



Membership Matters December 2024

Dear Trust Member,

Welcome to your December Membership Matters newsletter, a newsletter for members of the Trust with recent news and forthcoming events. This month we include the announcement of a new lead governor, the appointment of a permanent Chief Executive, the second round of the Warneford Park pre-planning consultation, Mental Health support provided through NHS Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Talking Therapies plus much more happening around the Trust.

As a [member](#) you decide how much, or how little you want to get involved. We'd love you to attend our events, share your thoughts, or even stand to become the governor in your area (there are governor elections taking place from March next year). If you're a [social media](#) user, feel free to like and share posts so that your friends, family and colleagues can get to know more about us and the work that we do. Or you may simply want to be kept informed. However you choose to show your support and make a difference, we are happy to have you on board.

If you would like to contact the governors of the Trust please use this link [local governor](#).

News from around the Trust

Council of Governors meeting – 5 December 2024

At the Council of Governors meeting on the 5 December, governors appointed a new lead governor, Vicki Power (staff governor), to replace Anna Gardner (public governor) who is standing down in the New Year. Governors and the board of directors thanked Anna for all her work, commitment and support in the role.

The Council confirmed the appointment of Grant Macdonald as the permanent Chief Executive for the Trust. Grant has been the Trust's Interim Chief Executive since July 2023. Previously Grant was the Trust's Executive Managing Director for Mental

Health and Learning Disabilities from March 2022. Grant's NHS career spans 36 years and he remains a registered mental health nurse. Over the last two decades Grant has held board roles including Chief Nurse, Chief Operating Officer, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Executive, and he has worked in community, acute and mental health sectors, in and around London and the South East.

Governors also received a presentation on the Trust's draft planning priorities and strategic programmes for 2025/26 from Amelie Bages (Executive Director for Strategy and Partnerships), an update on the implementation at the Trust of a national framework for all NHS provider trusts on patient and carer race equality (from the Chief Nurse – Britta Klinck), and heard from non-executive director Lucy Weston about her role and work as a non-executive director - Lucy is chair of the board's finance and investment committee.

Copies of the papers can be found on the Trust website. [Website: Meeting Papers](#)

Dr Ben Riley to join Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board

Oxford Health's Chief Operating Officer for Community Health Services, Dentistry & Primary Care, Dr Ben Riley, is to leave the Trust to take up the role of Chief Medical Officer of NHS Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB). Ben has spent four years with Oxford Health, initially joining as, Managing Director of Primary and Community Care Services in 2020.



[BOB ICB website: Dr Ben Riley joins BOB ICB](#)



Warneford Park - second round of pre-planning consultations

On behalf of Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and the University of Oxford and a partner, you have been invited to our second phase of pre-planning application, public consultation events for Warneford Park.

We would really like to hear what you think of how our plans have evolved since the first consultation. Please drop into any of the exhibition events being held at the Day Centre, main entrance of the Warneford Hospital OX3 7JX

[Website: Join the conversation – Warneford Park consultation](#)

Community health services, dentistry and primary care directorate update

The Community health services, dentistry and primary care directorate continues to make progress at the start of the new school term in September and saw the Trust's school nursing service become a fully active part of the new 0-19 integrated children and young people's public health service. In November, a new single point of access (SPA) service, which has a co-located clinical decision-making capability, launched for adult referrals into Oxford Health's same day care teams.

Work on the Oxford City Hubs project continues, with the refurbishment of Murray House in Jordan Hill – the North City Hub – well underway. All the teams involved are working to ensure that services start to operate from Murray House in the Spring of 2025. Finally, Oxford Health is working with its partners across the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire West system in reviewing community nursing services and how they can be improved going forward. This project, which is being facilitated by the local Integrated Care Board, got underway in September, and will run through well into 2025/26.

New Buckinghamshire Early Engagement and Prevention Service (BEEP) supporting people at risk of developing psychosis

A new service has launched in Buckinghamshire to support people at risk of developing psychosis.



Buckinghamshire Early Engagement and Prevention (BEEP) supports people aged 14 to 35 who have experienced mild or brief psychotic symptoms. They aim to offer support and care to people as soon as possible to prevent them developing a first episode of psychosis which may lead to longer term, more distressing and challenging psychotic symptoms.

