

Stepping Up

SUMMER 2025 EDITION

EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT

Our improved emergency and urgent care campus

- New values
- Welcome David Wakefield, new Chair
- Community care
- Digital pathology excellence
- Staff survey results
- Car parking at Stepping Hill Hospital

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GET IN TOUCH

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New Values

We've recently introduced a new set of values, showing what we're all aiming for in our role as healthcare providers.

The values are CARE – which means Compassion, Accountability, Respect and Excellence.

C

A

R

E

Compassion

We show kindness, caring and willingness to help others.

Accountability

We take responsibility for our actions, behaviours, performance and decisions.

Respect

We value people's lived experience, feelings, qualities and views.

Excellence

We support research, innovation, improvement and learning.

Here's what each of these mean to us.

OUR VALUES

Karen James OBE, Chief Executive

Our values are the guiding principles for our organisations and the care they provide.

With input from colleagues from across both Stockport & Tameside, they truly reflect what makes us proud to work here.

COMPASSION

C

Nic Firth, Chief Nurse

I believe we should treat people as they would like to be treated.

Compassion towards our patients and their families, colleagues & ourselves ensures we can be our best selves at work.

ACCOUNTABILITY

A

John Graham, Chief Finance Officer, Deputy Chief Executive

We're all **accountable** for our work, and that includes ensuring we spend public money in the right way.

Having this as one of our key values puts these expectations front and centre, so that we can always provide world class care and put patients at the heart of everything we do.

Andrew Loughney, Medical Director

Accountability means 'taking responsibility'.

It requires us to recognise our personal and collective shortcomings, to speak out when we think things should be done in a better way and to learn from our experiences. Being accountable is the route to us providing outstanding care for the people we serve.

RESPECT

R

Amanda Bromley, Director of People & Organisational Development

Being respectful to each other should be a given, wherever you work, and whoever you work with.

The value of **'respect'** underpins our equality, diversity and inclusion strategy, the work we have done on civility, our freedom to speak up commitment and so much more.

EXCELLENCE

E

Jackie McShane, Director of Operations

We all play very different roles in our organisation, but they all have this in common; we should always strive for the very best in what we do.

The value of **'excellence'** reminds us all of this ongoing commitment.

Paul Buckley, Director of Strategy & Partnerships

The value of **'excellence'** means we are all aiming to provide first class care and service for our local population and patients.

We should all aim for this end goal, and never compromise on quality or safety in doing so.

2

3

DAVID WAKEFIELD

David Wakefield joined our Trust in April, as our new joint Chair, for Stockport NHS Foundation Trust and Tameside Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust.

With a career spanning five decades, David brings a wealth of experience with him from previous NHS roles, and significant experience within Royal Mail. His expertise in organisational transformation is a welcome boost to both trusts, as is his knowledge of finance and commerce.

Before joining Stockport and Tameside, David's NHS experience included a non-executive role at Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust, Chair of community health services in Milton Keynes, Chair of Milton Keynes Hospital, Chair of Bolton Hospital, Chair at Mid Staffordshire NHS FT, and eight years as Chair of University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust.

We put David in the hot seat to answer some questions about his new role.

Why did you want to be Chair at Stockport and Tameside?

Traditionally I have taken roles at organisations where there is a real need to turnaround. Stockport and Tameside are different in that they don't need a drastic approach. I had heard about the reputation of the joint Chief Executive, Karen James OBE, and I knew that the organisations already had a safe pair of hands.

Both organisations are not without their challenges, and like most trusts in the country have issues with resources and funding, coupled with an increased demand for services. However both organisations are rightly proud of their heritage and I believe that working together we can jointly rise to these challenges and can punch above our weight, to bring the very best of care for local residents.

How would describe your leadership style?

My leadership style is very 'hands on'. To me visibility is key, and I make a point of walking the walk, speaking to colleagues who are on the front line to get the full picture of what it is like both to work here, and to be a patient. It brings things to life for me and allows me to ask the right questions.

Welcome to our new Chair



What do you think are the biggest challenges faced by our organisations?

Operationally, NHS organisations are working in a difficult environment. We know that nationally, the good will for the NHS that we saw during the COVID pandemic is waning and we need to build back confidence in NHS services, whilst managing the challenges of unprecedented demand.

