

Tell us your views

Our plans to become an NHS foundation trust



www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft
twitter.com/nhs_sct
facebook.com/sussexcommunitynhs

Who we are and what we do

We are the main provider of community healthcare in West Sussex and Brighton & Hove.

From our health visitors looking after new born babies, our diabetes and heart failure services for patients with long term conditions, to our community teams caring for frail elderly people, we care for some of the most vulnerable people in the community and help them to look after their own health.

Ninety per cent of all contacts between patients and the NHS happen within the community – mostly in people's own

homes, and also in community clinics and in GP surgeries. At some point in their lives, most local people will come into contact with the services we provide, either as a patient or as a carer or relative.

Our purpose is to help people live their lives as independently as possible, caring for them in their own homes, and helping them to manage their health needs to avoid unnecessary hospital admissions.

We have a team of around 4,400 staff. In 2012/13 we spent around £185 million to care for our patients.

Why we want to become an NHS foundation trust

As an NHS foundation trust we will have a strong, independent place at the heart of our community. Through our members and governors, we will be truly accountable to the people we serve.

NHS foundation trusts have more freedom from the government than standard NHS trusts:

- They are directly accountable to their communities and staff through their members and governors.
- They have more financial independence than standard NHS trusts, and can use this to improve services for patients.
- They have greater scope to decide their own strategy and the way they run their services in discussion with their governors and members.
- They are more responsive to local needs.

Becoming an NHS foundation trust will help us to:

- Set our own priorities for improving care.
- Be more open and accountable to the people we work with.
- Strengthen our links with local people.
- Be an equal partner with other local NHS foundation trusts.

The government wants all NHS trusts to become an NHS foundation trust on their own or to merge with an existing NHS foundation trust.

We strongly believe that to provide the very best community healthcare we need to become an independent community NHS foundation trust.

We will be able to build upon our experience and focus exclusively on the services we provide. We are convinced that it would be more difficult to have this clear focus on community healthcare if we merge with an already established hospital foundation trust with a different focus.

Our vision

Our vision is **excellent care at the heart of the community**. We work to provide the right services, to the right people, by the right people, at the right time, quality and cost.

To achieve this, our clinical care strategy is focused on the following three areas:

- **Integrated care and support.** Proactively supporting patients and carers to keep well and reduce the risk of their health deteriorating. Help keep patients out of hospital when they don't need to be there and support them to leave when they are ready.
- **Children and young people integrated services.** Single point of access for general and specialist paediatric care and support.
- **Planned care.** Non-complex care closer to home.

These services will be:

- Provided close to where you live or in your own home.
- Designed to meet your needs.

“Just wanted to say a huge thanks for the new wheelchair. It's absolute bliss.”

User of our Sussex Rehabilitation Centre, Brighton.

- Delivered to the highest standards by skilled and compassionate staff.
 - Integrated across health and social care.
 - Focused on helping you stay as independent as possible.
- Like all NHS trusts, we face many challenges including:
- An aging population who need health and care support.
 - More people living with multiple, long term health conditions.
 - Financial pressures.
 - Demand for high quality services that provide choice, meet patients' needs and suit their lifestyle.

We believe that becoming an NHS foundation trust will strengthen our ability to meet these challenges. We will have more freedom and flexibility to shape our services based on emerging needs.

Thinking differently, thinking radically

The NHS is changing. We want to be at the forefront of this change, and improve services for patients and carers by realising our vision of **excellent care at the heart of the community**.

The health and care system is facing major challenges. Public funds are under pressure. We need to support the growing numbers of older people needing care and of people living with long-term, chronic health conditions, such as diabetes and asthma.

We need to improve the quality of care we provide, and offer services that are flexible and easy to use, to suit the ways people live.

We believe the community services we provide are a crucial part of the answer to the problems facing the health and care sector as

a whole. And that more and better care can be provided at home and in other community settings, as our service users say they need and want.

Central to this process is our plan to become an independent community NHS foundation trust.

We believe it would be better for us to become an independent foundation trust so we can retain a clear and exclusive focus on our vision of **excellent care at the heart of the community**.

Which is why we ask you to support our NHS foundation trust application and encourage you to join us as a member.

Our name

At the moment we are called Sussex Community NHS Trust, although we mainly operate in West Sussex and Brighton & Hove. If we become an NHS foundation trust, we propose to be called **Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust**.



WE WELCOME YOUR VIEWS

Please read the entire document so you can answer the questions in turn.

Complete this form, detach it and send it back to us at the FREEPOST address listed at the bottom of page 6. No stamp required.

Question 1: Do you support our plans to become an NHS foundation trust?

Agree strongly Agree Neutral Disagree Disagree strongly

Additional comments:

Question 2: Do you agree with our proposals for public membership?

Agree strongly Agree Neutral Disagree Disagree strongly

Additional comments:

Question 3: Do you agree with our proposals for staff membership?

