance functions within the Clinical Group, ensuring regulatory compliance information is high quality and timely.
- Provide assurance and oversee that appropriate systems, processes, policy and risk management are in place within the Clinical Group alongside clear assurance of actions and mechanisms of monitoring.
- Support the Director of Nursing and Clinical Chair to implement and embed the compliance strategy across the Clinical Group.
- Take a lead role in identifying and mitigating compliance risks ensuring the Clinical Group operates within relevant legal and regulatory frameworks.
- As advised by Executives and the Director of Quality Assurance and Compliance, keep up to date on latest quality compliance regulations, and understand the impact of any changes in policy on quality compliance within the Clinical Group.
- On behalf of the Director of Nursing take a lead role in ensuring clear accountability and effective quality management systems are in place across the Clinical Group to provide assurance on all quality and safety functions.
- Ensure clear lines of responsibility and accountability for all aspects of clinical care delivered within the Clinical Group.
- Take a lead role in ensuring continuing compliance of the Clinical Group with all statutory and regulatory requirements, as well as organisational-wide guidance and processes.
- Alongside the Director of Nursing, Clinical Chair and Deputy Clinical Chair, ensure the delivery of all clinical quality measures relating to patient safety, patient experience and clinical effectiveness, ensuring the robust management of risk and oversight.
- Demonstrate high levels of personal and professional judgement in determining the acceptable level of risk and professional curiosity. When the situation requires prompt action, act independently and take high-level decisions to ensure appropriate quality and safety is maintained.
- Take a lead role to ensure that there is a robust management of complaints, PALS and PHSO in accordance with local and national and regulatory requirements requirements, with clear learnings and actions for improvement.
- Act as an expert professional contact for patients' relatives and carers who are dissatisfied with their treatment or care and ensure availability to patients' relatives and carers to advise on related clinical practice standards.

Role Description and Person Specification

- Take a lead role in developing and embedding a culture of safety and learning, utilising modalities such as the Patient Safety Incident Response Framework, with appropriate monitoring arrangements in place to ensure continual learning and improvement.
- Ensure there are robust systems in place for the oversight and management of risk, inquests and delivery of the clinical effectiveness and wider governance and compliance agenda.
- Support the implement the MFT Quality and Safety Strategy within the Clinical Group, in partnership with the Deputy Clinical Chair and Deputy Director of Performance & Operations.
- Take a lead role in ensuring the consistent application of clinical protocols, policies and standard operating procedures, ensuring the delivery of safe practice and high-quality care. Support the development and update to related policy as required.
- Alongside the Deputy Clinical Chair, identify and take responsibility for the implementation of key quality, safety and patient experience improvement initiatives.
- Oversee the nursing and AHP quality improvement programme for the Clinical Group on behalf of the Director of Nursing, including appropriate accreditation for wards and departments, and adherence to the Patient Experience and Patient Safety Incident Response Framework.
- Ensure that a continuing programme of operational efficiency and productivity improvement is in place, whilst maintaining and further promoting high quality care.
- Take a lead role in ensuring that the quality and safety of clinical services meets the expectations set out in the NHS Accountability & Oversight Framework and those of the CQC and other relevant regulatory bodies. Alongside the Trust Chief Nursing Officer and Director of Nursing participate in engagement with the CQC in relation to compliance and inspections of the Clinical Group.
- Put systems in place that develop the capability and capacity of staff to utilise proven quality improvement methodologies, with opportunities to progress and spread learning for both local and wider improvement and implementation.

Research, Innovation, Quality Improvement and Education

- Alongside the Director of Nursing, Clinical Chair and Deputy Clinical Chair, implement evidence-based practice and the output from research findings across the Clinical Group through changes in practice.
- Work with the Trust Chief Nursing Officer, their teams and other Clinical Group Directors of Nursing, Director of Nursing & Midwifery and their Deputies to identify collaboration opportunities across MFT, particularly in the areas of clinical service provision, research & innovation (R&I), quality improvement and education.
- Working with the Research and Innovation team and the Director of Nursing, take a lead role in the implementation of the Nursing, Midwifery and AHP (NMAHP) research and education strategies, and support the creation and adoption of innovation seeking opportunity for improvement in both quality of care and financial delivery.