I'm a big fan of the film Gladiator, and one quote in the film is "Whatever comes out of these gates, we've got a better chance of survival if we work together". I think this sums up the challenges perfectly. Our colleagues have to deal with whatever comes through our gates every day, and we have to be ready for anything. I'm hoping that with my experience I can help them to do that.

What are your greatest achievements?

I've always prided myself on wanting to achieve the best for the organisation I am working for. When I took on the role at Bolton, I dreamed of having a banner outlining the achievements of the organisation. On my very last day I was proud when the team were able to roll out a big banner as the trust had been voted 'Best Trust in the North West'. We'd been through a real journey to improvement so it felt like an important milestone.

How do you spend your time when you are not working?

Having a good work-life balance is very important. I'm originally from Ireland and my family always comes first. I'm lucky to have relatives in Canada, Greece and Ireland and I spend as much time as possible visiting family.

I also walk – a lot. I have a dog who helps to ensure I get my steps in everyday, wherever possible we fit in four walks a day, whatever the weather! My wife says I am obsessed with my Fitbit!

I'm also a big Wolverhampton Wanderers fan, and have supported them my whole life. Fortunately they don't play in the same league as Stockport County so I won't need to test my loyalties!



CREATIVE COMMUNITY CARE

Some of the care and treatment we always used to provide in a hospital setting we can now bring in other ways closer to home.

This means providing creative and innovative solutions, making the best use of our resources, and thinking 'outside the box'.

Here, we look at two very different ways of how we're making improvements by providing care in community settings.



Dedicated diagnostics

A whole range of diagnostic services previously only available in hospital are now being provided in the South East Manchester Community Diagnostic Centre in Denton, which opened last October.



The centre provides MR, CT, DEXA and ECHO scans, providing swifter diagnosis for a number of conditions including cancer and heart disease.

It's a partnership venture between ourselves, Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust and InHealth, the UK's largest specialist provider of diagnostic solutions, and is for the use of the populations across Stockport, Tameside, Glossop and the High Peak.

Thousands of people can now receive these tests at the location in Crown Point Shopping Centre in Denton, away from busy hospital sites. Patients access services via a clinician referral.

With its focus on prevention, and being nearer to some areas of deprivation, the centre aims to help tackle health inequalities. It is estimated there will be 25,000 appointments in year one, scaling up to 36,000 in year 5 and 50,000 by year 10, providing a large amount of additional diagnostic care.

The centre is already having a positive impact on bringing swifter diagnostic waiting times. The number of patients waiting for echocardiograms has reduced from just over 2000 in April 2024, to just over 1000 in January 2025.

The Virtual Ward



The essential aim of the 'virtual ward' is straightforward – providing the care and treatment previously available in a hospital in a patient's own home.

The advantages of a patient being able to remain in their own home are many – too many to list! Most people would prefer to be in their home than in a hospital ward if they could. This can also be a greatly more efficient use of NHS resources; with inpatient bed resources kept for where they are most needed.

The challenge is to ensure both the necessary care and treatment – and safety – is still in place. That's where the work of the virtual teams comes in.

Just like in hospital, people on a virtual ward are cared for by a multidisciplinary team who provide a range of treatments and tests. This could include blood tests, prescribing medication or administering fluids through an intravenous drip.

Patients are reviewed daily by the clinical team and the 'ward round' may either involve a home visit or take place through video technology.

Hundreds of patients are now being cared for in this way. To take the example of February 2025, there were 123 admissions and 95 discharges to the Virtual Ward Service.

77% of admissions were to avoid an acute admission to hospital, and 22% to reduce their stay. The majority of these were in frailty care, with others including respiratory, heart failure, and postnatal.

You can see a good example of how the virtual ward works with our patient story here:

The virtual ward team are also providing innovative support for new mothers who are suffering from high blood pressure, ensuring they can have care at home too. This initiative is currently up for an HSJ Digital Award – find out more on page 19.

A 66 Year old man in Stockport was referred to the virtual ward by his GP, with an Acute Kidney Injury (AKI). Ordinarily this patient would have been referred to hospital for close monitoring of his blood tests, for alterations to his medication, and for fluids via a drip.



The patient had learning disabilities and was supported at home by family members, enabling him to live alone. The virtual ward team provided close monitoring of his observations in his own home, reviewing his medications, and amending his prescription, with blood tests repeated by virtual ward care support workers and reviewed by clinicians. Following this, the team arranged for him to have fluids via a drip in an outpatient setting, avoiding the need for hospital admission.

