

together
we can **do** it!



back ²
back

NHS Foundation Trust consultation document

Seeking your views on our application to become an NHS Foundation Trust.

“ In this document we’re asking you for your views and support in our bid to make North Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust an NHS Foundation Trust. North Cheshire Hospitals manages Warrington Hospital and Halton General Hospital. ”

Introduction to our

Foundation Trust campaign

Why is becoming an NHS Foundation Trust beneficial to you and your hospitals?

- **We will better involve the local community** – NHS Foundation Trusts allow local people to become Members so you can have your say. Through the membership we want to keep you better informed about Warrington and Halton hospitals and give you the chance to share your views with us
- **You can elect local people to represent your views** – NHS Foundation Trusts allow you to elect Governors. For the first time there will be public and staff Governors, elected by you and working alongside hospital staff to help develop services
- **We can get things done faster** – NHS Foundation Trusts have more financial freedom. This includes the ability to borrow money within set limits to break through bureaucracy to build new facilities and invest in equipment that we need locally

- **We will be able to invest in local services** – NHS Foundation Trusts can reinvest any surpluses they make from running efficient and effective services back into the hospitals rather than return it to the Government
- **We can further improve care for you and your family** – By using freedoms as an NHS Foundation Trust to invest and develop services quickly we can react to local needs and make improvements faster
- **We can help secure the long term future of our hospitals** - Being an NHS Foundation Trust would mean that we can compete with the best hospitals, look at providing new services and be in a stronger position in the future
- **We retain the high quality and access you expect from the NHS** – Whilst allowing us to work in new ways, NHS Foundation Trusts still provide free access to care for everyone that needs it and to the high national standards you expect.

What do we want you to do?

1. Read this consultation document and learn about your hospitals and our vision for the future at Warrington and Halton hospitals
2. Look at our plans for involving the community through Foundation Trust membership and the Governors Council
3. Give your comments on the ideas and how we can make Foundation Trust status work. We need your comments by 11th April 2008 and the back pages of this document explain how you can get your comments to us
4. Become a Member and show your support for your local hospitals. As part of the consultation process we are recruiting prospective Members now.

What happens next?

- Every comment made during the consultation process will be noted and used to develop our plans
- Monitor - the Independent Regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts - will undertake a process of review at the hospitals in Summer 2008 and decide if we are able to become an NHS Foundation Trust
- If successful, we hope to be given the go-ahead to become an NHS Foundation Trust in Autumn 2008
- From then, the membership and Governors Council will come into full being and we will be able to begin working in new ways with the local community and involving our Members.



Together we can do it

We've called our Foundation Trust campaign Back 2 Back as it's all about how we work more closely with our local community. We want to work back to back with you so we can have more freedom from central Government in how your hospitals are managed. That means we want your views, your commitment and your support as we look at working in new ways that will benefit your hospitals and health care for you and your families. By working together with you we can further improve services and the relationship between the hospital and the community we serve.

“ We want to improve the services we provide for you and your family from our two hospitals. We need your help and ideas to do this.”

About this consultation



You may have heard of NHS Foundation Trusts. They are a new type of NHS organisation established to run NHS hospitals. They are still part of the NHS and maintain all the values and standards you expect from your health service but, importantly, they make hospitals accountable to local people rather than to central government.

The time is right for North Cheshire Hospitals to become an NHS Foundation Trust. As an NHS Foundation Trust we will have more freedom to work together with local people to better understand what you want and need from your hospitals. Local patients, public and staff can become Members of the trust and also stand for election as hospital Governors for the first time under these proposals.

NHS Foundation Trusts also have other freedoms such as the ability to use financial surpluses and borrow money to quickly develop new hospital buildings and services that will benefit their local communities.

It is important to know that this consultation is not about changing the patient services provided at Warrington and Halton. Both hospitals are working well and we are investing in services at both hospitals for the future. This consultation is about a change in the way the hospitals will be run. We are asking how you want to be involved with your local hospitals to make sure they provide the services you need, when you need them.