Agree strongly Agree Neutral Disagree Disagree strongly

Additional comments:

Question 4: Do you agree with our proposals for the council of governors?

Agree strongly Agree Neutral Disagree Disagree strongly

Additional comments:

FEEDBACK FORM

Feel free to add any further comments in the box below:

Do you live in:

West Sussex If you live in West Sussex, please say which local district/borough council you live in:

Brighton & Hove

Live elsewhere Please state

Are you?

A member of the public

A member of staff

Involved with a partner organisation Please state

Other Please state

Please ensure you respond by **Friday 30 August 2013.**

Thank you for your feedback.

As part of our public consultation we will produce a report which details the feedback we receive. We may use your comments in this consultation report, but anything we use will remain anonymous. This report will be available on our website at www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft.

Please send the completed form to us in an envelope to:

FREEPOST RSXG-XTCJ-BBBT, Foundation Trust Membership Office, Sussex Community NHS Trust, Brighton General Hospital, Elm Grove, BRIGHTON BN2 3EW. No stamp is required.

FEEDBACK FORM

MEMBERSHIP FORM

JOIN US: BECOME A MEMBER

We want as many people as possible to become members of our NHS foundation trust. Membership is free and it's easy to register. Please fill out the form below, detach it and put it in an envelope and send it to the freepost address shown at the bottom of page 8. No stamp needed. Or join us online at www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft

Contact details:

Title Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other

First Name

Surname

Address

Postcode Daytime Tel No Mobile No

Email Address

We would prefer to contact members by email because it has less impact on the environment and is cheaper. If you would prefer to receive information by post, please tick here

About you

We are committed to building a membership that reflects the diverse communities we serve and we would be grateful if you would complete the following section:

Gender Male Female Transgender

Date of Birth:* Date Month Year

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Yes No Prefer not to say

Ethnicity

<input type="checkbox"/> White British	<input type="checkbox"/> Black Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/> White Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Black background
<input type="checkbox"/> Other White	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian
<input type="checkbox"/> White & Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani
<input type="checkbox"/> White & Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi
<input type="checkbox"/> White & Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian background
<input type="checkbox"/> Other mixed background	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/> Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> Other ethnic group

Sexual orientation

<input type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual/Straight	<input type="checkbox"/> Gay Man	<input type="checkbox"/> Gay Woman/Lesbian
<input type="checkbox"/> Bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer Not to Say

From our service listing on our website www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/services, please tell us which of our services you are interested in:

Please tell us how you heard about membership by ticking the relevant box below

At a public meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Via our website	<input type="checkbox"/>
Through the local press	<input type="checkbox"/>
Received a leaflet in the post	<input type="checkbox"/>
Via our services/staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please state

If you do not wish your name to appear on a public register of members please tick here
This information will only be used by this trust for membership purposes. It will be stored, processed and used in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

All our members will receive a copy of our newsletter.

Please tell us how you'd like to be involved by ticking all that apply below

Do online surveys/provide feedback online	<input type="checkbox"/>
Take part in interest led consultation/focus groups	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attend meetings or events	<input type="checkbox"/>
Find out more about becoming a governor	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please tick all the following which apply to you

Live in West Sussex or Brighton & Hove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Live directly outside West Sussex or Brighton & Hove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Someone who uses our services	<input type="checkbox"/>
A carer of someone who uses our services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signature

Date

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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* If you are under 16 please ask your parent or guardian to complete the below. Children 11 or younger are unable to join.

Name

Relationship to You

Signature

Date

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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MEMBERSHIP FORM

How we will be run as an NHS foundation trust

Members are at the heart of the NHS foundation trust idea. As a member you will have a direct say in how we are run and how we develop our services.

So, will you become a member and join us on our journey?

Let us tell you more: please email us at sc-tr.sctmembership@nhs.net or phone **01273 242127**.

As a member, you decide how much time you want to give, but you can:

- Help shape our plans.
- Have your say on major changes.
- Receive our members newsletter.
- Attend events and open days.
- Participate in surveys and focus groups.
- Stand for election as a governor.
- Elect governors to represent your views to our council of governors.

We are proposing two categories of membership: public and staff.

Our public constituencies

You can become a member if you live in West Sussex, Brighton & Hove or nearby.

Membership is free and open to anyone aged 12 or above. People aged under 16 will need the consent of their parent or guardian to become a member.

We propose to have a public constituency for each unitary and district/borough council in West Sussex and Brighton & Hove. Members of the public will be eligible for membership of the constituency in which they live.

An 'Out of Area' constituency is available for people who live outside of West Sussex and Brighton & Hove.

We aim to recruit 5,000 members by the time we are authorised to become an NHS foundation trust. Membership will reflect the diverse population of the area we serve.



Our staff constituencies

The people we employ under a contract of employment will automatically become a member unless they say they wish to opt-out.

