



University Hospitals Dorset
NHS Foundation Trust

Together online...

An update to our members

caring one team listening to understand open and honest always improving inclusive



January 2026

Welcome from our Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Chief Executive, Dr Peter Wilson

Happy New Year from all of us here at University Hospitals Dorset.

2025 was an incredible year for our hospitals as we marked a number of milestones and achievements, including:

- Opening of the BEACH Building at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital, with our Maternity, Critical Care and RBH Emergency Department colleagues now delivering care from a state-of-the-art building, and more teams to join them soon.
- Strengthening our research and academic partnerships with Bournemouth University and Health Science University.
- Seeing more of our patients sooner and improving cancer waits.

While we face significant challenges in our NHS, our teams are working tirelessly to provide excellent services now, as well as planning for the future – and we have a busy 2026 ahead.

In July, the Royal Bournemouth will become our emergency care site, while Poole Hospital will become one of the largest planned care sites in the country. This is a Herculean feat in its own right, but one that aims to create a positive change for healthcare in Dorset.

For now, as we continue through the winter, please choose well when seeking medical help. More information on how to do this can be found in this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support, *Peter*

Get the right care for you

Emergency? Injury? Or minor illness?

NHS 111, Pharmacy or GP

Symptoms that don't go away - aches, pains, fevers, headaches, stomach upset or medication issues.

To find your nearest pharmacy please visit
www.nhs.uk

Urgent Treatment Centre

Not life-threatening - broken bones, sprains, burns, skin infections, wounds, ear pain, back pain, minor head injuries, sore throats.

Please **call 111** before attending.

Emergency Department

Serious emergencies, for example - severe breathing difficulties, loss of consciousness, chest pain, heavy bleeding, severe stomach pain.

Transformation update

Looking ahead: What to expect in 2026

The next stage of our transformation programme (Phase 3) will take place in summer 2026 and will separate emergency and planned care. The Royal Bournemouth Hospital will become our emergency care site, and Poole Hospital will be our planned care site.

This is the most complex phase and will involve moving wards, staff, patients, and equipment. The Children's Unit will also be moving from Poole to RBH. This includes the following: Children's Inpatient Wards, Children's Assessment Unit, and Children's Day Care Unit.

Keep an eye on our website – www.uhd.nhs.uk/future - as we keep you updated with all the changes.

Did you know that the Emergency Department at Poole Hospital is moving in Summer 2026?

Please share your views with us by scanning the QR code and completing a short survey.



Thank you!

To find out more about the changes visit
www.uhd.nhs.uk/future



**Transforming
Care
Together**

Better for patients, better for staff

Cancer inpatients relocating to RBH



We're making improvements to cancer care across University Hospitals Dorset. From 23 February 2026, all cancer inpatients will be cared for at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital. This move brings our specialist teams together to provide more coordinated and efficient care. Outpatient and radiotherapy services will continue as normal. Learn more [here](#).



Scan for NHS 111 online:



Poole Hospital's Emergency Department will move to the Royal Bournemouth Hospital in Summer 2026.

Both hospitals will keep their
Urgent Treatment Centres.

Find out more: www.uhd.nhs.uk/future

Governor update

An update from Lead Governor, Michele Whitehurst

Dear members,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2026!

As we begin the year, I want to express my sincere thanks to all our members, staff, volunteers, and colleagues for your continued support of the Council of Governors (CoG). Your involvement keeps us focused on what matters most to our communities across Dorset.



We're delighted to welcome our new and re-elected governors, who completed their induction this month January. Thank you for stepping forward to represent our members and local communities - we look forward to working with you throughout the year.

On a personal note, I was recently touched to receive a thank-you card from a member of the public I assisted to the Emergency Department. It was a wonderful reminder of how small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

Thank you again for your ongoing support. Here's to a positive, productive year ahead - and to staying connected through our events, meetings, and conversations.

Warmest regards,

Michele



Charity update



March for Men: walk, run and change patients' lives



For Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, you are invited to step into action along Bournemouth's seafront on Saturday 28 March 2026 and show your support for everyone affected by prostate cancer in our community. Every

year, over 52,000 people in the UK are diagnosed with prostate cancer. March for Men is the perfect opportunity to come together and raise funds to create a brighter future for patients and their families, supported by University Hospitals Dorset.

Register for March for Men today and enjoy £2 off your tickets:
www.UHDcharity.org/M4M

New Year, New impact for you to discover!

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Charity is full of heart, and we would love for you to discover how you can be part of something amazing by learning more about your hospitals' charity. As an NHS charity, we are here to help you and your teams go the extra mile for the patients and families you



support, above and beyond what the NHS can fund. Our work is only possible thanks to the kindness and generosity of local people, patients and our community.

Visit www.UHDcharity.org to learn more!

A promotional poster for 'Light up the Prom' featuring a night scene of a pier with fireworks exploding in the sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

NEW DATE!

Light up the Prom

A life well remembered lives on

Friday 27 February 2026, 7pm
Bournemouth Pier Approach




Join us for an evening of candlelight and fireworks
to celebrate the memory of your special loved ones.


**University Hospitals Dorset
NHS Charity**
Registered Charity No. 107046

Sponsored by

**Coles
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**Donate and receive a candle
at UHDcharity.org/LUTP**

If you are interested in finding out more about how you can support the charity:
Follow @UHDCharity on  Facebook  Instagram and  X (Twitter) Visit UHDcharity.org,
or contact the office on **0300 019 4060/8449**

Media highlights

Did you see?

- **Daily Echo** | New Year arrivals | see [online](#)
- **Daily Echo** | Letter: 'Thanks to wonderful NHS staff' | see [online](#)

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

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