BEEP is part of the ground-breaking Early Intervention in Psychosis service which supports people experiencing their first episode of psychosis. NHS mental health services in Buckinghamshire are provided by Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust.

[Website: Buckinghamshire Early Engagement and Prevention Service](#)



Free expert Mental Health support through NHS Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Talking Therapies

NHS Mental health help is only a click or call away for adults struggling with anxiety or depression.

Both services offer free and confidential NHS support to adults experiencing common mental health difficulties, including Depression (excluding Bipolar Affective Disorder), anxiety disorders such as Generalised Anxiety Disorder (GAD), Panic Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), hoarding, Social Anxiety, Health Anxiety, Specific Phobia, Agoraphobia: with or without panic, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Body Dysmorphia. Mixed Anxiety and Depression, Adjustment Reaction.

[Website: Free expert Mental Health support through NHS Buckinghamshire Talking Therapies](#)

Also see the latest in mental health help in Oxfordshire Talking Therapies

[Website: NHS Mental health help is only a click or call away for adults in Oxfordshire struggling with anxiety or depression](#)

Keystone Connect opens in Chipping Norton

From November, Keystone Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect is being held at The Branch, 16 Market Place, Chipping Norton, every Friday. Keystone Connect will be open 9am to 5pm for appointments.



The Keystone mental health team includes mental health clinicians plus employment advice experts and peer support workers, some of whom have experienced mental health challenges themselves. Visit the Oxford Trust website for more information.

[Website: Keystone Connect opens in Chipping Norton](#)



GPs supported to help patients with depression through new specialist clinics

GPs will be able to support patients with difficult to treat depression through seven new specialist clinics across the UK, widening access to clinical assessments and new treatments.

The [Oxford Health Biomedical Research Centre's Treatment Resistant Depression Clinic](#), forms part of an already established network of clinics that will be expanded upon across the country. The Oxford Health Biomedical Research Centre (OH BRC) led by [Professor Rachel Upthegrove](#) is based at [Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust](#).

[Website: GPs supported to help patients with depression through new specialist clinics](#)

New study for Treatment-Resistant Depression launches at Oxford Health Clinical Research Facility

The NIHR Oxford Health Clinical Research Facility (OH CRF) has begun researching a new potential drug treatment for Treatment-

Resistant Depression (TRD). Participants from across Oxford who meet the criteria are being sought for the study through to March 2025, with two already enrolled.



This research offers a potentially different and novel treatment approach for those experiencing TRD, which has a significant impact on people's lives. The study will help to show whether the new investigational treatment is effective and, if so, how long that effect might last.

[Website: New study for Treatment-Resistant Depression launches at Oxford Health Clinical Research Facility](#)

Oxford Health Charity



Lucy's Room opens – inspirational idea to meaningful music space

After six years of fundraising and development, Lucy's Room celebrated their official opening in October.

The room takes pride of place at Warneford Hospital – bringing a much-needed space for adult mental health

patients on both the wards and with community teams to benefit from music therapy – providing an escape to love music, be imaginative, feel free, and perhaps discover a new talent. Read more around the official opening.

[Website: Lucy's Room official opening](#)

Volunteering Recruitment site

Thinking of volunteering for Oxford Health Charity, visit their new volunteer management and recruitment system "Assemble". Assemble will allow the charity to manage all volunteer applications, clearances, training, and ongoing roles through one platform and provide volunteers with a one-stop system to get involved, see news on volunteering opportunities and developments and record their achievements.

[Website: New volunteering recruitment site](#)

Council of Governors update

The Council of Governors last met on Thursday 5 December at 5.30pm. Copies of the papers can be found on the Trust website. [Website: Meeting Papers](#)

Board of Directors

The Trust Board of Directors met virtually on Wednesday 27 November at 9am. Copies of the papers can be found on the Trust website. [Website: Meeting Papers](#)

Upcoming Meetings

Board of Directors

Wednesday 29 January 2025, 9am to 3:30pm. Papers will be available on the Trust website. [Website: Meeting Papers](#)

Council of Governors

Thursday 6 March 2025, 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Papers will be available on the Trust website. [Website: Meeting Papers](#)

Follow us

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram](#)

[YouTube](#)

To unsubscribe click [here](#).