

Outside body: Ashford & St Peter's NHS Trust
Councillor: Malcolm Cressey

Overview and performance. Ashford and St Peter's NHS Foundation Trust serves a population of around 400,000, has around 400 beds and a budget of around £400m pa.

- In October 2013 the Trust was categorised as a band six, the best rating, in a hospital intelligence monitoring report published by the Care Quality Commission (CQC)
- The Trust did poorly in the 2015 cancer patient experience survey
- Two of Ashford Hospital's wards, used by the elderly for rehabilitation care, were closed in June 2015 after a review carried out by the Clinical Commissioning Group found patients recovered better away from acute hospitals;
- On 3 May 2022, Julie Smith joined Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals, as Chief Executive. Prior to joining ASPH, Julie held the position of Chief Operating Officer at East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust since 2018.
- From 16 May 2022, the Trust launched their new electronic patient record system – known as Surrey Safe Care. It would be fair to say that the implementation did not go smoothly and defects are still be ironed out.
- On 3rd Jan 2023, the trust declared a Critical Incident. This was due to the significant ongoing pressure on services, alongside the need to act swiftly to ensure patients continued to receive safe, high quality care. The Emergency Department was extremely busy and the Trust urged people to only attend if it was a life-threatening situation or a serious injury. This incident ended on 12 Jan 2023.
- In January 2023, the Trust were visited by the CQC, who carried out an unannounced focused inspection at St Peter's Hospital as part of the national maternity inspection programme. The inspection was to look at how safe and well-led maternity services were. Following the inspection, the CQC published a report on 29 March 2023 which rated the maternity service as **Inadequate**.

The **Board of Directors** that is legally accountable for running the Trust. It has:

- 1 – Chairman
- 7 - Non-Executive Directors (NEDS) (lay people appointed by the Council of Governors for three year terms)
- 7 - Executive Directors (who are employees).

In addition to the Board of Directors, there is a **Council of Governors**. The Council is important and influential in the way that it represents workforce colleagues and the community, giving their views to the Board of Directors on the organisation's future direction. It does not run the Trust or get involved with the day-to-day operational issues.

The **Council of Governors** is made up of Governors from:

- 3 - Elmbridge
- 2 - Richmond and the rest of England
- 3 - Runnymede, Surrey Heath, Windsor and Maidenhead
- 3 – Spelthorne
- 3 – Woking & Guildford
- **14 Public Governors**
- 5 – Staff Representatives
- **5 Staff Governors**
- 1 – Appointed Governor, Runnymede Borough Council

Appendix B – Feedback from Councillors on outside bodies

- 1 – Appointed Governor, Spelthorne Borough Council
 - 1 – Appointed Governor, Woking Borough Council
 - 1 – Appointed Governor, University of Surrey
 - 1 – Appointed Governor, Royal Holloway University of London
- 5 appointed Governors**
24 Total Governors

Governors have two main duties:

- To hold the **Non-Executive Directors**, individually and collectively, to account for the performance of the Board and Directors; and
- To represent the **interests of the members of the Trust** as a whole and the **interests of the public**.

Statutory powers include appointing the Chairman and Non-Executive Directors; approving significant transactions (as defined by the Trust's Constitution) and approving amendments to the Trust's Constitution.

Governors do not receive a salary but do receive expenses incurred in carrying out their role.

We carry out **our duties** by:

- Regular Governor and Executive meetings
 - Budgets
 - Exceptions
- Attending key committee meeting as observers including:
 - Nominations
 - Remuneration
 - Audit & Risk
 - Modern Healthcare
 - Quality of Care
 - People
 - Collaboration and Strategy
 - Integrated Digital
 - Freedom to Speak Up
 - Maternity Safety
 - Patient Experience
- Obtaining feedback and assurances from NEDS and other senior executives.