All of this happened over a weekend, which would have further increased the likelihood of admission if the virtual ward had not been there to support him. Following fluid treatment, his bloods were repeated at home a second time, and his AKI had resolved.

At all times during his care, the team were in close contact with his family, keeping them well informed about his care and changes to his medication. His family worked, and were not able to do his observation monitoring daily. They felt reassured that the virtual ward were supporting him by carrying out his observations. They felt that the avoidance of hospital admission was a great help to their relative, who would have found a hospital admission very distressing.

With his AKI resolved, the virtual ward team referred the patient onto the Neighbourhood ACP team to ensure the ongoing titration of his water tablet medication was continued in the medium term. Information about his virtual ward admission was communicated to his GP to ensure that his ongoing prescriptions were amended appropriately.

The team were very really proud of the service we were able to provide to this man, keeping him comfortable in his home, while simultaneously delivering safe and effective care.

FOR IMPROVED EMERGENCY CARE OPEN AND RUNNING

We're hugely pleased to announce that our new Emergency and Urgent Care Campus is finally complete, open, and providing enhanced care for our local population.

Building of the campus has been a major project together with our contractors Tilbury Douglas and other partners, and has taken nearly three years.

A small opening ceremony was held to mark the occasion, including partners together with capital, estates and clinical colleagues who have worked hard on the project set to greatly improve emergency and urgent care in the area.

Extending from our old Emergency Department (A&E) the new building has meant major changes to the front face of the hospital, becoming more welcoming and visually attractive, and making for an improved experience for patients receiving emergency and urgent care.

The design of the new campus is centred on patient needs, with the best possible state-of-the-art facilities being made available for staff. It includes new assessment, treatment and consultation areas for several key emergency and urgent care services. Additional funding for patient facilities at the campus has also been provided by Stockport NHS Charity.

The clinical area of the campus has increased by over 300m², enabling more patients to receive safe care and treatment sooner.



At the end of last year we also began work on a new outpatients building which will provide state-of-the-art new facilities for patients.

The building is using environmentally friendly 'modular units' which were pre-built off-site at a facility in Hull before being transported to site and lifted to their new location.

Work is progressing well here, and we also hope to have this open later in the year.



The Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, has paid a visit to our pathology lab to see how our colleagues in digital pathology are revolutionising the field and enhancing patient care.

By digitising glass slides into high-resolution images, new technology recently introduced into our path lab now makes for a faster and more accurate diagnosis, enabling specialists to collaborate seamlessly regardless of location.

As the mayor toured the lab, our pathology team explained how the new digital pathology process is being integrated to help detect diseases with greater accuracy and efficiency, and will help reduce turnaround times for patients waiting for test results.

The Mayor said it was inspiring to see the technology in action, that pathology should not just be hidden away at the hospital, and that everyone should recognise how crucial it is to improving patient care.

Mayoral visit highlights digital pathology excellence



Hospital patients who are homeless, or at risk of becoming so, now have access to new help and support thanks to our new partnership project with Stockport Homes Group (SHG), Age UK and others.

SHG has helped provide a Hospital Homeless Advocate providing training for staff so they are better able to help these patients so that they are more swiftly referred to where they can access the support they need.

For those who are still experiencing homelessness, our staff can also provide with supplies which have been donated by partners; including clothing, flasks, backpacks, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and food.

Help for the homeless



Tree-mendous

Several new trees have been planted on the hospital site, as part of a partnership project with the City of Trees community forest charity, and with the support of funding from clinical waste company Stericycle.

They were planted in several places across outside areas of the site, including near the restaurant, maternity, Pinewood education and training centre, and car park areas.

As well as improving the environment for patients, staff and visitors, the new trees form a small part of our aim to reduce carbon emissions and reach Net Zero by 2040.

We've been confirmed as one of the safest hospitals in the country to have abdominal surgery, in the latest report from the National Emergency Laparotomy Audit (NELA).

It showed us as being in the top three acute trusts in the country, and the top in Greater Manchester, in terms of survival rates for emergency laparotomies during the year 2022/23.

The results are a great example of the hard work and expertise of our surgical theatre teams, and also from the emergency department (A&E), critical care, surgical wards, radiology, and lab teams as well.