Role Description and Person Specification

- Ensure research and innovation is valued highly within the Clinical Group and build an environment that supports curiosity and participation in research. Facilitate research and audit within the nursing and AHP professions specifically, and across the Clinical Group.
- Take a lead role in ensuring education and training is valued highly within the Clinical Group and build an environment that supports recognised training and education and a positive learning experience.
- Ensure that there is a plan to progress quality improvement capacity and capability across services, ultimately supporting progress, sustainability, NHS Impact requirements and the Well Led framework.
- Responsible for ensuring effective provision of nursing and AHP education, including delivery against quality and experience metrics.
- Meet the objective of delivering high quality and engaging teaching to all clinical staff, in order to ensure that MFT is the first choice for the next steps in their careers.
- Support the welfare and learning experience for nurses and AHPs.
- Build a strong collaborative relationship with local and regional academic partners including universities and National Institute for Health and Care Research.

Finance Management and Performance

- Take a lead in supporting the Director of Nursing within the Clinical Group to deliver against the Financial Plan.
- Support in ensuring that the Clinical Group and MFT meet their statutory financial obligations each year and standards are met in accordance with the annual business plan.
- Provide expert advice on the quality and safety impact of cost improvement initiatives.
- Proactively identify opportunities for cost reduction and cost avoidance, including through the identification of opportunities to 'do things once' across the Clinical Group and MFT.
- Take a lead role in ensuring key performance standards and measures relating to service delivery, patient experience, clinical quality and safety, workforce and finance are monitored and reported appropriately, in order to understand the root cause of trends and enable swift action.

Role Description and Person Specification

People Management and Organisational Development

- Take a lead role in supporting the Director of Nursing with delivery against the MFT People Plan and ED&I Strategy, in particular those aspects that relate to the nursing and AHP workforce.
- Support the Director of Nursing by providing expert advice on the review of leadership capacity of senior nurses and AHPs and make recommendations as to how this can be developed and enhanced. Support with ensuring that there is sufficient workforce capabilities and capacity to meet the service demands of the Clinical Group.
- Ensure management of all staff in accordance with MFT's values and policies, including Maintaining High Professional Standards.
- Act as a change agent for nursing and AHP workforce within the regulatory framework.
- Take a lead role in ensuring nursing and AHP staff undertake an appropriate annual performance appraisal, with a personal development plan, and complete the required mandatory and statutory training programmes. Ensure all nurses and AHPs meet revalidations requirements.
- Alongside the Director of Nursing, Director of Workforce & OD and Deputy Director of Workforce & OD, manage professional conduct and capability issues, as well as statutory requirements, related to nursing and AHP staff.
- Alongside the Director of Nursing, Director of Workforce & OD and Deputy Director of Workforce & OD support the development of Clinical Group-based recruitment and retention strategies and initiatives, which ensure that the Clinical Group is able to attract and retain the right number of appropriately qualified and trained staff for both short and long term requirements.
- Take a lead role in providing professional and managerial support to senior nurses and AHPs in regard to disciplinary matters. Act as a panel member for the final stage of disciplinary and grievance procedures as required.
- Promote an open and inclusive culture which supports innovation through the active involvement of colleagues who are encouraged to initiate ideas and new ways of working and respond positively to change. Empower staff to be involved in decision-making in order to work effectively for their patients, communities and colleagues.
- Work with Staff Side based in the Clinical Group through the Local Negotiating Committee.
- Promote and role model a learning culture which delivers results through continuous improvement, encouraging the use of initiative which supports personal and team development.
- Take a lead role in ensuring other health care professionals are communicated with and advised of changes in nursing and AHP clinical practice or the organisation of care.
- Lead the effective utilisation of staff groups as appropriate.

Role Description and Person Specification

Partnership Working, Social Inclusion and Stakeholder Management

- Support the delivery of multidisciplinary patient care from medical and dental workforce, nurses, AHPs, midwives, clinical scientists and other relevant care staff.
- Responsibility for building and maintaining effective working relationships with a wide range of stakeholders integral to the success of the Clinical Group.
- As required, represent the Clinical Group at key operational and strategic forums across MFT.
- As required, represent the Clinical Group and MFT at regional, national and international levels.
- Responsibility for developing and maintaining constructive relationships with local, regional and national commissioners, neighbouring healthcare providers, local authorities, the voluntary sector and other relevant organisations in the community. Promote an integrated approach to the delivery of health and social care through working in partnership at Place level.
- Engage effectively with all stakeholders, including service users and the public, and ensure that the opinions of service users, their families and carers and colleagues are used continuously to improve the Clinical Group services.
- Build strong relationships between the Clinical Group and the diverse populations it serves, to ensure that local people are at the centre of decisions on the prevention of ill health and the delivery of health care.
- Take a lead role in identifying, understanding and addressing variation and inequalities in the quality of care and outcomes of patients to ensure there are improved services for all patients and communities, and continued improvements to health and workforce inequalities.

