

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE TO OUR NURSING PAST

STEPPING UP



Bid for New Hospital site
Women leading the way in our EBME Team
Awesome Awards
Charity Update

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**Making a
DIFFERENCE
every day**

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GET IN TOUCH

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We're very pleased to say that in recent weeks inpatient visitors have once again been allowed on the Stepping Hill Hospital site.

Our patient liaison team has been doing a brilliant job throughout the pandemic in keeping patients, families and carers in touch with each other, but we know that for many there is nothing quite like a visit in person. Safety assessments have been made so that visits in most inpatient areas are now allowed once more.

However, please bear in mind COVID-19 is still a risk, and restrictions are still in place. Visits are only for one person for 30 minutes, and social distancing and the wearing of face masks are still required. Please stick to the rules to help keep us all safe, and read the visitor page of our website for the full details.

The GM Care Record is a new, vital digital resource helping improve health and care services and save lives, both in Stockport and Greater Manchester as a whole.

It means that wherever you receive care, whether that's in Stockport or the other nine boroughs of the region, healthcare professionals can deliver the safest and most effective care for you, without you having to repeat your story, both for routine appointments or emergency treatment.

Thanks to this joined up approach to patient care, Stepping Hill Hospital and community staff, and GP surgeries alike, will be able to securely access the most essential health and care information. The more they know about your health and care needs, the more effective care and treatment they can provide, from avoiding allergies, knowing your care wishes to accessing blood test results.

To find out more, look up www.gmwearebettertogether.com

A NEW HOSPITAL FOR STOCKPORT

We've placed a bid for one of 40 new hospitals to be built as part of major new £3.7 billion Government programme.

If successful, this will mean we'll have a state-of-the-art new hospital site in the centre of Stockport.

The New Hospitals Programme aims to build the new hospitals by 2030 and has already announced 32 projects. It is now looking for a further eight developments, and we're hoping Stockport will be one of them.

The current Stepping Hill Hospital site has served us well ever since the first building was built in 1905, but it is ageing and it faces expensive and ongoing renovation bills. A new site would be better equipped to provide the best quality care for local people, and tackle health inequalities.

With no room on the existing site to build a new hospital, we've been working with Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council to identify possible alternative sites, and we're currently looking at an area of the town centre that incorporates the Heaton Lane multi-storey car park and former Debenhams store.

The proposed town centre site is close to key transport hubs, would be more convenient for many people to get to, and would allow us to play our part in the exciting regeneration of Stockport.

If you would like to find out more visit www.stockport.nhs.uk where you can also sign up to register your support.



ARTIST IMPRESSIONS



WOMEN LEADING THE WAY WITH OUR EBME TEAM

Stockport NHS Foundation Trust

Electronic BioMedical Engineering

Our EBME (Electronic & Biomedical Engineering) team based on the Stepping Hill Hospital site are vital to the quality of care we provide.

They look after all our medical equipment, visiting hospital wards and departments to carry out tests on equipment such as ECG devices, blood pressure testers and oxygen machines, maintaining and repairing where needed. In recent years we've invested in improved equipment for the team to help enhance the support they can give.

Engineering, including EBME, is still very much a male dominated profession in the country. So we're unusual in having not one, not two, but three women engineers providing technical care and support within our department.

Saima Qasim, Safiyya Yousaf and Saida Rashid each joined our team just over two and a half years ago. They all studied Clinical Engineering together at the University of Bradford and began work at Stepping Hill Hospital as their first job after graduation. Here they say a few words about how they got into EBME and what they enjoy about it.

Saida Rashid

I really enjoyed Maths and Physics at school, but had never heard of clinical engineering until I saw the university course, so I attended an applicant day to find out more. I am very pleased that I did and that I took the course. There is such a variation in the work; every day is different. There is always new technology and futuristic methods being developed to further improve patient treatment. Medical innovation is creativity which saves lives.

I am the first female engineer in my family and I would encourage more women to take up engineering roles. EBME departments are often hidden away so there isn't much awareness of the career paths and opportunities which exist. We need to spread the word!



