

# Become a governor of our Trust

## Members' Council elections

Read our:

<https://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Notice-of-Election-2022.pdf>

If you're passionate about the healthcare of your local community, it's only right that you get to have a say on how it's provided. That's why we're inviting you to be the voice of your area by standing for election to our Members' Council.

As a Governor on our Members' Council, you will:

- Make sure we're working in line with our mission and values, and support the principles and values of the NHS as a whole
- Hold Non-Executive Directors to account for the performance of our Trust Board
- Influence our plans for the future
- Talk to our members and share with us what they tell you
- Choose who our Chair and Non-Executive Directors should be
- Choose who our auditors should be

## Who can be a Governor?

You can be a Governor if:

- You are a member of the Trust in the constituency where you live
- You are aged 16 or over
- You make a commitment to fulfil your duties if you're elected

## Who can't be a Governor?

Some people are not allowed to be Governors, for example if you have been declared bankrupt or received a prison sentence of three months or more.

There are other restrictions – read the full details here:

<https://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/about-us-2/how-were-run/members-council/>

## Vacancies

We have vacancies in the following constituencies:

### Public

- Barnsley – 2 seats
- Calderdale – 1 seat
- Kirklees – 4 seats
- Wakefield – 2 seats
- Rest of Yorkshire, Humber and neighbouring counties – 1 seat

## Staff

- Medicine and Pharmacy – 1 seat
- Nursing – 1 seat
- Social care staff in integrated teams – 1 seat
- Non-clinical support – 1 seat

In January each year, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust runs an election process to appoint new governors with the help of Civica Election Services.

Governors on appointment, serve a **three-year term** with the Trust. Vacancies arise each year as a result of governors reaching the end of their term or circumstances meaning they are no longer able to continue as a governor.

Each year the Trust seeks nominations from members of the public and staff members to fill vacant seats on the Council of Governors.

A number of appointed seats exist on the Members' Council too and details of the structure of the Members' Council can be found here:

<https://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/about-us-2/how-were-run/members-council/structure/>

To apply for the role of governor, members of the public must be members of the Trust. Membership is free and people can complete a membership form online:

<https://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/get-involved/membership/>



or click on the QR code:

Governors play an important role within the Trust by representing the views of the public to the very senior managers, involving local communities, and helping with the appointment of members of the Board including the Chair and Chief Executive.

More information about the role of governors and information for prospective applicants can be found here:

<https://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/about-us-2/how-were-run/members-council/>

If you would like to self-nominate to be a governor, election materials including the nomination form will be published on our website on **19 January 2023** along with further information about how to apply and the election process that will follow.



**South West  
Yorkshire Partnership**  
NHS Foundation Trust