Safe for surgery

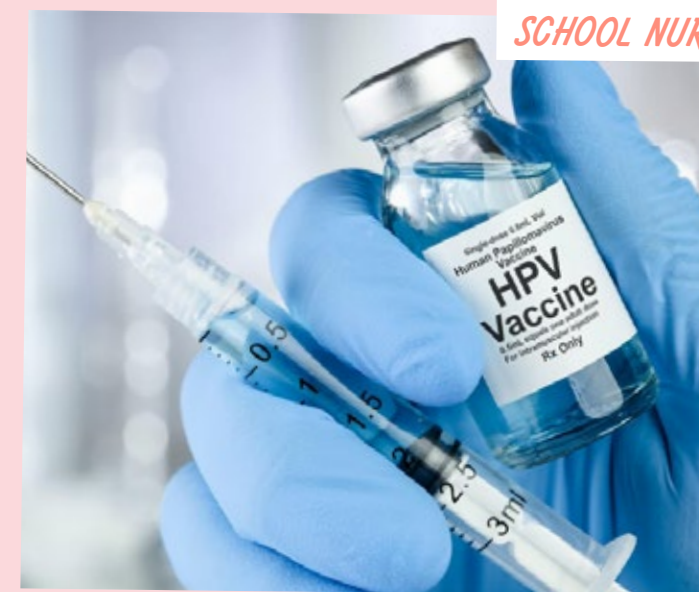


Our pharmacist Rebecca Heaton, has qualified as a 'consultant pharmacist' in rheumatology - one of only three in the whole of England and Wales to achieve the position in this discipline.

Consultant pharmacists are leaders in their profession, as well as senior clinical experts delivering care and driving improvement across healthcare.

Rebecca is now helping to provide expert care to patients with the most complex needs, and delivering advice for teams caring for patients with rheumatology conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis.

Top UK pharmacist



SCHOOL NURSING SUCCESS IN TACKLING CERVICAL CANCER

Our school nursing teams' ongoing success in vaccinating school girls against HPV (human papillomavirus), and helping to eliminate cervical cancer, has been shared in a number of ways.

They featured in a national report from company MSD on the best projects around the country tackling HPV, and leads shared their expertise at the national NHS ConfedExpo too.

Every year since 2017, the Stockport school nursing team has exceeded the World Health Organisation goal of 90% vaccination coverage in year 9 girls, which in the long term will help save many lives.

Research team restore man's sense of smell

Taking part in a medical study with our research team helped Bramhall man Alan Towse overcome a debilitating nasal condition which had robbed his sense of taste and smell, and which had given him headaches for over ten years.

Alan's quality of life has been greatly improved after taking part in a clinical trial for treatment for the condition.

He is now keen to encourage others to take part in medical research – if you're interested then contact our team on **0161 419 4893** or email research.development@stockport.nhs.uk



Library support for children with loss



Our palliative care team have been working together with Stockport Council and library services to ensure a good selection of books are available to help support children who have suffered the loss of a parent or carer.

These books are now available as a support in libraries across the Stockport borough.



Special Eyes



Our stroke patients suffering from eye conditions are now receiving enhanced care with a specialist orthoptic service.

Over 70% of stroke survivors will suffer with some form of visual disturbance, which can affect their ability to manage with day to day activities and jobs.

The team offer screening, assessment, and management for stroke survivors; and identifying visual disturbances earlier means more effective treatment.



Stockport County Community Trust have been supporting us and our patients with a number of their wellbeing initiatives in recent months.

Working with our transition & young adults diabetes team they helped organise a visit from young people with diabetes to the County Edgeley Park ground - helping them enjoy a big tour of the sights and facilities.

And working with our bowel cancer colleagues they organised a matchday information display at the ground to coincide with Bowel Cancer Awareness Month.

Staff Survey results

Our NHS Staff Survey for the year 2024 results are now through – here's a look at some of the key findings.

The survey gives us an indication of how our workforce are feeling, our areas of strength and key areas of focus for this year.

Colleagues have told us they feel positive about the trust and managers being committed to supporting flexible working, health and wellbeing being a priority and managers valuing our work.

Our key areas of focus this year include putting the learning from the Civility Saves Lives programme into practice, introducing the Sexual Safety policy, guidance and training, and further improving appraisal discussions.