Saima Qasim

When I was choosing what to study, medical engineering caught my eye because it was an opportunity to be part of the NHS, and to be a critical part of the technology which improves and saves lives. My development within this role fuelled my passion and dedication. My role in EBME allows me to be productive and creative, and I enjoy building relationships with staff around the hospital.

I think there is still a lot of stereotyping of women in engineering – is a woman going to be able to manage this; to fix this? However, it was very quickly accepted here that women can make great engineers, and I was fortunate enough to have a good team around me who helped build my confidence and believed in me.



Safiyya Yousaf

From a young age, the intricacy of the human body has amazed me. EBME is a unique, multi-disciplinary field which combines medicine, technology, material science and engineering, and has been a perfect approach to cultivate my passion and drive in assisting and improving health.

As a research enthusiast I have recently contributed towards book chapters and articles on tissue engineering which is a particular passion for me. I hope I am playing a part in medicinal enhancements of clinical equipment with a great potential to enhance people's quality of life.





We've signed up to the 'Dying To Work' charter, a national initiative started by the TUC (Trade Union Congress.)

This means we aim to provide our employees who are terminally ill with the help and support they need, including being able to have time off, having adequate employment protection, and having their death in benefits protected for any loved ones they leave behind.

Our Chair Professor Tony Warne and Chief Executive Karen James OBE signed the charter and showed their public support alongside David McAllister, Healthcare Assistant and UNISON Branch Secretary on the Stepping Hill Hospital site.

The NHS celebrated its 73rd birthday this year, and Tracey Stockwell, our Head of Procurement was able to join in the commemorations at a national service held at St Pauls Cathedral to give thanks for the efforts of all NHS staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tracey led her team to manage the supplies of PPE and other vital equipment during the height of the pandemic, while undergoing her own chemotherapy treatment for cancer at the time.

The service was attended by Prince William the Duke of Cambridge who had contacted Tracey personally by phone earlier in the year to thank her for her outstanding efforts.



Psychological Boost

Our staff will soon be receiving extra support thanks to a funding boost for our psychological support services.

A grant of £121,000 will support the emotional wellbeing of staff in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, and will fund a new mental health practitioner, supported by our clinical psychologist Jo Black (pictured.)

The extra funding is thanks to our Stockport NHS Charity, see page 10 for more on how they're supporting our staff.

It's good to talk

Young people aged 11-19 in Stockport now have a friendly new voice to talk to on health issues thanks to the new 'Chathealth' service from our school nursing team.

Chathealth is a confidential service for young people aged 11-19 to contact with any concerns they have. A school nurse will then get back in touch with the person who has contacted them, usually within 24 hours, to offer health advice and support.

The contact number to text is 07480 635227, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays.) For emergencies, young people should still dial 999.



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A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE TO OUR NURSING PAST

When a young woman started looking up old photographs of her grandma she ended up taking a long journey down memory lane into the nursing past of Stepping Hill Hospital.

Leona Awoyele and her mum Lara came across a number of old photographs of Alake Taiwo, Leona's grandma and Lara's mum, while clearing through their house. They included a number of great quality pictures of Alake training as a student nurse in Stepping Hill Hospital during the 1960s.

Leona, a civil servant living in London, was thrilled to see these images of her grandma about to start her career in caring as a nurse. Sadly Alake passed away in 1976 and Leona never got to know her.

Leona and Lara were keen to discover even more photographs and possible news about Alake, and so made the train journey up from Lara's home in Peterborough to Stockport Library to see what they could find.

Once in the archives they were able to find other photos of their grandma and mum, and even a newspaper cutting from the Stockport Express which showed she had won the local award of student nurse of the year – a completely new discovery.

Both Leona and Lara were delighted with their discoveries, and plan to visit Stepping Hill Hospital itself in the future when infection prevention restrictions allow.

We are very happy that Leona shared these lovely photos of her grandma with us; great records of one of our many fantastic student nurses who have trained with us over the years.



