

JOIN US



I would like to start this message by highlighting the vacancies we have currently available on our Council of Governors.

As a Foundation Trust member, you'll know you have a real opportunity to get involved in the work of RJAH. However, by being elected to our Council of Governors, you'll be able to see behind-the-scenes workings of a successful NHS hospital.

Having a full Council of Governors is vital to the development of the hospital, ensuring views of the public, patients, carers, our staff and other key stakeholders are heard and reflected in our strategy and operations.

Our Council of Governors are a group of committed individuals who contribute to the work and future developments of the hospital, as well as holding the Non-Executive Directors to account for the performance of the Board.

It's also a fantastic opportunity to give back to your local community.

We have a number of vacancies for Governors to represent Shropshire, North Wales, Powys, the rest of England and Wales and staff. If you would like more information, please contact our Foundation Trust Office at rjah.governors@nhs.net

I'd also like to take this opportunity to recognise the challenging financial position across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin at this moment in time, and we watch with anticipation what the new Government will deliver in response to this.

Lastly, I hope you all enjoy your summer and manage to spend quality time with your families.

Harry Turner
Chairman



Governors Meetings

24 November 2024

For more information, please email:
rjah.ft@nhs.net

Your elected Public Governors

Shropshire

Victoria Sugden (Lead) / Colin Chapman / Vacant

North Wales

Shelia Hughes / Vacant

West Midlands

Tony Wright

Cheshire & Merseyside

Neil Turner

Powys

Vacant

Rest of England & Wales

Vacant

Staff Governors

Allen Edwards / Kate Betts / Vacant

Stakeholder Governors

(appointed by organisations that work closely with the Trust)

Peter David – RJAH Voluntary Services Committee

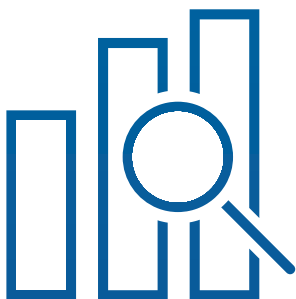
Councillor Simon Jones – Shropshire Council

Karina Wright – Keele University

Membership figures

At the end of June 2024, the membership figures were:

Staff	1324
Volunteers	415
Public	5112
Total	6851



Governor Profile

Peter David

Stakeholder Governor for RJAH Voluntary Services Committee



I have been associated with the League of Friends to RJAH for over 10 years now. Firstly, I was the Treasurer for three years, and then moved into the role of Chair which I have held for 7 years now.

The League of Friends was set up in 1961 and, since then, have raised over £20 million for RJAH, to supporting staff and patients by providing services, organising volunteers and funding equipment. We have a number of fundraising branches across Shropshire and North and Mid Wales, including Bala, Chirk and Weston Rhyn, Ludlow and Welshpool.

We are always looking for people to get involved and to support us – either by fundraising or volunteering. More about this can be found on the [League of Friends website](#)

This is my second time on the Council of Governors for RJAH, and I am very keen to support the Trust in playing a leading role as a key partner within the Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care System, while retaining its own individual identity and building on its international reputation.

My outside pursuits involve watching Wales play rugby, playing golf (badly) and ensuring my garden continues to flourish.

Governors are always pleased to hear from our members and can be contacted by email on rjah.governors@nhs.net

Representing People

When Parliament created NHS foundation trusts, it provided them with independence from central government and a governance structure that ensured participation from within the local communities they serve.

NHS foundation trust governors are the direct representatives of local interests within foundation trusts. Governors do not undertake operational management of NHS foundation trusts; rather they challenge the board of directors and collectively hold them to account for the trust's performance. It is also the governors' responsibility to represent their members' interests, particularly in relation to the strategic direction of the trust.

Legislation provides governors with statutory responsibilities to help deliver these key objectives. The legislation is the National Health Service Act 2006 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Please note that meetings of the Council of Governors are open to members of the public. The public are asked to notify the Trust of any matters they wish to raise in advance, as this will allow the Trust to be able to respond fully and will assist in the time management of the meeting.

If you would like to attend, please email: rjah.ft@nhs.net to confirm your attendance and also of any matters you wish to raise.

News from the Trust

Members of the public encouraged to help #ImproveTheNextJourney

RJAH is appealing for patients, carers, service users or member of the public to get involved with #ImproveTheNextJourney – by having a voice, bringing knowledge, skills and experience to support in evaluating, developing and delivering services.

Olivia Evans, Improvement, Innovation and Effectiveness Facilitator, said: “We want people to get involved for a variety of reasons – it might be because you’d like to give something back, to make positive changes, or to do something meaningful.”

If you are interested in joining #ImproveTheNextJourney, please email rjah.improvement@nhs.net, or get in touch via X (formerly Twitter) at @RJAHImprovement

Friends support Sheldon Ward at RJAH with new volunteering role

Volunteers for the League of Friends have embraced a new opportunity in providing non-clinical support to specific patients on Sheldon Ward, the general medicine, dementia and rehabilitation ward.

