

TheMKWay

CARE. COMMUNICATE.
COLLABORATE. CONTRIBUTE.



Milton Keynes
University Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

Hope springs eternal

More than 20,000 patients vaccinated so far at MKUH



Members' Newsletter

The latest members'
news from your hospital

SPRING 2021 EDITION



Welcome to The Members' Newsletter

From Milton Keynes
University Hospital
Chief Executive,
Professor Joe Harrison

The past 14 months have been some of the most challenging for MKUH since our hospital opened in 1984. The Covid-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the world, forcing everyone to change their behaviours, lifestyles and activities in a way not seen since the Second World War.

At MKUH – like the rest of the NHS – we completely changed our operational activity to ensure the hospital had the capacity to treat the hundreds of patients with Covid-19 who needed our care through two waves of the virus in the UK.

In MK, we began caring for people affected by the global pandemic earlier than most, when in February 2020 we opened an isolation facility in Kents Hill for 120 British citizens repatriated from Wuhan Province in China. Since then, #TeamMKUH has very much been at the forefront of the efforts to combat Covid-19, opening one of the first regional vaccination centres in the UK in December and delivering some of the country's very first vaccinations to vulnerable patients.

In February 2021 we have been increasing our urgent elective

(planned) procedures and working on how to begin reducing the backlogs of appointments and operations which we had to postpone over the past 14 months.

I would like to pay tribute to our staff for their amazing work over the course of the past 14 months, as well as the patients and the public for their patience and support whilst we have made drastic changes to the way we operate during the pandemic. This has been an incredibly testing time for us all. At the hospital, we are working extremely hard to return our services to normal operating levels as quickly as we can whilst of course ensuring they are safe too.

In other news, I would like to welcome Alison Davis, our new Trust chairperson, who takes up the position following the retirement of Simon Lloyd - to whom I give huge thanks for his contribution to MKUH over the years. I also welcome the seven new governors following the elections in February 2021. I am look forward to working with Alison and all of the governors as the Trust hopefully begins to return services to normal. We also have a significant number of developments planned to improve hospital facilities for local people, including the Pathway Unit to support emergency care - for which construction is now under way ahead of its scheduled opening in 2022 – a new multi-storey car park currently being built round the back of the Urgent Care Centre due to open in Autumn 2021; and the new Women and Children's Hospital scheduled to open in 2024.

So, whilst we have endured extremely difficult times during the pandemic, and there is still much work to be done, there is a lot to look forward to at MKUH to give us plenty of hope for the future in Milton Keynes.

Stay safe.





Special message to members, from new Trust Chair Alison Davis

Alison Davis formally took over from Simon Lloyd on 1 February as the new Chair of Milton Keynes University Hospital. Here Alison gives her thoughts on what appealed to her most about the role of leading the Board at MKUH, including working with staff to improve services, the development of the estate and digital advances, and the ambition to be recognised as an outstanding hospital.

"I've been so impressed by the development at MKUH and I've picked up a feeling of real ambition among staff to deliver great services for local people. In my early career as a nurse, I actually did some agency work at MKUH in the 1980s and I can remember what a small place it was back then; I'm amazed at how it's progressed. Coming back into acute services does feel like I'm coming back to my 'roots'.

"As we slowly start moving out of the pandemic and all the enormous challenges it has created at the hospital, I want to play a useful part in what everyone is trying to build here and all the fantastic work that's being done. I look forward to contributing to the ambition at MKUH for the Trust to be recognised as an outstanding hospital and to reach our full potential. That includes staff development and engagement, responding to feedback from patients, carers and the public, developing the services our communities need and working effectively with partners in health, social care, the voluntary sector and others. Collaboration is the way forward and I'm ambitious that we're recognised as an excellent partner.

"I've also been impressed with the way MKUH has embraced innovation with all the digital advances, and how open it is to doing things differently, with a 'can do' attitude. That approach was a huge draw for me when I applied for the post as Chair.

"I'm really looking forward to working with staff across the organisation, having open conversations and exploring how we work together to meet our ambitions, but supporting each other as we come out of what has been an extraordinarily difficult time is paramount. It has been clear to me in these early days since starting with the Trust, that staff welfare and wellbeing is very much at the forefront of the senior management discussions."

"All in all, it's tremendously exciting to be Chair of MKUH at this time, albeit there are significant challenges to deal with, but there is also so much to look forward to and I can't wait to be a part of that."



SIX new Governors were elected to the Council of Governors (CoG) in February 2021.

Our CoG is made up of representatives from public and staff constituents, as well as various stakeholder and partner organisations.

Governors provide a vital link between members of the public, hospital staff and the Trust Board, ensuring that the ideas, feedback and concerns of local people are listened to and taken forward. Their role is key in ensuring the Trust makes continuous improvement and meets the needs of the people that use local services.



The CoG:

Works with the Trust to make sure its long term plans match the needs of the local population and influences proposals to make changes to services

There are 26 governor seats which make up MKUH's Council of Governors.

Works with the Board of Directors to ensure that the Trust fully understands the needs of the local community

15 are elected by our Foundation Trust's public, patient or carer members and 7 are elected by staff members.

Represents the views of the wider membership

There are also 4 appointed governors who are nominated by stakeholders such as the local authority, or other organisations.