Our areas of strength

- Our immediate managers value the work of our staff and staff show appreciation to each other
- We feel that our health and wellbeing is a priority for the Trust and managers
- We feel that the Trust and managers are committed to supporting flexible working and having a work life balance

Our key areas of focus this year

- Helping colleagues to put into practice the learning from our Civility Saves Lives Programme and become a more civil and respectful place to learn, develop and work
- Introducing the new Sexual Safety Policy (all unwanted behaviour) along with guidance and training, to ensure that our staff feel safe at work
- Continue to improve appraisal discussions ensuring they are two-way, meaningful and better inform learning and development
- Continue to support career progression and taking positive action to eliminate discrimination and under representation
- Continue to support colleagues to improve their health and wellbeing and manage work pressures



Always learning



58% of you feel you are able to access the right learning and development opportunities when they need to



68% of you feel there are opportunities to develop your knowledge and skills



Health and safety



61% of you feel that the Trust takes positive action on health and well-being



We are a team



82% of you enjoy working with the colleagues in your team



73% of you feel you receive the respect you deserve from colleagues at work



Recognised and rewarded



74% of you feel that your manager values your work



Compassionate and inclusive



88% of you feel that your role makes a difference to patients/service users



71% of you feel valued by your team



69% of you agree that your immediate manager takes effective action to help with any problems



We work flexibly



73% of you agree that you can approach your manager to talk openly about flexible working



58% of you feel you already achieve a good balance between work and home life



Voice that counts



91% of you feel trusted to do your job



74% of you feel able to make suggestions to improve the work of your team or department

CAR PARKING at Stepping Hill Hospital



PARKING

Around 5,900 people work at our hospital, and demand for hospital services has never been higher. Our ongoing building work has also put further pressure on hospital parking spaces at Stepping Hill, and in the short term we are not able to build new car parks to accommodate this demand.

More and more cars coming to hospital or parking on neighbouring streets is not sustainable, and therefore we must be smarter about how we use our car parks and be fair about how we issue parking permits.

Additionally, our hospital decked car parks are nearing the end of their useful lives, and we need to start thinking about how we can replace these, whilst minimising the impact on patients and staff who need to park.

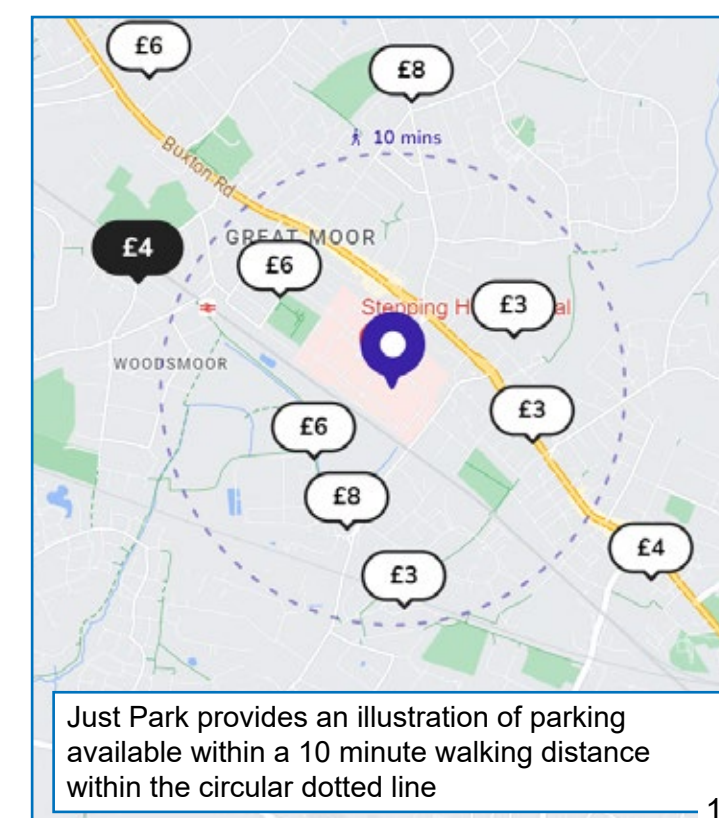
We have recently engaged on a major consultation exercise with our staff and the neighbours with a view to making changes to help make car parking to the hospital more sustainable. We will be sharing the results of these soon.

In the meantime, it is good to remember the alternatives for when you are unable to find a space.