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We've always aim to provide first class care and in recent months many of our staff have been shortlisted for a wide variety of awards, both regional and national.

Here, we take a look at how our winning teams and individuals have been recognised.

Keeping us well supplied

Our contract manager Moira Gatley was shortlisted for the NHS Procurement Outstanding Contribution Award at this year's NHS in the North Excellence in Supply Awards, which reward the best in healthcare supply support in the region.

Moira Gatley got her nomination both for her all-round amazing performance, and for helping to keep ward staff equipped with vital PPE equipment during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

During a challenging time for all staff, she made sure purchases made were appropriate, safe and delivered on time whilst maintaining value for money. Moira will soon be retiring and the award recognition is a fitting end to a fine career.



EMPLOYER
RECOGNITION
SCHEME

Going for Gold in support of armed forces

Our help and support for staff members who are also part of the Armed Forces got a big thumbs up as part of a national scheme.

We received the Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award for our outstanding support towards the Armed Forces community in an announcement from Defence Minister Leo Docherty.

To win the award, organisations must provide 10 extra paid days leave for Reservists and have supportive HR policies in place for veterans, Reserves, and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers, as well as spouses and partners of those serving in the Armed Forces. We are pleased to provide this to support our armed forces staff members.



Partnership in patient safety



A new team supporting frailer patients and a local healthcare partnership for swifter and safer discharge have seen us shortlisted for not just one but two separate awards supporting patient safety in the area.

Our Acute Frailty Service aims to prevent avoidable hospital admissions and reduce length of stay in hospital for the most vulnerable people. It enables older people in particular to be rapidly assessed, diagnosed, treated and supported in the most appropriate place. They were shortlisted in the 'Improving Care for Older People' category at the Health Service Journal Patient Safety Awards.

In another category in the same awards, we were shortlisted alongside other local health and social care partners for an innovative new team enabling swifter patient discharge and joined-up care. The Discharge 2 Assess Team has seen us join with both the Stockport Clinical Commissioning Group and Stockport Council in working closely together during the pandemic to design new ways of working so patients can now go home sooner with a package of social care in place. This team was nominated in the 'Changing Culture' category for its caring innovation.

A support for parental stress

A partnership project to support parents of new-born babies through the additional stresses and strains of the pandemic has been recognised for its innovative support.

The Stockport Family partnership between ourselves and Stockport Council have been shortlisted for the 'Public Health Nursing' category at this year's Nursing Times Awards.

The partnership's approach helps to give parents key advice and support to deal with babies crying, and was particularly in need during a time when new parents felt isolated and without their usual family support. Most health visiting home visits had to stop near the start of the pandemic in March 2020, and so early years support workers previously based in health visiting teams were retrained to give their support on maternity units where they were most needed instead.

Over 1,500 new mothers benefited from the support last year.




HELPING YOUR LOCAL **NHS** TO HELP YOU

As the official charity of Stockport NHS Foundation Trust, we go above and beyond to help provide an even better NHS for our patients and staff.

All funds donated to Stockport NHS Charity make a real difference - here are some recent highlights.

Advanced Audiology Equipment



Earlier in the year we funded a versatile device called Eclipse which enables our audiology team to carry out three types of advanced hearing tests.

One of the features this offers is the ability to predict thresholds of hearing without the need for someone to respond, which is crucial when testing hearing in newborn babies who have not passed their initial hearing screening, and also enables the team to test hearing in patients with dementia who aren't able to communicate whether they can hear things. It even has the potential to remove the need for sedating younger patients with difficulties that mean they are unable to complete hearing tests in a standard way.

With an average of around 240 referrals a year, the Eclipse makes a significant difference by being quicker and more reliable than other equipment, which has led to reduced clinic times and repeat visits, and also reduced waiting time for families trying to find answers on their baby's hearing loss.