Appoints the Chair and other Non-Executive Directors



WELCOME TO
MILTON KEYNES
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL



The Council of Governors for MKUH comprises of:

	Constituency		Governors	
PUBLIC (ELECTED)	A	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford, Denbigh, Eaton Manor & Whaddon	Babs Lisgarten	
			Alan Hastings	
	B	Emerson Valley, Furzton, Loughton Park	William Butler	
			Jordan Coventry*	
	C	Linford South, Bradwell, Campbell Park	Ekroop Kular	
			Akin Soetan	
	D	Hanslope Park, Olney, Sherington, Newport Pagnell	Brian Lintern	
			Alan Hancock	
	E	Walton Park, Danesborough, Middleton, Woughton	Niran Seriki	
			Clare Hill	
F	Stantonbury, Stony Stratford, Wolverton	Ann Thomas		
		Robert Johnson-Taylor		
G	Outer catchment area	Lucinda Mobaraki		
		VACANT		
H	Extended area	VACANT		
APPOINTED STAFF (ELECTED)	I	Doctors and Dentists	Raju Thomas Kuzhively	
	J	Nurses and Midwives	Elizabeth Maushe*	
			Tracy Rea*	
	K	Scientists, technicians and allied health professionals	Yolanda Potter*	
	L	Non-clinical staff groups e.g. admin & clerical, estates, finance, HR, management	Emma Isted*	
			VACANT	
			Pirran Salter*	
	N	Milton Keynes Business Leaders	Andrew Buckley	
	O	Healthwatch Milton Keynes	Maxine Taffetani	
P	Community Action:MK	Clare Walton		
Q	Milton Keynes Council	Andy Reilly		

Highlights of 2020 and 2021 so far

February 2020

MKUH opened the Kents Hill Isolation Facility for 120 British citizens repatriated from Wuhan Province in China

March 2020

The Trust's New Cancer Centre opens to patients (image attached)



22 September 2020

The Trust held its AMM virtually for the first time. This followed the publication of the Trust's Annual Report for 2019/20

October 2020

New Staff Hub opened



December 2020

Barbara and Arthur Simper who were the first patients to receive Covid-19 vaccinations at the regional Vaccination Centre at MKUH's Academic Centre and were among the first in the UK to receive vaccinations



December 2020

Health Secretary Matt Hancock visited MKUH in the days following the launch of the hospital's Vaccination Centre



February 2021



The Trust welcomed a new Chair, Alison Davis, taking over from Simon Lloyd who retired

February 2021

The Trust began administering its first booster (second) jabs to patients at the Vaccination Centre

February 2021

Construction work begins on the Trust's new Pathway Unit, due for completion in late 2022





Estate development

There is a lot to look forward to at MKUH with several building projects either in the planning or the construction phase.

Pathway Unit

Work to build the new £14.88 million Pathway Unit got under way in February 2021, following the demolition of the old Maple Unit. The Pathway Unit will help to ensure some patients requiring urgent treatment will be able to receive it, whilst avoiding having to attend the Emergency Department (ED) and unnecessary admission to hospital. The unit, which will be situated close to the ED, will be staffed by multi-disciplinary teams including consultants, physiotherapists and pharmacists who can assess, treat and discharge patients on the day of attendance, reducing the pressure on bed occupancy at the hospital. The Trust has planned to complete the Pathway Unit by August 2022.

Women and Children's Hospital

The new Women and Children's Hospital will be developed on the hospital site next to the main building, bringing together paediatric and obstetrics services all under one roof. The Trust was granted funding in October 2020 to build the hospital as part of a nationwide hospital programme and the hospital had been working closely with the Department of Health and Social Care to secure the funding. The new facility will help the hospital to keep pace with the fast-growing town of Milton Keynes, helping to provide world class care to our patients and creating the ideal environment for welcoming MK's newest residents into the world. The project is currently in the planning phase and the Trust aims to open the facility in 2024.

New multi-storey car park

A new multi-storey car park behind the Urgent Care Centre is currently under construction and will provide 491 car spaces. The Trust plans to open the car park in Autumn 2021.



Become a member today!

Would any of your friends, family members and neighbours like to hear more about the latest developments at the hospital? Becoming a member of Milton Keynes University Hospital enables you to see first-hand how your local hospital is performing and developing, allowing you to get involved in the future of how care and services are delivered.

As a member you can:

- Receive shopping discounts on many high street brands and products;
- Vote for your representatives on the Council of Governors;
- Stand for election to the Council of Governors;
- Receive regular information about the developments being undertaken at the hospital;
- Come to our popular health events;
- Take part in surveys and consultations.

To become a member, please visit Trust website at www.mkuh.nhs.uk or contact **Senior Corporate Governance Officer Julia Price** on **01908 996235** or Julia.Price@mkuh.nhs.uk

Alternatively you can complete an application online at www.mkuh.nhs.uk/become-a-member-of-mkuh or by scanning the QR code:



Dates for your diary - Council of Governor Meetings

Why not come along to one of our Council of Governor meetings? The meetings are usually held at Milton Keynes University Hospital although during the pandemic they have been held virtually.

Dates and times of upcoming meetings in 2021 are as follows:

- **Tuesday 11 May, 10am-12.30pm**
Academic Centre - Conference Room
- **Monday 12 July, 10am-12.30pm**
Academic Centre Conference Room
- **Wednesday 15 September (Annual Members' Meeting), 4pm**
Academic Centre, MKUH
- **Monday 22 November, 4-7pm** - Academic Centre

All meetings are open to the public. If you would like to attend a meeting, please email:

foundation.members@mkuh.nhs.uk
or call **01908 996235**.



We'd love to know what you think of this edition of the Members' Newsletter and if you have any ideas for future articles, **please don't hesitate to contact the Communications team at communications@mkuh.nhs.uk**