

OBJECTIVES, INTEREST AND BALANCE STATEMENT 2020-21

The Trust has the following Strategic Goals:

- To continuously improve the quality of care so that services are safe, compassionate, timely and responsive – achieving consistently good outcomes and an excellent patient experience.
- To be a great place to work, by creating a positive and open culture, and supporting and developing staff across the Trust, so that they are able to realise their potential and give of their best.
- To ensure that all resources are used efficiently to establish financially sustainable services and deliver key operational standards and targets.
- To transform and improve our services in line with the Dorset ICS Long Term Plan, by separating emergency and planned care, and integrating our services with those in the community.
- Be a well-governed and well-managed organisation that works effectively in partnership with others, is strongly connected to the local population and is valued by local people.

The Foundation Trust governance arrangements under which the organisation operates bring democratic and community involvement in the Trust's activities. These arrangements will continue to develop, especially the relationship between the Trust's Board of Directors and Council of Governors. There are a number of mechanisms through which the interests of patients, the local community and other stakeholders are balanced and the developing arrangements seek to ensure that these provide an appropriate mix through:

Board of Directors

Ensuring a capable and competent Board of Directors aware of its legal and governance responsibilities in safeguarding the organisation and its development and the interests of those it serves.

Council of Governors

Ensuring an active and representative Council of Governors. The make-up of the Council has been constituted to provide democratic representation for the public, service users, carers and staff, and the constituencies established recognise the population served by the Trust. Other stakeholders are also represented through appointed Council of Governors, including the County and Unitary Authorities of Dorset, Poole and Bournemouth, Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group and Bournemouth University.

The Council currently comprised of 27 Governors; 17 who are elected representatives of their respective constituencies and five elected by staff of the Trust and five appointed by the partner organisations mentioned above.

Members elected the following 17 representatives:

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| • Poole and Rest of Dorset constituency | 6 governors |
| • Bournemouth constituency | 6 governors |
| • Christchurch, East Dorset and Rest of England | 5 governors |

Staff elected the following four representatives (one vacancy):

- clinical staff 3 governors
- non clinical staff 1 governor

Appointed Governors are nominated by the five partner organisations following a process agreed with the Trust.

The Council of Governors is responsible for ensuring that the Trust responds to the needs and preferences of stakeholders and whilst not involved in the day-to-day running of the Trust, Governors provide an essential link between the Trust's Board of Directors responsible for delivering the service, its members (who are the local owners of the Trust) and the communities served by the Trust.

Members

Membership of the Foundation Trust which stands at just over 12,000 public members as at 1 October 2021. The Trust is accountable to local people, who can become members or governors. For this reason, the Trust has established a strong membership of local people and staff. The Trust has a clear intention to ensure that their opportunities for engagement are maximised through:

- communications with members; this is through regular newsletters and ad hoc communications on particular issues. The Council of Governors and their informal reference group Membership Engagement has a particular brief in this area;
- development of web based information and contact details for raising queries;
- facilitating member contact with Governors.

March 2021