MARVELLOUS MAKEOVERS

We all know how important it is to be able to take a proper break when things get busy, to recharge, refuel and relax. As part of our work to improve staff wellbeing Stockport NHS Charity recently supported a number of teams to upgrade their break room areas and kitchen spaces.

We supported staff working in our Maternity Unit, Antenatal Clinic and Integrated Care teams across a number of sites to revamp their staff areas with comfortable new furniture and better kitchen equipment.



Supporter Spotlight

Great-grandfather Derek Farndell has taken on not one, but three epic bike rides to support Stockport NHS Charity. Covering 1,200 miles in routes across the UK Derek is raising money to support the Scopeguide fund paying for additional equipment for endoscopy patients, and the Laurel Suite which cares for cancer patients.

Derek says

"Before I first started these cycling challenges I hadn't ridden a bike for years, but I'm well into it now. I've still got my ongoing health problems but these rides are keeping me as fit as can be as well as helping me raise money. The hospital saved my life, so I want to do all I can for the charity to show my appreciation."



You can support Derek here:
www.justgiving.com/fundraising/derek-farndell

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

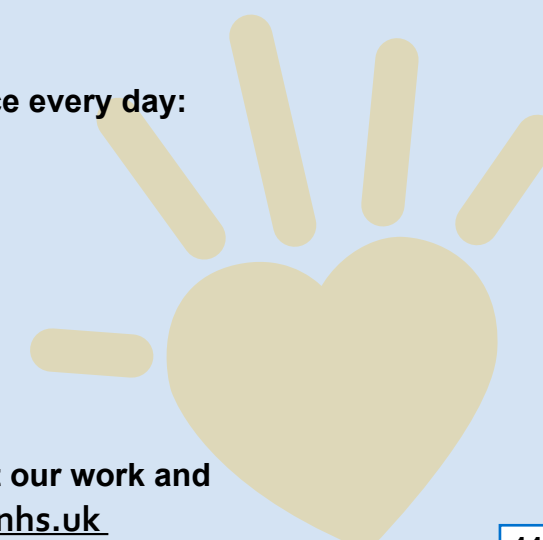
Follow us on social media to see how we're making a difference every day:

www.Stockport.nhs.uk/Charity

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Sign up to receive our Charity e-newsletter with updates about our work and opportunities to get involved by emailing charity@stockport.nhs.uk



WELCOME to our NEW Governors

Our council of governors have an important role - they ensure that the views of our wider community are taken into account in providing and developing our services.

Following recent elections, a number of a new public and staff members have recently been appointed to our trust's Council of Governors.

We'd like to welcome our new Governors on board in their new role and tell you a little more about each of them.

Paula is a secretary for the community dietitian service, based at Regent House in Stockport town centre. She has a background as a union representative and believes that both this and her experience of transitioning from working from a primary care trust to a foundation trust gives her useful background to the role. Paula says *"communication between staff and governors is vital and I'm keen to ensure that community staff in particular are represented."*



Paula Hancock
- Staff

Srinath is a both a consultant, and the clinical director for the stroke service based at Stepping Hill Hospital. He believes communication is the key to developing a strong relationship between staff and management, and his role will focus on this. *"I will seek to ensure staff concerns raised are brought to the attention of appropriate members of the trust, and provide a constructive challenge where necessary to stand up for staff interests."*

Dr Srinath Meadipudi
- Staff



Karen works as section manager in the health records department of Stepping Hill Hospital. She joined the trust two years ago having spent over 40 years working as a senior civil servant for HMRC. She has also been a chair of governors at her local primary school Dial Park for 26 years, *"My experience of both attending and chairing meetings in government and educational settings will be useful experience to bring to the role. I am proud to represent staff as a governor, and hope I can make a difference by listening to staff concerns."*



Karen Southwick
- Staff

Janet has a varied background of involvement with healthcare. In her youth in Zambia she helped set up a primary health care unit to help support local people. On returning to the UK she worked as a research ethics committee coordinator at St Thomas's Hospital before moving to King's College Hospital. She was always keen to ensure those taking part in research were fully represented, as well as the research companies. Janet says *"I see my role as a governor as continuing to ensure that people have a voice in how they are affected by changes, and that their influence will be heard."*