All NHS trusts are expected to become NHS Foundation Trusts in the next few years. Building on our progress over the last few years we feel that the time is right for North Cheshire Hospitals to develop in this way now. We understand how much your local NHS hospitals mean to you. This is now your chance to get more involved with how your hospitals are run and to have your say by becoming a Member of the proposed Foundation Trust. We are starting as we mean to go on and would like to hear your thoughts on all the ideas in this document.

Catherine Beardshaw

Catherine Beardshaw
Chief Executive

Allan Massey

Allan Massey
Chairman



Key questions we want your views on

1. Throughout this consultation document where you see these boxes there are key questions we would like your views on. On pages 19 and 20 there is information on how to get these views to us in writing, by email or the internet or even in person at one of our public meetings.

“ We manage Halton General Hospital and Warrington Hospital and have a track record of improving and developing your NHS services.”

North Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust

About your hospitals

Our staff work across our two hospitals to provide the care that you need. We have recently reorganised our services to provide dedicated specialist facilities on each hospital site. The majority of our emergency care and complex surgical care is based at Warrington Hospital whilst Halton General Hospital is a centre of excellence for routine surgery. These changes were difficult to achieve but they are working and mean that we have two hospitals that between them provide the full range of services local people need.



Warrington Hospital



Halton General Hospital

Warrington Hospital

Warrington Hospital is a major general hospital which is home to a wide range of NHS services. It focuses on emergency and urgent care and has all the back up services required to treat patients with a range of complex medical and surgical conditions. The hospital has undergone significant development work over the past 20 years and it provides a full range of expert inpatient and outpatient services.

Warrington Hospital is home to the North Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust accident and emergency department and the trust's maternity services. If your surgery or care might require extra support or a high level of specialist care it is likely to be carried out at Warrington.

Services provided at Warrington Hospital include:

Accident and emergency, surgical services, general medicine, children's services, cardiac care, stroke care, elderly care, obstetrics (maternity), gynaecology, orthopaedic, critical care, genito-urinary medicine and ophthalmology.

Support services include:

Radiology, pathology, physiotherapy, dietetics, diagnostic services, speech therapy, occupational therapy plus a wide range of specialist nursing services.

Halton General Hospital

Halton General Hospital, located in Runcorn, is home to a wide range of NHS services and focuses on planned specialist surgery. A range of care for medical and surgical conditions is provided from the hospital and it provides a mix of inpatient and outpatient services. It provides a comfortable environment for expert surgical care.

If your surgery is non-complex and does not require a long hospital stay it is likely to be carried out at Halton General Hospital. There are low operation cancellation rates at the hospital as routine surgery is not as threatened by emergency work which can take priority. The hospital is home to a minor injuries unit which provides a range of minor emergency care services.

Services provided at Halton General Hospital include:

General surgery, urology, minor injuries (not accident and emergency), endoscopy, outpatient services, step down care and genito-urinary medicine.

Support services include:

Occupational therapy, physiotherapy, dietetics, outpatient services, diagnostic services, radiology and a range of specialist nursing services.

Did you know

- There are 600 beds across our hospitals
- Over 3,000 staff work across our wards and depts
- The trust has an annual budget of over £155m
- We serve a local population of 313,463 people (118,752 in Halton and 194,711 in Warrington)
- MRSA infection rates and operation cancellation rates have almost halved in the last year.
- The Trust was rated as 'good' for its quality of services in the latest Healthcare Commission health check ratings – improving from 'fair' the year before.

“ North Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust has made significant improvements in the services it provides and the way it is managed over the last few years.”

North Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust

Moving in the right direction

Delivering on reconfiguration

In 2006 the trust consulted with the public on how to deliver services in the future and how best to use Warrington and Halton Hospitals. The Better Care Sustainable Services consultation saw the move to focus routine surgical work at Halton and emergency medical care at Warrington. The consultation was difficult and the local community was anxious about the future of their hospitals. However, over a year on from the changes we believe that they are working and are allowing us to secure the future of both hospitals and move forwards.