Role Description and Person Specification

This job description is an outline of the key tasks and responsibilities of the role and is not intended as an exhaustive list. The job may change over time to reflect the changing needs of the Trust and its services, as well as the personal development needs of the post holder.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

The postholder will be expected to develop and maintain positive and effective relationships with a range of internal and external stakeholders. This will include senior figures within the NHS and local partners, and will often involve sensitive, confidential and complex issues.

Key relationships for the postholder will include:

- Trust Chief Nursing Officer/Deputy Chief Nursing Officer
- Clinical Group Directors/Deputy Directors of Nursing
- Head/Lead Nurses and Matron
- Chief AHP and AHP leads
- Clinical Group Directors of Performance and Operations and Deputy Director/Associate Director/General Manager/Service Manager of Performance and Operations
- Clinical Group Clinical Chair/Clinical Director's
- Governors and non-executives
- Other health and care regulators and bodies
- Trust and Clinical Group Clinical Governance leads

INFECTION CONTROL

It is a requirement for all staff to comply with all infection control policies and procedures as set out in the Trust's Infection Control manual. The postholder is also responsible for ensuring all their staff attends mandatory training, including infection control and to provide support to the Director of Infection Control.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Trust has a statutory responsibility to provide and maintain a healthy and safe environment for its staff to work in. You equally have a responsibility to ensure that you do nothing to jeopardize the health and safety to either yourself or of anybody else. The Trust's Health and Safety Policies outline your responsibilities regarding Health & Safety at Work.

The post holder must not willingly endanger him/herself or others whilst at work. Safe working practices and safety precautions must be adhered to. Protective clothing and equipment must be used where appropriate.

All accidents/incidents must be reported to your Senior Manager and documented as per Trust Policy, including the reporting of potential hazards.

Role Description and Person Specification

SAFEGUARDING

Ensure that the policy and legislation relating to child protection and Safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults are adhered to. It is the responsibility of all staff to report any concerns to the identified person within your department/division or area of responsibility.

SECURITY

The post holder has a responsibility to ensure the preservation of NHS property and resources.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The post holder is required to maintain confidentiality at all times in all aspects of their work.

TEAM BRIEFING

The Trust operates a system of Team Briefing, which is based on the principles that people will be more committed to their work if they fully understand the reason behind what is happening in their organisation and how it is performing.

NO SMOKING POLICY

The Trust operates a no smoking control policy, which applies to all staff, patients and visitors and extends to the hospital grounds as well as internal areas.

THE TRUST IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

This job description indicates the main functions of the post holder and may be subject to regular review and amendment in the light of service development. Any review will be undertaken in conjunction with the post holder and in line with Trust policy

Role Description and Person Specification

Vision and Values

To achieve our mission of: **‘Working together to improve the health and quality of life of our diverse communities’...**

People who we serve, our colleagues, communities and partners are counting on us, so...



We are collectively getting it right, when we can all say...

- I listen to and respect the views and opinions of others, valuing their perspectives
- I promote empathy, understanding and kindness to others
- I support others to deal with and respond successfully to challenges
- I seek opportunities to continuously improve and innovate our care, services, research and teaching
- I make a habit of asking questions and seek to notice things that may have been missed
- I keep learning and support others to do the same
- I put the needs of our service users above all else to succeed together
- I share information with all that need it and work together with others to find shared solutions to problems.
- I celebrate the success of others
- I set a good example and behave how I would want others to behave towards me
- I give meaningful feedback and call it out if I see standards or patient safety not being maintained. I invite feedback from others
- I acknowledge when I get it wrong and use it as an opportunity for learning
- I actively ensure those around me feel valued and respected
- I consider other people's different needs and circumstances
- I treat people fairly, based on the unique things each person brings