Janet Browning
- High Peak and Dales

Thomas served in Her Majesty's Armed Forces and worked in the supply branch of the Royal Navy until he had to accept an honorary medical discharge after being diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes. He went on to be an accountant and tax advisor and qualified chef. Thomas says *"I'm passionate about the NHS and its staff, and as a person with a disability I will advocate strongly for the rights of disabled staff, patients, and visitors."*



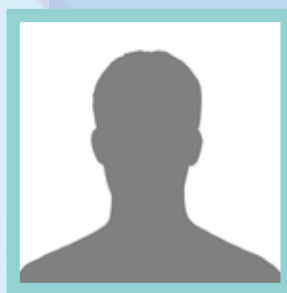
Thomas Lowe
- High Peak and Dales

Lance has already served as a governor in the constituency for six years and has been now re-elected for three more years. He has a varied background including working with several charities, and is also a member of the High Peak Place Alliance, a group which brings together most of the caring services, GPs, hospital representatives, local government representatives, and representatives of other groups such as the voluntary services, which helps to make him an effective Public Governor. *"I will continue to work to help ensure the people and services of High Peak are represented, as well as those of Stockport."*

Lance Dowson
- High Peak and Dales (re-elected)



David is 79 years old has lived in the Shaw Heath and Cale Green areas all his life. Before retiring he worked as an administrator in a local electrical company. He was born at Stepping Hill Hospital, has used its service a number of times as an outpatient, and has friends and acquaintances among its staff. *"I have become a governor to give something back to the hospital which has provided care for myself and my friends and family, and will be proud to provide a service for them."*



David Huddleston
(picture to follow)
- Heaton and Victoria

Muhammad is originally from Bangladesh, and has lived in the UK for the past 17 years. He has a diploma in civil engineering, he has two children and is very active in his local community. Muhammad says *"I am keen to speak up for the diverse communities who use our local health services, to speak up for them and to help to ensure care is given equitably to all."*

Muhammad Zuhedur Rahman
- Outer Region



and goodbye to other Governors too...

We would like to say goodbye to the following governors who have now stepped down, and to thank them for their combined years of service.

Roy Greenwood (lead governor)
- Tame Valley & Werneth constituency

Kaymo Jammeh
- Staff constituency

Carlton Lyons
- Tame Valley & Werneth constituency

Lynne Woodward
- High Peak & Dales constituency

Chris Dawson
- Staff constituency

Catharine Grundy-Glew
- High Peak & Dales constituency

Jo Keyes
- Staff constituency

Charles Galasko
- Outer Region constituency

Could you be one of OUR NEXT GOVERNORS?

Do you want to have your say in the running of your local NHS ?

Do you want to speak out on behalf of your community and help both support your local services, and to hold them to account?

If so, then we want to hear from you to become a new member of our Council of Governors.

Our Governors are an important part of running both our hospital and community services. They're a vital democratic link between members, staff, the public and our board of directors. They give feedback and make sure we engage and respond to the issues important to the people which they represent.

This is a voluntary role, one which includes appointing our non-executive directors and holding them to account, taking an interest in the way services are run and making sure the voices of local people are heard. Does this sound like you?

Although several new members have recently been elected to our Council of Governors, we still have vacancies in Tame Valley and Werneth, and the Heatons and Victoria, as well as our Staff.

If you want to support your services and think you have what it takes, then give us a call on 0161 419 5166 for an informal chat. We can then take it to the next stage.

Save the date

ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

Wednesday 10th November
4:00pm - 6:00pm

All welcome

Please note a change of date for our Annual Members Meeting, which will once again be taking place virtually.