The idea was the brainchild of Michelle Williams, Activities Coordinator, who recognised a growing number of patients experiencing low morale.

The Friends responded to this request by introducing Percy’s Pals – volunteers who are trained in safeguarding and dementia care, equipping them with the skills to safely communicate with and support patients.

Hi tech rehab classes offer ‘good boost’ to people with joint and muscle pain

A collaboration between local health and care providers across Shropshire Telford and Wrekin (STW) and wellbeing tech company Good Boost has launched a new offer to help those with musculoskeletal conditions such as arthritis, back and chronic pain as well as problems both pre- and post-surgery

The non-profit social enterprise’s technology harnesses artificial intelligence to create personalised exercise programmes and augmented reality games that customers access on bespoke, waterproof tablets.

Good Boost provide aqua and land-based classes across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin in leisure centres including Shrewsbury, Ludlow, Oswestry, Wellington and Abraham Darby. People will be able to self-refer onto the programme, paying a small fee of around £4 to £5 per session. Sessions last for up to 40 minutes, with the emphasis on variety not repetition.

The partnership brings together Shropshire Council and Telford and Wrekin Council with The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, which oversees the Musculoskeletal Transformation Programme for STW.

Teddies bring comfort to Orthotics patients at RJAH

Children who visit the Orthotics department are feeling less stressed during their appointments, thanks to a generous donation of teddy bears from Teddies for Loving Care (TLC) by Shropshire Freemasons, in collaboration with the League of Friends.

The Department of Orthotics help treat and rehabilitate patients by providing orthoses to aid movement, correct deformities and relieve comfort.

The League of Friends at RJAH connected the Orthotics Team with the Shropshire Freemasons, who work with TLC, to provide teddy bears to hospitals for staff, at their discretion, to give to children.





Ask others to join

Over 6,500 people have chosen to become a member - anyone over 14 years of age can join and there are a number of benefits, including invitations to events.

As a member you:

- Become part of a wide network patients, carers, local community members and staff supporting RJAH for the future.
- Have a say in how the hospital is run through voting for governors (or by being elected as a governor) and by sharing your views in our member surveys.
- Receive regular news from the hospital, invitations to our members' events and a copy of the Governors' annual report.
- Support the hospital as an NHS Foundation

Trust by encouraging friends, family, patients and carers to sign up as members too!

To join online please visit: www.rjah.nhs.uk or for a membership form ring 01691 404394 or email: rjah.ft@nhs.net

Get Connected!

Join us on social media and keep up to date with the latest news and events going on across the Trust.

We have an active community on Facebook with over 13,000 followers.

You can also find us on Twitter and Instagram at @RJAH_NHS.

If you've got anything you think we should be sharing on social media, why not let us know about it?



Feedback matters

Do you have any feedback on this bulletin?

Is there any other information you would like us to include in the next edition? Do you have any articles you would like to submit? By passing on ideas and suggestions about the report - or any other feedback - you can help us carry out our role more effectively.

Contact the editors – Victoria Sugden and Allen Edwards at: rjah.governors@nhs.net

OBE for Veterans' Orthopaedic Service founder Lt Col Carl Meyer

Lieutenant Colonel Carl Meyer, Clinical Director and founder of the Veterans' Orthopaedic Service at RJAH, was named in the King's Birthday Honours.

Carl has been named an Officer of the Order of the British Empire – more commonly known as an OBE.

The honour is in recognition of his service to the British Army and to the veteran community.

Carl said: "It was a huge shock when I found out that I was to be recognised with this honour. I am both proud and extremely honoured.

"I see it as recognition for the importance of supporting our veterans, to whom, as a nation, we owe a debt of gratitude. Receiving this honour strengthens my desire to ensure we continue to develop our veterans' services here at RJAH as well as helping other hospitals to develop their own services."



End-of-life Swan scheme launched at RJAH

RJAH formally pledged its support to the Swan Model of Care scheme – a national initiative which aims to support patients in their final days of life and their families into bereavement and beyond by providing individualised, but consistent care.

Pip Page-Davies, Macmillan Oncology Nurse Specialist, has been leading on the roll-out across the Oswestry-based hospital.

She said: "Provision of excellent palliative and end-of-life care is crucial - whilst the number of deaths in the Trust may be low, the delivery of excellent care is very important to us. We have just one chance to get it right for each patient at the appropriate time. The Swan Model of Care will be valuable to all staff helping to provide individualised end-of-life care to patients.

"The model aims to give support patients as they approach the end of their lives, by ensuring a personalised approach so they are comfortable. It also allows the nursing teams to do things differently in these circumstances."

To support the adoption of the scheme, the Trust has created dedicated Swan boxes for each ward. These boxes contain resources for staff such as care plans, as well as documents for patients and their loved ones including information leaflets.