Role Description and Person Specification

	Attribute	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First level registration (RN Child or equivalent). • Recent and significant experience in a paediatric setting. • Educated to degree level or equivalent. • Masters-level degree in health-related subject or equivalent. • Evidence of recent and relevant continuous professional development. • Doctorate-level degree in health-related subject. • Formal management or leadership qualification. • Experience of Ophthalmic Healthcare provision. 	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	 ✓ ✓ ✓
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A clear appreciation of the context of acute healthcare provision within the modern NHS and understanding of the NHS Operating Framework. ▪ A strong understanding of national NHS policy and strategy as it relates to nursing staff, AHPs and broader clinical workforce, as well as current professional challenges. ▪ Extensive knowledge of clinical governance systems and risk management. ▪ Understanding of regulation and preparedness. ▪ A strong understanding of how MFT fits into the wider health and social care system 	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	 ✓

Role Description and Person Specification

	Attribute	Essential	Desirable
Training and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extensive senior level nursing/AHP leadership and managerial experience within an acute NHS Trust (or comparatively large and complex multi-disciplinary organisation). 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extensive senior level nursing/AHP experience as a clinical practitioner. Extensive experience of leading and directing change and quality improvement in clinical practice, with evidence of successful outcomes and improvements in patient experience. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience of developing and implementing transformation programmes, including the management of service change, operational process improvement and cost reduction. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A successful track record of developing an organisational culture committed to high quality, people, financial and performance standards. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrable success in building, developing and inspiring high performing multi-disciplinary teams, increasing staff engagement and innovation, and motivation to improve performance. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence of communicating successfully and working effectively in co-operation with a wide range of internal and external bodies, including statutory and nonstatutory organisations, senior managers, colleagues and their representatives. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence of undertaking clinical audit and contributing to research programmes / studies and quality improvement. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A successful track record of delivering a long-term vision whilst responding to shortterm challenges and opportunities and defining clinical strategies in a senior level nursing role. 		✓

Role Description and Person Specification

	Attribute	Essential	Desirable
Skills and Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outstanding personal impact. Highly developed interpersonal, networking, advocacy, written and presentation skills that are persuasive and influential and develop relationships that inspire respect, trust and confidence. ▪ Ability to lead and work in a multi -disciplinary team, motivating others to secure continuous service improvement and successful outcomes. ▪ Highly developed analytical skills with the ability to think and act strategically, tactically and creatively, while maintaining a clear view of the issues affecting the Clinical Group and MFT. ▪ Ability to translate a strategic vision into operation action, to communicate those objectives and ensure they are adhered to. ▪ Ability to deal positively and promptly with colleagues' concerns and personal problems, challenge colleagues on any inappropriate behaviours or poor performance and investigate and deal with complaints as required. ▪ Ability to encourage multi - disciplinary professional working and problem solving. ▪ A high level of political awareness. 	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	
Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Able to actively engage with front -line staff in order to innovate clinical practice and improve both workforce and patient care experience. ▪ Able to manage different projects simultaneously with a high degree of autonomy in terms of decision -making 1 0 and management of deadlines. ▪ Able to adapt to changing priorities, problem solve and re-focus the work of self and others on new priority areas that may require urgent action. 	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	

Role Description and Person Specification

	Attribute	Essential	Desirable
Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can constructively challenge and effectively manage conflict to reach a positive conclusion. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High level of personal resilience and ability to work and remain calm in a high-pressure and/or challenging environment. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A commitment to personal development and the development of colleagues, with the ability to develop a culture in which all individuals can thrive and feel a sense of belonging. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passionate commitment to embedding equality, diversity and inclusivity, internally and externally. 	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Willingness and ability to travel between MFT's sites as required. 	✓	



Role Description and Person Specification

The NHS Board/Aspiring Board Members Leadership Framework

NHS England has worked with a wide range of leaders from across the NHS to help describe what we do when we operate at our best. They have used this feedback to design a set of six competency domains, creating a *Leadership Competency Framework* to support Board Members to perform at their best. This framework is for Chairs, Chief Executives and all Board members in NHS systems and providers, as well as serving as a guide for aspiring leaders of the future.

It is designed to:

- support the appointment of diverse, skilled, and proficient leaders
- support the delivery of high-quality, equitable care and the best outcomes for patients, service users, communities, and our workforce
- help organisations to develop and appraise all board members
- support individual board members to self-assess against the six competency domains and identify development needs.

For more information on how this framework should be applied:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/nhs-leadership-competency-framework-for-board-members/>

The six competency domains and definitions are:

Driving high-quality and sustainable outcomes

The skills, knowledge and behaviours needed to deliver and bring about high quality and safe care and lasting change and improvement – from ensuring all staff are trained and well led, to fostering improvement and innovation which leads to better health and care outcomes.