They have to be employed by the trust under a contract of employment which has no fixed term or has a fixed term of at least 12 months; or have been continuously employed by the trust under a contract of employment for at least 12 months.

As staff are covered by our staff constituency, they cannot be public members. We will encourage people working within our services that do not meet the above criteria to join as public members.

Thank you for registering to join us.

Please send the form to us at:

FREPOST RSXG-XTSJ-BBTT, Foundation Trust Membership Office, Sussex Community NHS Trust, Brighton General Hospital, Elm Grove, BRIGHTON BN2 3EW. No stamp is required.

For further information please contact us at:

sc-tr.sctmembership@nhs.net | twitter.com/nhs_sct | facebook.com/sussexcommunitynhs

Tel: 01273 242127

Our council of governors

The council of governors will work with the board of directors to:

- Help set our overall direction.
- Ensure we deliver NHS care to a high standard.
- Act in a way that is consistent with rules and procedures laid down by Monitor, the independent regulator of NHS foundation trusts.

We plan to have 20 elected and appointed governors on our council of governors. The chair of the board will also be the chair of the council of governors. A majority of governors will be elected from the public constituency.

We propose to have:

- Eleven public governors: including three elected from within Brighton & Hove, one elected from each of the seven district/borough councils within West Sussex, and one elected from 'Out of Area'.

Our board of directors

The NHS foundation trust will have a board of directors (executives and non-executives). Their role is to work closely with the council of governors and be responsible for the strategic development and day-to-day management of the NHS foundation trust.

What do you think / Have your say

Complete the feedback form included on pages 5 and 6. Put it in an envelope and return it to our FREEPOST address detailed on page 6. Please respond by **Friday 30 August 2013**.

Visit our website

The feedback form can be completed online at www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft

Tweet us at twitter.com/nhs_sct

Facebook at facebook.com/sussexcommunitynhs

Visit www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft for further information.

- Four staff governors: includes one from our doctors and dentists, one from our nurses, one from a group that includes therapists, other allied health professional and healthcare assistants; and one from our support staff.
- Five appointed governors: includes two from local councils, one from the local voluntary and charity sector, one from local clinical commissioning groups and one from our staffside group (trade unions and professional bodies).

Elected governors will be elected by public and staff members from their respective constituencies. Appointed governors will come from partner organisations, such as local councils and the local clinical commissioning groups.



The board will be made up of:

- A non-executive chair, who will also chair the council of governors.
- Up to an additional six non-executive directors.
- Up to six executive directors.

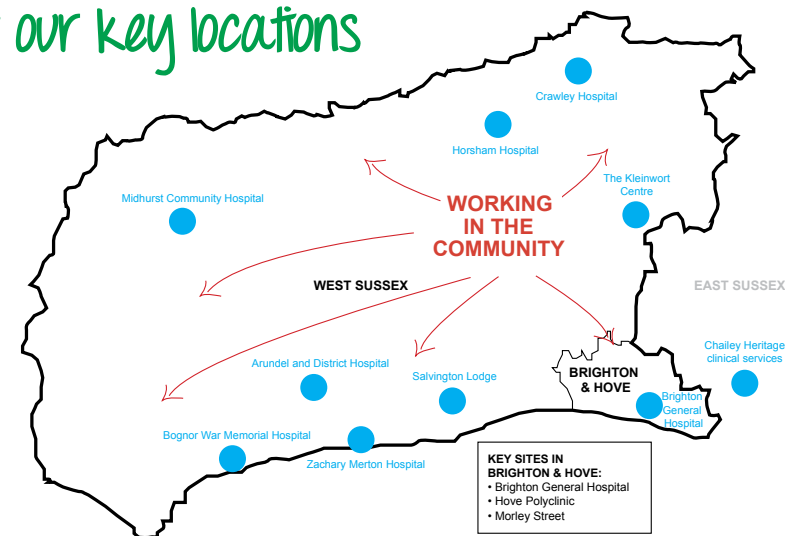
Our services

We provide over 90 services for adults and children, helping to keep them at home, in their community and out of hospital.

Our services range from community nursing, rehabilitation, occupational therapy and physiotherapy to district nursing, health visitors, health promotion, specialist dental and equipment services.

For our full service listing, please visit our website at www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/services.

Map of our key locations



What happens next?

At the end of the consultation, we will review the feedback we have received and publish a report on what we heard and how we responded on our website.

We will use your feedback to inform the NHS foundation trust application we make to the Secretary of State for Health.

If the Secretary of State supports our application, it will then be assessed by Monitor, the independent regulator for NHS foundation trusts, who will decide if we can become an NHS foundation trust.

Tell us if you need help to understand the information in this document.

If you need this information in large print, Braille, easy read, audio tape, email or if you need help to understand this information in a language that isn't English please call **01273 242096** or email sct.communications@nhs.net.

Become
a member

Have
your say

www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft

Disclaimer

"Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Department will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances, this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties."



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