

## What commitment do I need to make?

Given the stature of the role and how integral it is to the organisation, we want to attract people who recognise how the 'Council of Governors' is a 'COG' in the machinery of the Trust and want to be part of positive change for our local population of one million people.

Our ideal candidates are willing to:

- adopt and promote trust values
- attend quarterly Council of Governor meetings and other committees as needed
- develop relationships with other governors, the trust chairman, chief executive, non-executive directors and other members of staff across the organisation
- undertake induction sessions and any personal developmental programmes
- act as a strong interface between the trust and local communities, including representing the interests of local people in the drive to improve healthcare
- be flexible, focussed and friendly in all that they do for and with us—openness, honesty and integrity are all key governor traits

## How do I stand for election?

To nominate yourself for election you need to be a registered member of the Foundation Trust. You can either register via our website or pick up a form at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital or West Middlesex University Hospital.

The election is on Tuesday 29 November, so if you want to stand you'll need to register by 5pm on Thursday 20 October. Visit [www.chelwest.nhs.uk/getinvolved](http://www.chelwest.nhs.uk/getinvolved), email [vida.djelic@chelwest.nhs.uk](mailto:vida.djelic@chelwest.nhs.uk) or call 020 3315 6716 for more information.

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# Join us

Governors' elections in  
November—nominate  
yourself today



# Become a governor

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust includes Chelsea and Westminster Hospital and West Middlesex University Hospital.

The trust belongs to all who use our services and rely on these hospitals to be there when they need the care and expertise of doctors, nurses and the rest of our team.

You can help make a difference to the future of our Trust—this leaflet contains information on how to nominate yourself to stand for election as a governor. The deadline for nominations is Thursday 20 October 2016.

## Contact information

**W:** [www.chelwest.nhs.uk/getinvolved](http://www.chelwest.nhs.uk/getinvolved)  
**E:** [vida.djelic@chelwest.nhs.uk](mailto:vida.djelic@chelwest.nhs.uk)  
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## What does a governor do?

This is your opportunity to help your hospital trust bring about real benefits for patients by improving healthcare in your local community. Governors fulfil a huge variety of roles from helping plan public events, to meeting people to listen to their experiences of care and using that information to help develop better services for the benefit of everyone.

Being part of the Council of Governors is a statutory role, meaning you will help to decide senior appointments to the trust board and have a crucial part to play in determining the future of the organisation and what it needs to do in order to go beyond for our patients.

As well as holding the trust to account, individual governors act as ambassadors for the organisation. They explain the work we do and the achievements we make.

They are also responsible for engaging with members—people who sign up to hear more our trust—and to encourage participation in activities such as our Annual Members Meeting, hospital open days, educational events and 'Meet a Governor' sessions.

## What skills and abilities do I need?

The great thing about being a governor is that not only do you bring your own expertise and experience to the role, but the trust also provides you with the opportunity to develop your skills.

You can choose your areas of interest and sit on committees that suit your particular area of focus. You can also make specific requests to develop talents which both suit you and help the trust to be the best that it can be.

You do not need specific qualifications—just enthusiasm and the willingness to be involved in improving health services. That said, the description of a foundation trust governor is to be a 'critical friend'—which means if you have the confidence to ask questions and to communicate with people across the organisation then you are just who we need!