Your Trust: Members and Governors
Welcome to your Trust

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about the Trust, its membership and the important role that Governors play.

Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust is a provider of award winning mental health, learning disabilities and community health services. It is part of the NHS and provides its services to people of all ages and cultures who live in Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven.

Due to the range of services provided by the Trust, it’s likely that at some point in your life, you, or someone important to you, will have contact with at least one of our services. This might be through our health visiting, podiatry, end of life care, speech and language or specialist mental health services. Or, it might be via the care and treatment we give to older people with physical or mental health conditions such as respiratory disease or dementia.

No matter which service you experience, we want your experience to be the best it can be. Our Members and Governors have a vital role to play in providing feedback to us about our services and this booklet contains further information about membership of the Trust and the role of Governors.
Our vision is: ‘Working with diverse communities to provide outstanding care’.

In support of this vision we recognise the need to focus on service user, patient and staff satisfaction which is why we use the strapline ‘You and Your Care’ in many of our communications.

Vision wheel

The Trust’s Vision wheel contains statements which describe how we will achieve our vision.
Membership
Healthcare impacts everyone and all those that experience healthcare services want their experience to be good.

Members can help us to continually improve our services by telling their Governors what they think about our services. Our Governors will make sure this feedback is shared at the highest level within the Trust.
The benefits of Membership:

✓ Our members are informed about and invited to attend healthcare related talks which are led by senior healthcare professionals. These talks are free and provide a rare opportunity for local people to spend over an hour hearing from and asking questions of the experts. When we have a membership talk planned, we include details in our calendar of meetings and events. You can access the calendar via this link www.bdct.nhs.uk/events. We also send details of our events to those members that have provided us with an email address.

✓ Members can engage in the work of the Trust in other ways. For instance, they can become a volunteer or take part in recruitment and selection panels.

✓ Members also receive our newsletter. This contains important information about our local healthcare services and some of the conditions we treat.

✓ Only our members can apply to become a Governor of the Trust whenever a vacancy arises.

✓ Only our members can vote for their preferred Governor candidate in our Governor elections.

✓ Membership of a Trust shows commitment to the NHS.

✓ Membership is free!

How do I become a member?

Please complete our short membership application form. We have an online version which is available on our website at: https://secure.membra.co.uk/bradfordapplicationform/

Or, you can request a paper copy from our Membership office.
Our Governors

Our Governors are responsible for voicing the views of our members and the wider public. They attend meetings with our Chairman and tell him what local people think about our services and plans. The Chairman then shares this information with members of the Board who consider this before making important decisions.

Our Governors are volunteers and do not get paid by the Trust. As well as representing the views of the membership, Governors also have a number of other duties. They:

- Appoint (and where necessary remove) the Chairman and our Non-Executive Board members.
- Approve the remuneration of the Chairman and Non-Executive Board members.
- Approve the appointment of the Chief Executive.
- Appoint the External Auditor.
- Provide their comments about the Trust’s Annual Plan.
- Approve changes to the Trust’s constitution.
- Approve merger, acquisition and significant transaction plans.
- Receive the Annual Report and Accounts and the Quality Report.

Some Governors also sit on Governor committees, help to develop the Membership Strategy and attend membership recruitment and engagement events.

Council of Governor Meetings

Council of Governor meetings are held in public which means that members and the public can also attend these. The dates of future Council of Governor meetings are available on our website at: http://www.bdct.nhs.uk/meetings-and-events.

Contacting Your Governor

Details about how to contact a Governor are available on our website at: http://www.bdct.nhs.uk/our-council-of-governors

If you don’t have access to the website, please contact our Membership office.

Contacting the Membership Office

The team can be contacted on: 01274 228381 or via email at ft@bdct.nhs.uk