Our achievements include:

- Meeting all national targets around waiting and access to hospital services so you are seen quickly and cared for in a safe environment
- Being rated as 'good' for quality of services we provide by the Healthcare Commission
- Investing in a range of new services across both hospital sites that are benefiting local patients
- Being named as most improved trust in the annual CHKS hospital awards in 2006 – and in the top forty hospitals in 2007
- Being on course to reach financial balance at the end of this financial year (2007/2008)
- Reducing rates of infection with cases of MRSA and Clostridium Difficile amongst the lowest in the North West region for non-specialist hospitals.



Amongst the key changes we have seen:

- **Extra operations**
An extra operating theatre in place at Halton Hospital and an average of over 200 extra operations taking place each month at the hospital
 - **Emergency care**
Investment in new emergency care wards at Warrington Hospital
 - **Less Infection**
An infection free environment for surgery with no cases of MRSA or Clostridium Difficile infections at Halton Hospital in 2007
 - **Fewer cancellations**
A near 50 percent reduction in the number of operations that are cancelled due to emergency pressure
 - **New services planned**
Plans for a new critical care unit at Warrington, a cancer service at Halton and renal dialysis facilities at both sites are happening this year.
- We are continuing to invest in the future of both of our hospitals and provide services that are fit for the modern NHS and improve the quality of care you receive. Moving to NHS Foundation Trust status is the next step in our work.

What's in a name?

If we become an NHS Foundation Trust, the name of the hospital will change from NHS Trust to NHS Foundation Trust. However, we also have an opportunity to change the name of the hospital to represent the local area better. We believe that North Cheshire Hospitals does not give people a true sense of identity of the towns where our hospitals are based and is confusing for people coming for their care from outside the area. As part of our move to NHS Foundation Trust status we are proposing to change the name of our trust to a more easily identifiable one – Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. We'd like your views on this idea as well.



Key questions we want your views on

1. What are your views on our ideas for changing the name of the trust to better reflect our area and create a better local identity? We are proposing the name Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust if our application to become an NHS Foundation Trust is successful. Please feel free to suggest any other names you think will help us.

What are NHS Foundation Trusts?



Key points about NHS Foundation Trusts:

- More involvement from you
- A chance to have your say
- Elected hospital Governors
- More financial freedom to improve services
- Less national control over your local NHS.

“ An NHS Foundation Trust answers directly to the communities it serves. You can become a Member and elect, or even stand as, a public Governor. It means that you can have a greater say in what we do. ”

NHS Foundation Trusts are a key part of the reform programme in the NHS. They are autonomous organisations, free from central Government control. They decide how to improve their services and can retain any surpluses they generate or borrow money to support these investments. They establish strong connections with their local communities; local people can become Members and Governors.

These freedoms mean NHS Foundation Trusts can better shape their healthcare services around local needs and priorities. NHS Foundation Trusts remain providers of healthcare according to core NHS principles: free care, based on need and not ability to pay.

They reflect the move from a centrally managed service towards one that is managed locally and more responsive to patients. We have strong local communities in Warrington, Runcorn and Widnes so the aim of working more closely with public and patients is one that is important to us.

NHS Foundation Trusts are still part of the NHS and still work to national targets around key areas of healthcare performance such as waiting times, waiting lists and quick access to services. Foundation Trusts are authorised and monitored by Monitor – the Independent Regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts.

How other hospitals are using NHS Foundation Trust status.

There are over 80 NHS Foundation Trusts around the country and are using their freedoms in new ways to benefit the development of their hospitals and involve their communities. Examples range from developing new services in response to local need through to innovative programmes that encourage more local people to work in the hospitals.

For further information on some of the work of the existing NHS Foundation Trusts you may find a document published by the NHS Confederation Foundation Trust Network called Foundation Trusts – The Story So Far useful. You can find a copy on the internet at www.nhsconfed.org/ftn/



Key questions we want your views on

1. Do you think it is right for local hospitals to be more accountable to the local community rather than the government?

