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## **Retiring Bath RUH CEO stays on during Covid-19 crisis**

James Scott, Chief Executive of the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust, is to postpone his retirement and stay in post to support his “fantastic staff” during the coronavirus pandemic.

James was due to leave at the end of March after nearly 13 years in the role, but has told staff he will continue working.

He said in a letter: “I am staying on to continue supporting the RUH during what continues to be an extremely challenging time across the NHS. We have a fantastic team here at the RUH and I am very proud to continue working alongside you. I know you are all working so hard, increasingly out of your usual routines and comfort zones. On behalf of our patients and our community, thank you.”

He also praised teams for the complex planning they have carried out, looking ahead to use staff skills, resources and spaces differently to maximise the care that can be provided.

**Ends**

### **Notes to Editor:**

The World Health Organization has announced that 2020 will be the Year of the Nurse and Midwife to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Our nurses and midwives are a big part of the RUH family and throughout the year we will be celebrating the work they do, going above and beyond every day to give our patients compassionate care.

The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust provides acute treatment and care for a catchment population of around 500,000 people in Bath, and the surrounding towns and villages in North East Somerset and Western Wiltshire. The hospital provides healthcare to the population served by four Clinical Commissioning Groups: Bath & North East Somerset CCG, Wiltshire CCG, Somerset CCG and South Gloucestershire CCG.

The Trust provides 759 beds and a comprehensive range of acute services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

In 2015 The Royal United Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust acquired the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD) NHS Foundation Trust. The RNHRD treats patients from across the country offering services in rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME, cancer related fatigue and fatigue linked to other long term conditions such as multiple sclerosis.

The RUH is changing - we have an exciting programme of redevelopment underway transforming our site and further improving the services we provide. The Trust has opened the purpose-built RNHRD and Brownsword Therapies Centre and is now working towards the new Dyson Cancer Centre. For more details visit: [www.ruh.nhs.uk/about/fit\\_for\\_the\\_future](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk/about/fit_for_the_future)

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: [www.ruh.nhs.uk](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk)