

Trust Membership

You are eligible to become a member if you are over 16 years of age. You can also be a member of more than one NHS Foundation Trust.

To become a member, all you have to do is complete a copy of the membership application form online at:

www.uhcnhs.uk/foundationtrust

Alternatively, you can pick up a membership form from the hospital. You can also telephone us on **024 7696 4747**

Members will help the Trust by:

- Advising on the needs and views of the local community
- Being consulted on plans for service developments
- Electing representatives to be on the Assembly of Governors

Members will receive regular communications from the Trust, keeping them in touch with what is happening and seeking their views. Being a member is a voluntary role and there are no financial benefits or costs. There is, however, much satisfaction from holding a position that can help local people and health services.

How can you help?

- Promote membership of the Foundation Trust to family and friends
- Participate and encourage others to take part in consultations and surveys
- Consider standing for election as a Governor

Information is available on the Trust's website (www.uhcnhs.uk/foundationtrust) and is on display across the Trust. However, if you have any queries, please feel free to email the Foundation Trust office on foundation@uhcnhs.uk

You can also telephone us on **024 7696 4747** or write to us at:

Foundation Trust Office 3rd Floor
University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire
NHS Trust, Clifford Bridge Road, Coventry CV2 2DX

Your Health. **Your** Trust. **Your** Say.



Foundation Trust

Be Involved - Be a Member

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) NHS Trust aspires to be the best choice for people in Coventry, Warwickshire and beyond. We're aiming to do this by providing excellent patient care through learning and discovery.

We've started this journey by introducing a programme of improvements to give our patients the very highest standards of quality care.

We believe that becoming an NHS Foundation Trust is the best for us to fulfil our exciting plans for our hospitals, our patients and our staff. We also believe it's the best way for people with an interest in health services to become involved in influencing them.

This leaflet describes what a Foundation Trust is and why we think this is the right move for us all.

We're agreed that this is a wonderful opportunity for local people and health services. We hope you'll think so too.



Philip Townshend
Chairman



Andrew Hardy
Chief Executive Officer

What is a Foundation Trust - and why do we want to be one?



University Hospital Coventry

Foundation Trusts are very much part of the NHS and provide free, quality healthcare based on need. They also have some major advantages when compared with the way NHS Trusts, such as ours, are run at the moment.

Currently, we are accountable to the Secretary of State for Health. If we become a Foundation Trust, that accountability will be based here in Coventry and Warwickshire, at the heart of the communities we care for.

Foundation Trusts are created so that people from local communities, members of staff, patients and partners can have a much bigger say in influencing health services.

In a similar way to the Co-operative movement, Foundation Trusts are accountable to their members. More information on how this would work can be found on our web site, www.uhcw.nhs.uk/foundationtrust

As a Foundation Trust, we will be able to work more closely with members of the public as a truly public service, ensuring that healthcare is timely, effective and making contributions to the wellbeing of people in our community.

We will have the power to enter into legal and financial agreements that will strengthen relationships with existing partners, help us forge new partnerships and enable us to develop service more effectively.

We will still be closely inspected to make sure we meet performance and other NHS standards. The Independent regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts, called Monitor, will oversee this.



Hospital of St Cross

Over half of all provider trusts in England are now Foundation Trusts. The government expects all Trusts to become Foundation Trusts by the end of 2013.

If the Trust does not gain Foundation Trust status, it will not be in a strong position to maintain and develop its services.