“ We are passionate about providing quality services for the people of Warrington, Runcorn and Widnes. Being an NHS Foundation Trust will help us to do this in the future. ”

Why becoming an NHS Foundation Trust is right for

you and your hospitals

Some of the immediate benefits of becoming an NHS Foundation Trust as we see them are:

For patients and the public

- **Get involved** - The chance to become a Member or even Governor of the trust with more involvement in having a say in how we run the organisation and deciding the types of services we provide
- **Improved local services** - Closer working with partners in health, social care and the voluntary sector to improve care for patients. Services will be better coordinated between hospitals, councils and NHS community services
- **More impact on the economy** - Stronger links with partners in local authorities and other organisations that will allow us to contribute to prosperity and employment in the local area
- **More money for your services** - Greater control over finances so we can invest any surpluses we make into improving services and improving the experience of patients
- **Supporting your hospitals** - You can learn more about your services and how we can improve them.



For the hospital

- Taking on new ways of working which allow important partners to have more influence and work in partnership with us
- More freedom to respond to local needs and priorities, not just those set by central government
- Opportunities to build on our growing local and national reputation and fully utilise our strengths to improve, enhance and develop our services.
- Greater financial freedom with:
 - freedom to borrow money within clear limits if we require it for new developments.
 - freedom to retain any cash surplus made from treating more patients, which will be invested back into developing services.

For our services

- The ability to quickly invest in new services that local people want and strengthen key services
- Allowing more people from outside the area to choose to come to North Cheshire Hospitals for their care in the future through patient choice
- Continued improvement in how we perform with shorter waiting times and better access to care
- To use the freedoms of being an NHS Foundation Trust to build new buildings and facilities with greater speed so we can react to patient need.



Key questions we want your views on

1. Do you feel it is right for your hospitals to move to NHS Foundation Trust status?
2. What do you think of the benefits we have listed here?

“ We are planning ahead to ensure that your hospitals continue to develop in the future and to modernise our services. One of the key elements of being an NHS Foundation Trust is communicating our future vision for the hospitals and having a long term plan for the future.”

Our vision for the future

Seven key ways will improve your services



We have begun work on our long term plan for services across Warrington and Halton hospitals. Seven key themes from this strategy that will improve care for you and your family are:

1. **Investing in your services to bring down waits** - We will ensure the quality of our services continues to improve by investing in new buildings, facilities and equipment across our clinical specialties. This will include investing in our outpatient and diagnostic services so that we can continue to bring down waiting times.
2. **Reducing lengths of stay and cancelled operations** - Where it is appropriate for your care, we will reduce the time you have to spend in hospital (known as 'length of stay'). If you need to come to the hospitals for an operation, we will provide more day case surgery where you do not have to stay overnight. This will be a key focus of Halton General Hospital. We will also work in new ways to reduce the time you spend in hospital before surgery by carrying out all the assessment you need in advance.

3. **Improving provision of emergency care & intensive care services** - We are investing over £6 million in a major redevelopment of intensive care services that will provide us with more critical care and higher dependency care beds by the end of 2008. Emergency care is an essential part of the NHS and we will continue to improve access to our emergency services in the future using Warrington Hospital as our key site for emergency work.
4. **Developing minimally invasive surgery services** - We will invest in state of the art surgical equipment that will allow further development of what we call 'minimally invasive' surgical techniques such as keyhole surgery where it is possible. This means that patients will have a faster recovery time and can be in and out of hospital faster and that you are able to have the latest surgical techniques to benefit your care.
5. **Improving our Diagnostic services** - We will invest in and improve our diagnostic services such as radiology and cardiology across both hospital sites, both in terms of speed of access and convenience. We want you to be able to have diagnostic assessment and outpatient treatment in

one visit on the same day in the future rather than needing repeat hospital appointments.

6. **Expanding Cardiology & Orthopaedic services** - We will treat more Warrington and Halton patients closer to their home by increasing the use of facilities like our cardiac catheter laboratory. For example, in the next two to three years we want to provide a pacemaker fitting service – patients have to travel to Liverpool and Manchester for these services at the moment. We will also expand access to our excellent orthopaedic services so more patients can have surgery with us.
7. **Maintaining high levels of patient and staff satisfaction** - At the heart all of these changes will be a clear focus on quality. We will work closely with our patients, staff and Foundation Trust Members and Governors to ensure that your feedback and experiences lead to continual improvements and a greater focus on the best customer service for you.



