



10.08.2026

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Media Release

Have your say in the future of local healthcare: the RUH seeks new Public Governors

The Royal United Hospitals (RUH) Bath is encouraging local people who are passionate about healthcare to stand for election as a public governor.

Public governors provide a vital voice for patients, families and visitors, and their local communities. They:

- Reflect the views and experiences of patients, families and visitors, and help the hospital remain connected to the community it serves
- Work with fellow governors and senior leaders to help shape the future of the hospital and its services
- Help ensure the hospital's priorities reflect those of the communities it services
- Have the opportunity to learn more about the NHS and develop new skills

Paul von der Heyde, Chair of BSW Hospitals Group (of which the RUH is a member) said: "Our Public Governors play an essential role in helping us to understand the views, experiences and priorities of the communities we serve. They bring valuable insight, challenge and support, helping us make better decisions for local people.

"I would encourage anyone with an interest in local healthcare and shaping the future of our hospital to stand for election."

The RUH is keen to hear from people of all backgrounds, ages and experiences, to help ensure that the Council of Governors reflects the diverse communities the hospital serves. No special qualifications or previous experience is required. However, you must be a member of the RUH – anyone who is not already can sign up using the following link: <https://secure.membra.co.uk/RoyalBathApplicationForm/>

Anyone interested in finding out more or submitting a nomination should visit <https://www.cesvotes.com/RUH2026>. The deadline for nominations is 5pm on Tuesday 8 September 2026.

Ends

Notes to Editor

About the RUH

At the RUH we're proud to put people at the heart of what we do, striving to create an environment where everyone matters. Everyone means the people we care for, the people we work with and the people in our community.

We provide a wide range of services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

We also provide specialist services for rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME via the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases which we acquired in 2015.

In 2021, we acquired Sulis Hospital Bath, an independent hospital that provides care for both private and NHS patients. This has enabled us to provide more care for NHS patients, as well as continuing to provide private care to those who choose it. Any additional income earned through private care is reinvested in services for the benefit of the people we care for at both Sulis and the RUH.

Our new Dyson Cancer Centre brings together many of the RUH's cancer services under one roof to provide a cancer services hub for over 500,000 people in the South West. The centre includes the RUH's oncology, chemotherapy and radiotherapy services, a 22-bed inpatient ward, a dedicated pharmacy, research team and nuclear medicine and physics teams.

A key feature of the new centre is the Macmillan Wellbeing Hub. The three-storey hub provides a welcoming, non-clinical space designed around the needs of patients and their families. It also includes comfortable accommodation where relatives and loved ones can stay overnight.

We work closely with other health and care organisations as members of the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board. We strive to improve the health and wellbeing of the people in our community by working together build one of the healthiest places to live and work.

We are rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

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