

Forest of Dean Health Forum

Notes

Tuesday 2nd November 7.00pm

Present:

Ingrid Barker - Chair Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust

Simeon Foreman - Trust Secretary Glos Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Nick Penny - FVAF

Di Martin - Committee

Albert Weager - Chair

Jim Spiers - Treasurer

Ruth Wadley - Newent TC Deborah Vaughan - Crossroads

Care

Linda Vaughan - Secretary

Doug Battersby

Jim Rollinson - GOPA

Chrissie Johnson

Caroline Smith

Jackie Jenkins

Chris Witham

Hilary Bowen

Sylvia Francis - Committee

Patrick Kyne

Speakers:

Ingrid Barker – Chair Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust

Simeon Foreman - Trust Secretary Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Both Speakers will be talking about membership of the Trust and the role of Governor for their Trust.

Ingrid Barker

Ingrid began by explaining that the Health and Care Trust was formed by the merger of the 2Gether NHS Trust and Care Services who provide services in physical health, mental health and learning disabilities throughout the county and are responsible for our community hospitals.

As a Foundation Trust it is accountable to its members and the NHS. Membership is open in England and Wales and is free and easy to join. The Trust has Public Governors who represent their locality. A Public Governor needs to be a member and is able to have close connections to the Trust and its strategies.

Chris Witham is currently a Governor for the Forest of Dean and he was enthusiastic about how he is able to keep a line of sight into the frontline to ensure changes are locally relevant. He is a member of Cinderford Town Council.

There is a vacancy for a Forest of Dean Public Governor.

Simeon Foreman

Simeon explained that the membership of the Hospitals' Trust had fallen when the GDPR regulation meant the people had to 'opt in' to continue their membership but unfortunately, many were not contacted, thereby leaving the membership to fall to 1500. Sim explained the benefits of membership and being a Public Governor for the same reasons as Ingrid and the Health and Care Trust.

Hilary Bowen is currently a Public Governor for the Hospitals Trust and she re-affirmed the importance of the role in connecting to the Board. She also mentioned that the Trust is recruiting a new Chair for the Board of Governors.

There is a vacancy for a Forest of Dean Public Governor.

The details are in the attached addendum.

Chair's Report

Letter to GPs re access and appointments

Following concerns raised by forum members and the general public, a letter was sent to the GPs asking what could be done to help the situation. There is a perception that some practices are dealing with the problem better than others. Dr Weiss has sent a comprehensive reply explaining some of the challenges GPs face and assuring us that GPs and their staff are all working hard to try to see as many patients as possible.

Albert was keen to enable Practice Participation Groups to get going again.

Caroline Smith reported that the CCG is trying to support GPs with these unprecedented pressures and reminded us to use Pharmacies and 111 when appropriate.

Communication between patients and practices is difficult but important. Suggested ways are: Parish Council newsletters, Parish Magazines, Libraries and Local Shops.

Chrissie Johnson wondered whether a uniform policy throughout practices would help, especially with the telephone system.

The Coleford Area Partnership has invited the Forum to attend a meeting to discuss issues with Primary Care, as they are also receiving a lot of negative feedback about GP access.

Albert has joined the ICS Ageing Well Programme Board which aims to bring together various streams of work including a falls discussion group of which Albert is a member.

The more detailed report is attached.

Jackie Jenkins said that there is very high demand on community services as people are discharged and they are working as hard as they can. People don't always see behind the scenes but the Forest is working well together.

Deborah Vaughan, CEO of Crossroads, explained that they do have staffing difficulties but the day centre is building back up. They are also able to help people when they fall.

Financial Report - Balance **£1564:30p.**

Any other Business - Next meeting will be on Tuesday 7th December at 7.00pm via Zoom

Our Speaker will be Dr Saran Braybrook who will explain the role of clinical pharmacy within surgeries and also discuss any other medicines issues.

Topic: Forest Health Forum December Meeting

Time: Dec 7, 2021 07:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99099542706?pwd=eXlOcUVkb05VamFmZGRta284MEo1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 990 9954 2706

Passcode: 710931

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Addendum to meeting on 2nd November 2021

Details of Membership and the role of Governor to Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and the Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Trust

Become a member of Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Members play an important role in shaping how we deliver services and care at Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust; from sharing your thoughts and ideas to influencing the way we provide hospital services, from electing our governors to becoming a governor yourself – there are many ways you can help us as a member.

There are currently 130 members in the Forest of Dean district constituency and we know there a lot more people living in the area who are passionate supporters of their local NHS services in the county.

Signing up is EASY and FREE! As a member you will:

- receive an annual newsletter, keeping you up to date with news and developments at our hospitals.
- be invited to seminars/tours, meetings and events to gain an inside view on various departments and specialities.
- be invited to have your say about the future of the hospitals and services we provide to you.
- be able to vote for a governor or stand as a governor.
- learn about volunteering opportunities and other ways you can get involved.
- benefit from discounts on many purchases through Health Service Discounts.

Please click on the link below to find out more and become a member. Please remember to provide your full address to help us complete your registration more quickly.

<https://secure.membra.co.uk/GlosApplicationForm/>



Join us!



GHSC
Gloucestershire Health and Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Our members are the voice of the communities we serve. They help shape our Trust - now and into the future.

Membership is free and you can get involved as much or as little as you want.

Visit www.ghc.nhs.uk/membership or email members@ghc.nhs.uk to join.

