

Become a Member of  
Dorset HealthCare NHS Foundation Trust

strengthen links

reduce stigma

raise the profile

tell us your views

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FREEPOST RRBA-ZRHU-CHUK  
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Become a Member of  
Dorset HealthCare NHS Foundation Trust

Together we can  
make a difference!

If someone in Dorset is affected by mental health, learning disabilities or brain injury we're here to treat and support them.



"Since becoming a Member of the Trust I am SO much better informed – it's fantastic."

Member, Bournemouth



"It is important for young people to be aware of the problems that other young people may face. By being a Member of the Trust I am kept informed of the services they offer to young people and I can make suggestions."

Young Member, Poole



"I find it a great privilege to be a Member and Governor of the Trust. I believe as a Foundation Trust we can make a real difference for local people."

Richard Lacey, Vice Chair,  
Council of Governors



"We are delighted to welcome all new Members to our Trust - why not join today and have your say!"

Wendy Josephs,  
Trust Membership Team



## Who are we?

If someone in Dorset is affected by mental health, learning disabilities or brain injury we're here to treat and support them. Of course, everyone is different, which is why we offer a huge range of specialist services.

In the east of the county (serving 450,000 people) we provide specialist mental health and learning disability services to people of all ages with a wide range of problems including common (often temporary) mental health issues, serious and enduring mental illness and addictions. In addition, for the whole of Dorset (serving 700,000 people) we also provide highly specialist services for:

- Eating disorders
- Brain injuries
- Learning disabilities
- Mothers and babies requiring inpatient mental health care
- Serious conditions which mean people need secure care
- People with special needs requiring community dentistry

We have an excellent record of success and achievement which has been sustained year-after-year and has led to us being recognised nationwide as a beacon of good practice.

We are a dynamic Trust, constantly striving to better meet people's needs. We want everyone who receives our services to experience the level of care that we would expect to receive ourselves.

## What are NHS Foundation Trusts?

NHS Foundation Trusts are still very much a part of the NHS – providing free services and meeting national standards. The difference is that NHS Foundation Trusts are not under central government control, they are able to manage their own budgets and are free to develop their services around local needs and priorities.

We were delighted to become an NHS Foundation Trust in April 2007 - as such we are now better able to embrace change and work with local people to develop services that better meet the needs of our local communities.

“our aim is to provide services within which we ourselves would happily be treated and which we would recommend to our family and friends”

## Why do we want local people to become Members of our NHS Foundation Trust?

Having a wide Membership of local people, including service users, carers and staff, means that we are better able to listen and respond to the views of the local communities we serve.

Membership is **FREE** of charge and obligation.

Our Membership numbers are increasing all the time – the more people who become Members the better able we are to:

- **hear** and respond to the voice of local people
- **strengthen** links with our local communities
- **reduce stigma** through effective information provision
- **consult** with local people about future developments
- **raise the profile** of the needs of people with mental health problems, a learning disability or a brain injury

## What will being a Member mean to you?

In addition to the benefits listed above, as a Member of Dorset HealthCare NHS Foundation Trust, you will be:

- **sent** Trust newsletters (quarterly) keeping you informed
- **consulted** on proposed developments within the Trust
- **belong** to one of three Constituencies based on where you live – Bournemouth, Poole or Dorset/elsewhere
- **invited** to meet with the Trust Governors in your Constituency, who will listen to and forward your views to the Trust's Council of Governors and Trust Board
- **invited** to vote for Trust Governors as positions become available
- **able** to stand for election as a Trust Governor as positions become available in your Constituency
- **very welcome** to become a Trust volunteer

## Who can become a Member?

Anyone over the age of 11 years is welcome to become a Member. No experience is necessary and you can be a Member of more than one NHS Foundation Trust. If someone in your family works for the Trust you can be a Member in your own right.

## How to become a Member

Simply fill in the attached application form, tear it off, gum it and post it back to us FREEPOST.

For further information you can call us **FREEPHONE 0808 100 3318** or visit our website on [www.dorsethealthcarefoundationtrust.nhs.uk](http://www.dorsethealthcarefoundationtrust.nhs.uk)

## Application Form

Please register me as a Member of Dorset HealthCare NHS Foundation Trust  
Please use BLOCK Capitals – as this helps us to record your details accurately - thank you!

### Section 1: Your Contact Details

Title ..... First name ..... Middle name .....

Surname ..... Address .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Please note that your postcode helps us to ensure that you are invited to vote when Governor seats become available in your constituency area.

Home telephone number (please include local dialing code) .....

Mobile No ..... E-mail address .....

How would you like us to communicate with you? (please tick one box)  post  e-mail

### Section 2: About you

• What is your gender?  male  female

• Are you a:  Service user  Carer  A Member of the General Public

• What is your age range:  11 – 16 Date of Birth ...../...../.....

To be able to vote, you must be aged 16 years and older, please provide your date of birth so we can ensure you are contacted once you reach 16.

17 – 21  22 – 40  41 – 65  Over 65

If you are aged between 11 and 16 please provide the following details from your legal guardian, who must be over 18.

Title ..... First name ..... Middle name .....

Surname ..... Address .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Relationship to applicant .....

• What is your ethnic group? **White**  British  Irish  
 Other White Background

**Mixed**  White & Black Caribbean  
 White & Black African  White & Asian  
 Other Mixed Background

**Asian or Asian British**  Indian  Pakistani  Bangladeshi  
 Other Asian Background

**Black or Black British**  Caribbean  African  
 Other Black Background

**Chinese or other ethnic group**  Chinese  Other ethnic group

**I would rather not say**

### Section 3: Additional Membership Information

As a Member I would like to: (please tick all boxes that apply to you)

receive regular information about the Trust

provide my views

be contacted directly from time to time by a Governor from my constituency

consider becoming a volunteer

attend meetings or events

consider standing for election as a GOVERNOR (when seats become vacant in my constituency)

Your details will be held on a database so that we can provide you with further information as a Member of the Trust. The information you provide will remain confidential and will be managed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

### Section 4: Declaration

I would like to become a Member of Dorset HealthCare NHS Foundation Trust. All the information that I have given is correct.

Signature ..... Date (day/month/year) ...../...../.....

We are obliged to keep a public register of our Members. If you do not wish your name to be placed on this register please tick this box

If you need this leaflet translated into your language or into easy read format please ask the membership team to help you, ring freephone 0808 100 3316