Setting strategy and delivering long-term transformation

The skills that need to be employed in strategy development and planning, and ensuring a system wide view, along with using intelligence from quality, performance, finance, and workforce measures to feed into strategy development.

Promoting equality and inclusion, and reducing health and workforce inequalities

The importance of continually reviewing plans and strategies to ensure their delivery leads to improved services and outcomes for all communities, narrows health and workforce inequalities, and promotes inclusion.



Role Description and Person Specification

Providing robust governance and assurance

The system of leadership accountability and the behaviours, values and standards that underpin our work as leaders. This domain also covers the principles of evaluation, the significance of evidence and assurance in decision making and ensuring patient safety, and the vital importance of collaboration on the board to drive delivery and improvement.

Creating a compassionate, just, and positive culture

The skills and behaviours needed to develop great team and organisation cultures. This includes ensuring all staff and service users are listened to and heard, being respectful and challenging inappropriate behaviours.

Building a trusted relationship with partners and communities

The need to collaborate, consult and co-produce with colleagues in neighbouring teams, providers and systems, people using services, our communities, and our workforce. Strengthening relationships and developing collaborative behaviours are key to the integrated care environment.



How to Apply?



How to Apply

**Closing date for applications is Midnight on
Midnight on Monday 6th April 2026**

How to apply

To apply, please submit the short application form via the vacancy link found on either the MFT Careers website, via 'Trac', our Applicant Tracking System or NHS Jobs.

Together with your application, you will also need to upload:

- Your Curriculum Vitae (CV) which should outline your education, professional qualifications, and full employment history. It is also helpful to have daytime and evening telephone contact numbers and e-mail addresses, which will be used with discretion.
- The CV or application should include names and contact details of a minimum of two board member referees from two separate organisations, which cover the last six years.
- All candidates are also requested to complete an Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form which will be available upon submission of your online application. This will assist Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust in monitoring their selection decisions to assess whether equality of opportunity is being achieved. The information you give us will be treated as confidential and is for monitoring purposes only; it will not form part of the application process.
- If you are unable to apply online, please email: sinead.gamble@mft.nhs.uk - Talent Attraction & Senior Acquisition Service Lead.

Selection Process

The Selection Event for shortlisted candidates will take place as follows:

Date: Monday 20th April 2026

Location: Oxford Road Campus

On this day, candidates will be invited to participate in:

- An in-person Stakeholder Engagement Exercise
- An in-person final Panel Interview

All selection exercises are developed specifically to assess the candidate's skills, knowledge, and experience in line with the Job Description and Person Specification, MFT's Values and in accordance with the six domains that form part of the NHS Leadership Competency Framework for Board Members/Aspiring Board members.

More information about the NHS Leadership Competency Framework for Board Members/Aspiring Board members can be found here:

www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/nhs-leadership-competency-framework-for-board-members/.

Shortlisted candidates should plan to be available for a minimum of **three hours** on the day of the Selection Event.

More detailed information about the selection process for this role will be shared with shortlisted candidates closer to the time.

Key dates to diary:

- Closing Date: **Monday 6th April 2026**
- Shortlisting outcomes: **by 10th April 2026**
- Selection Event: **Monday 20th April 2026**

*It is unlikely we can accept any late applications nor change the date of the Selection Event; therefore, we ask that applicants take note of these key dates and diary these in the event you are shortlisted.

How to Apply

Conditions of an offer of employment

The successful applicant will be subject to satisfactory clearance of the six NHS Pre-Employment Check Standards.

DBS costs (for relevant roles)

For roles that are subject to a DBS, our Trust policy requires that the cost of submitting & processing the successful applicant/DBS application be recovered via salary deduction following commencement in role.

The amount will be deducted from your salary in the first 3 months of employment. It's important to be aware that if you wish to withdraw from a conditional offer of employment from us once a DBS has been commenced you will be still liable for payment.

Personal Data

In line with GDPR, we ask that you do NOT send us any information that can identify children or any of your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, data concerning health or sex life and sexual orientation, genetic and / or biometric data) in your CV and application documentation.

Following this notice, any inclusion of your Sensitive Personal Data in your CV/application documentation will be understood by us as your express consent to process this information going forward. Please also remember to not mention anyone's information or details (e.g., referees) who have not previously agreed to their inclusion.



Contact Details

Contact Us

In the first instance, please contact:
Talent Attraction & Senior Acquisition Service Lead;

Sinéad Gamble
sinead.gamble@mft.nhs.uk
07900 584906





Manchester University
NHS Foundation Trust