Key questions we want your views on

1. Do you agree with our vision for the future?

Membership – getting involved in your hospitals

“ Membership and involving local people in the running of the hospitals is a key part of being an NHS Foundation Trust. We want to make membership work for our hospitals. Your ideas might change the hospitals for the better. ”

Being an NHS Foundation Trust means that local people, patients and staff can become Members of North Cheshire Hospitals. Foundation Trusts are membership organisations. Membership is completely free of charge to anyone who has been a patient with our hospital or who lives locally. You simply need to register with us.

Membership means you're involved -

We want our Membership to be valuable to both Members themselves and the trust. We know your hospitals are important to you and we have a strong history of working in partnership with patients and the public. Warrington, Runcorn and Widnes have strong local communities, each with a clear identity and we want to engage and work with these communities in the future as we develop Halton and Warrington hospitals. An active membership is a clear way of achieving this aim.

You can elect Governors -

Members elect a Governors Council - at least half of whom are representatives of the local population and patients (other Governors represent our staff and local organisations who we work alongside). Governors then represent the Members in helping guide the hospitals in the future by working with our management team and the trust board. Any Member is eligible to stand for election as Governor.

Our proposals -

It is important to us at North Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust that our membership is strong and vibrant and can influence how the hospitals are run. As well as the role in standing for and electing Governors, as part of our membership proposals we want to consult with our Members directly on issues and gain your views so we can shape the hospitals around your needs. At the same time, we want local people to have a better understanding of their NHS and the decisions we have to make.

We think this is a great way of involving local people in the hospitals and ensuring that we are accountable to the local community. It is a key reason as to why we want North Cheshire Hospitals to become an NHS Foundation Trust.

As a Member we propose that you will receive:

- **The opportunity** to vote in the elections for the hospital Governors – and even stand for election yourself if you want.
- **A chance to have your say** by taking part in surveys and consultations about the hospital or letting the hospital Governors who represent Members know your views.
- **A quarterly Member's newsletter.** This will help us bring the hospitals to your home and build your understanding of what's going on in your NHS. We want the newsletter to include health tips and advice direct from our expert staff as well as valuable information on the hospitals and future plans so you are kept informed and can get involved.
- **Invites to exclusive Member's events.** These might range from health fairs where you can come and get your blood pressure checked and meet our staff to open days and informative lectures on key topics.

You can indicate how involved you want to be from three options:

- **Informed Member** - You will be kept abreast of new developments and information regarding the hospitals through a quarterly newsletter and invites to Member only events and meetings.
- **Involved Member** - You will also be asked to participate in a number of activities such as detailed surveys; focus groups and special interest events.
- **Active Member** - You might also be invited to join hospital groups, help us in service development meetings and increase your knowledge/skill in specific areas of interest.

We are proposing that membership will be available to people aged 12 years and upwards. Membership will be available to all residents of Warrington and Halton Borough Council areas, as well as to all former patients of our hospitals. We are also proposing that all staff employed by us will automatically become Members of the Foundation Trust unless they choose to opt-out of membership.

It's up to you how involved you want to be. We value any of your input. We're proud of our hospitals but know they can be even better with your help. We need as many people as possible to take the step of joining us a Member.



Key questions we want your views on

1. How do we make membership attractive to people? What kind of information would you like about the hospitals if you were a Member?
2. Do you agree that membership should be available to our former patients irrespective of where they live?
3. Are you in agreement that membership should be available to all people in our membership constituency aged 12 years and above?
4. Do you agree that our staff should automatically become Members of the Foundation Trust. They can choose to opt out of membership if they wish to?

Governors - helping shape local services

“ Being an NHS Foundation Trust means that North Cheshire will have elected public, patient and staff Governors for the first time. ”

Along with the Members, Governors are a key part of the stronger governance arrangements that ensure greater accountability of NHS Foundation Trusts to the local community. The Public Governors will join Governors from partner organisations and Staff Governors to form the Governors Council. At least half of the council will be elected by the Members and any Member over the age of 16 can stand to be a Governor.

The Governors Council at North Cheshire Hospitals will help shape and endorse the future strategy of the trust, and provide a critical link between the hospital and the different areas and people it serves. Governors give up their time voluntarily and make a major contribution to the way the hospital relates to its patients and the wider community. The Governors do not ‘run’ the hospital, the board of directors and the Trust Board does that. However, the Governors work with them to hold the hospital to account to the local population and, crucially, ensure that local people input into decisions and plans for the hospitals.

Proposed Public Governor Ward Groupings

Warrington

9 Governors, one representing each of the following:

1. Lymm, Grappenhall, Thelwall
2. Appleton, Stockton Heath, Hatton, Stretton & Walton
3. Penketh & Cuerdley, Great Sankey North, Great Sankey South
4. Culceth, Glazebury & Croft, Poulton North
5. Latchford East, Latchford West, Poulton South
6. Bewsey & Whitecross, Fairfield & Howley
7. Poplars & Hulme, Orford
8. Birchwood, Rixton & Woolston
9. Burtonwood & Winwick, Whittle Hall, Westbrook

Halton

5 Governors, one representing each of the following:

1. Daresbury, Windmill Hill, Norton North, Castlefields
2. Beechwood, Mersey, Heath, Grange
3. Norton South, Halton Brook, Halton Lea
4. Appleton, Farnworth, Hough Green, Halton View
5. Broadheath, Ditton, Hale, Kingsway, Riverside

Other areas, one Governor:

One additional place for patients/and or carers from outside the Warrington and Halton areas.

Our proposal for the Governors Council

In order to obtain a representative Governors Council that appropriately gains the views of our public, staff and partner organisations, we are proposing the following composition for our Governors:

Total Make-up of the Governors Council

Constituency	Number of Governors
Public	
Warrington residents	9
Halton residents	5
Former patients or carers who live outside Warrington and Halton	1
Total Public Governors	15
Staff Governors	5
Partner Organisation Governors	9
Total Governors Council	29

Under this composition Members of the public would always be the group with the highest number of representatives. The Public constituency would be organised around local electoral wards to ensure an appropriate balance of representation is secured. Using this system, Public Members will vote to elect a Governor from the electoral wards they are a resident in. This has been worked out proportionally in relation to the residents in each area. Our staff will vote for Staff Governors from the staff groups they work in.

Partner organisations will include many of the organisations we work closely with currently including:

- One representative from Warrington Primary Care Trust (PCT) and one from Halton and St Helen's PCT
- One representative from Warrington Practice Based Commissioning Consortium (PBC) and one from the PBCs representing Runcorn and Widnes
- One representative from Warrington Borough Council and one from Halton Borough Council
- Three representatives in total from the local commercial and voluntary sectors.



Key questions we want your views on

1. Do you think our proposals for the Governors Council represent our public, patients, staff and partners fairly?
2. Do you think our proposals for the constituencies are right and fair?

“ We want to know what you think of our plans and want you to become a Member of your hospitals. In order for the plans outlined in this consultation document to work, we need your support and your good ideas. ”

next steps

Thank you for taking the time to read through our proposals in more detail. There are now three steps you can take to show your support or make comments on these plans. Remember that our consultation runs until 11th April 2008.

We want you to:

Step 1 : Become a Member

Whilst we apply we need to show that the local public are keen on the idea of an organisation that is more accountable to them and that you want to get involved. Fill out the membership form that is attached to this consultation document now.

You can also fill in a form online at our website www.northcheshirehospitals.nhs.uk Members need to fill in an individual form so if there is more than one person in your household that wants to join us then you will need to return a form for each person.



MOIST HERE

Membership application form

If you would like to become a Member, please complete this form, or fill out the online form on our website www.northcheshirehospitals.nhs.uk. Please consider if other Members of your family would like to join. You must be **at least 12 years old** before you apply for Membership. Contact us for more copies using the details on the back cover of this brochure, or log onto our website.

