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Communications Department
Royal United Hospital
Combe Park
Bath
BA1 3NG

Tel: 01225 826230 / 821459
Mobile: 07557 756658 (office hours)

Media Release

Ruh-tr.communicationsteam@nhs.net
www.ruh.nhs.uk
<https://twitter.com/RUHBath>

Voting now open in RUH Public Governors election

We are pleased to announce that voting opens today (Wednesday 7 October) to elect Public Governors to the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust.

Public governors play a key role in helping to shape the Trust's services and plans for the future so it is really important that you have your say and vote for the candidate that you think can best represent your views.

Voting is open to all of the RUH's members who signed up to membership before 22 September and who live in the following constituencies:

- City of Bath
- North East Somerset
- North Wiltshire
- South Wiltshire

You can find out more about those standing for election here:

https://www.ruh.nhs.uk/membership/elections/index.asp?menu_id=1

As only one candidate put themselves forward for election in the Mendip and Rest of England and Wales constituencies, members in these constituencies will not have the opportunity to vote as both constituencies are uncontested.

The role of a Governor is vital in ensuring that the Trust delivers services that meet the needs of patients, carers, staff and local stakeholders, and that the views of local people are heard and fed back to the Board of Directors.

Chair:
Alison Ryan

Interim Chief Executive:
Libby Walters



Alison Ryan, Trust Chair, said: “The role of a Public Governor is incredibly important and I would encourage all of our members who are eligible to vote to make sure they do so.

“I have worked with Governors for the last six years, including throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and found their insight and challenge invaluable.

“Governors have an indispensable role in making the RUH publicly accountable for the services it provides. They are the voice of our members and local communities and bring valuable perspectives to our activities to effect real change so this is a really amazing opportunity for you to make your vote count.”

All voting and candidate information will have been sent via email or post today (Wednesday 7 October) and members can vote online here:

https://vote.ukevot.uk/ruh/sign_in

Voting runs until 5pm on **30 October 2020** and the results will be announced on **2 November 2020**.

If you have any questions, have not received a ballot pack or are unsure whether you are eligible to vote please contact our Membership Office on 01225 821262 / 826288 or via email at RUHmembership@nhs.net.

Ends

Notes to Editor:

The World Health Organization has designated 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Our nurses and midwives are a big part of the RUH family and throughout the year we are 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.

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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

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk

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