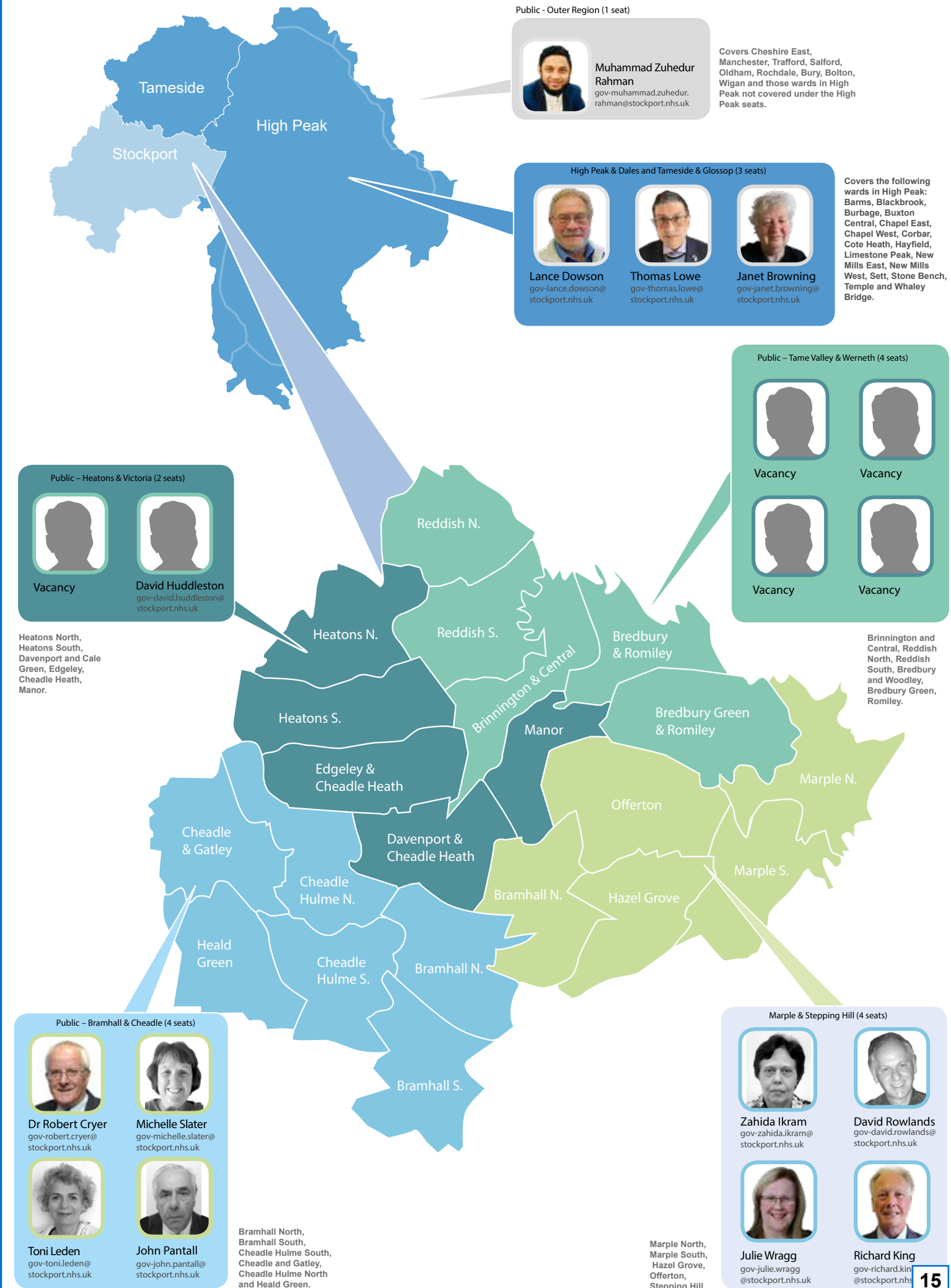
The online session includes a review of the year, the presentation of our annual accounts and the opportunity to ask your questions.

You can find out more and register here: www.stockport.nhs.uk/events

YOUR TRUST,
YOUR SAY



YOUR GOVERNORS



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