Your Contact Details

Title: First Name:

Surname:

Address:

Post Code:

Home Tel: Mobile Tel:

E-Mail:

How would you prefer to be sent information about the hospitals and membership? Post Email

Making the Most of your Membership

Knowing how involved you want to be will help us develop the membership and ensure we send you the right amount of information. There are three levels of membership. All levels can vote in elections for hospital Governors and you can change your level of involvement at any time:

- Informed Member**
You will be kept abreast of new developments and information regarding the hospitals through a quarterly newsletter and invites to Member only events and meetings.
- Involved Member**
You will also be asked to participate in a number of activities such as detailed surveys; focus groups and special interest events.
- Active Member**
You might also be invited to join hospital groups, help us in service development meetings and increase your knowledge/skill in specific areas of interest.
- Are you potentially interested in standing to be a hospital Governor in the Governor elections? Yes No

About You

The data you give will help us see if our Membership is representative of our local communities.

Sex: Male Female Date of Birth / /

What is your ethnic group? Please tick one of these boxes as appropriate.

<p>White:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> British</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Irish</p> <p>Other:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Mixed:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> White & Black Caribbean</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> White & Black African</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> White & Asian</p> <p>Other:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Black:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> African</p> <p>Other:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Asian:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Indian</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi</p> <p>Other:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Other Ethnic group:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chinese</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I'd rather not say</p>
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Declaration

I want to be a member of the North Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. I am not a Member of Staff. I am happy for you to use this information.

Signed Date / /

Thank you for taking the time to register. Your details will be held on a confidential database in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. NHS Foundation Trusts are required to publish a publicly available register of members. If you do not want your name to appear on the public register please tick this box.

MOIST HERE

MOIST HERE

FOLD HERE

Business Reply
Licence Number
RRSK-JEKR-UKHE



North Cheshire Hospitals Foundation Trust
Executive Offices
Warrington Hospital
Lovely Lane
WARRINGTON
WA5 1QG

Step 2 : Have your say on these proposals

If you have any comments on these proposals and the questions we have raised in each section about how we make NHS Foundation Trust status work for North Cheshire Hospitals, then please let us know by the closing date of Friday 11th April 2008.

The questions at the bottom of the key sections may give you an indication of areas you may wish to comment on. However, we welcome your ideas on any aspect of the hospitals and how we can involve you.

Step 3 : Attend one of our public meetings

We have organised a series of public meetings where you can come and meet staff from the hospital and find out more about the plans we have.

We are also hosting open days at the hospital during the consultation period where you can come along, learn more about our plans, sign up as a Member and also see displays from some of our teams and departments. You can even benefit from a free blood pressure check whilst you are with us.

If you represent a local group or society (such as a residents, patient or voluntary group or a charity) we would be delighted to arrange come and talk about our plans in more detail at your meetings. Please email us at foundation@nch.nhs.uk or call us on 01925 662296 to arrange.

You can:

- Write to us with your comments at:
North Cheshire Hospitals Foundation Trust Consultation, Executive Offices, Warrington Hospital, Lovely Lane Warrington WA5 1QG
- email your comments directly to us at foundation@nch.nhs.uk
- fill in the online consultation form at www.northcheshirehospitals.nhs.uk
- call us on 01925 662296 and leave a message with your comments.

Public Meetings:

- Runcorn** - The Brindley
Tuesday 12th Feb, 6pm to 8pm
- Widnes** - Halton Stadium
Wednesday 20th Feb, 6pm to 8pm
- Warrington** - Halliwell Jones Stadium
Wednesday 27th Feb, 6pm to 8pm

Hospital Open Days:

- We will be hosting an open day at each hospital in March or early April - check the local press and our website for clarification of the dates.



What happens next?

- Every comment made during the consultation process will be noted and used to develop our plans
- Monitor - the Independent Regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts - will undertake a process of review at the hospitals in Summer 2008 and decide if we are able to become an NHS Foundation Trust
- If successful, we hope to be given the go-ahead become an NHS Foundation Trust in Autumn 2008
- From then, the membership and Governors Council will come into full being and we will be able to begin working in new ways with the local community and involving our Members.

If you would like more information about any of the details in this brochure, or if you would like information about becoming a Member of the Foundation Trust, contact:

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**This document can be made available in other languages and formats if requested.
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We are committed to valuing people's differences, no matter what their age, race, ethnic or cultural background, disability, gender, sexuality, religion and beliefs.



We are Smoke Free! To protect our patients and staff, smoking is not permitted in our buildings, at the entrances to any of our buildings or in our car parks.