Alternatives to parking on site

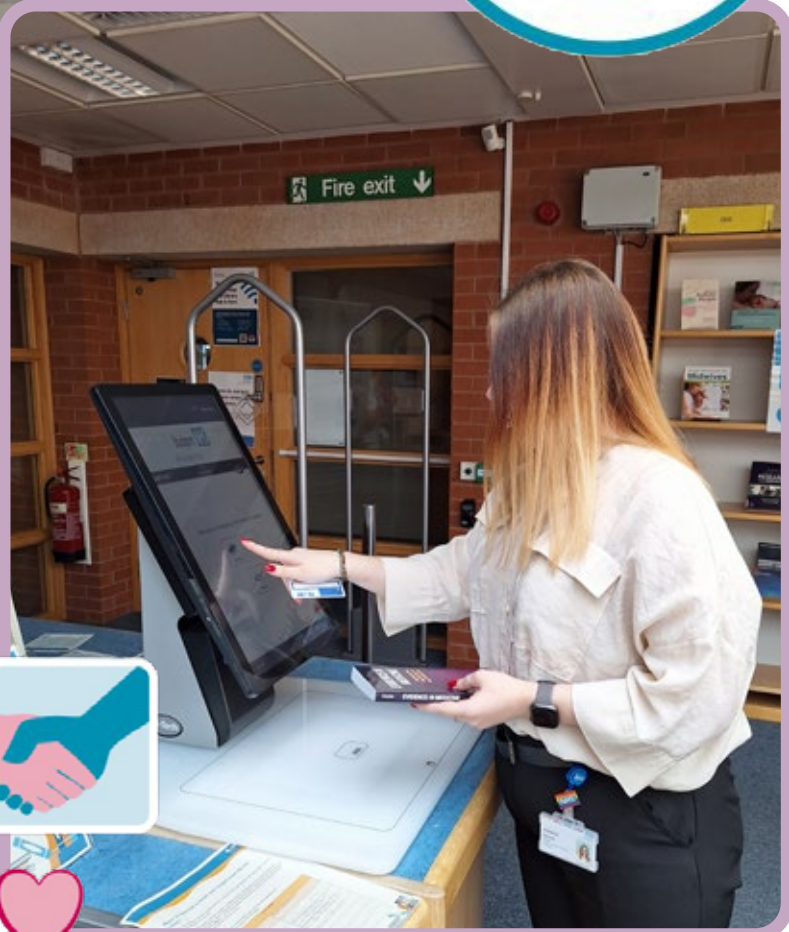
Availability of parking spaces is on a first come, first served basis – for patients, staff and visitors. That means that if there are no designated bays available, will you need to park somewhere away from site.

- www.YourParkingSpace.co.uk - shares bookable spaces at supermarkets, offices and private homes, for a small parking charge
- www.JustPark.com - shares parking spaces near Stepping Hill Hospital from £3.90
- www.tfgm.com/ways-to-travel/park-and-ride/hazel-grove-bus - the park and ride is in Hazel Grove and offers free all day parking for cars and bikes, with direct buses to Stepping Hill Hospital site
- www.Parkopedia.co.uk - shares parking spaces near Stepping Hill Hospital from £2.20
- Residential areas that do not require permits. Do not obstruct driveways or pathways. Please park with consideration



Just Park provides an illustration of parking available within a 10 minute walking distance within the circular dotted line

TERRIFIC TRAINING



Here's some of the amazing numbers that went into their work last year (January – December 2024).

Training places offered

35,049



E-Learning packages completed

44,054

Clinical training sessions

COMPETENCY PATHWAY TRAINING COMPLETED

8,164



Pre-registered students

2,107

Signed up apprentices

99

Visits to the library

34,000

Individuals supported by the KLS

973

Cadets

38



Cost saved to colleagues by loaning books

CAVERAGE BOOK COST £40)

£21,000

Hours saved in assistance for literature by the KLS

(CAVERAGE OF 3 PER SEARCH)

219



Our Learning and Education team, based at the Pinewood House Education Centre at Stepping Hill Hospital, are part of the very core of the care and service we provide.

Quality healthcare requires quality education and training, and that's what they consistently provide for our colleagues across a huge array of areas.

They also support the many students who work in our hospital and community across nursing, therapy and other areas, as well as also the apprentices and cadets.

The Knowledge and Library Service (KLS) also provides an invaluable service for all colleagues to use.



Awards and achievements



Kitchen magic

Our catering team continue to be recognised for their excellence by being made finalist for several national awards.

This time, they've been shortlisted twice for the Hospital Catering Association Awards (Team of the Year, and Manager of the Year for Erica Bell) – and once for the Public Sector Catering Awards (Team of the Year.)

All three are testament to their ongoing and outstanding commitment to the very highest standards in catering.



SEND Special Recognition

Our Children's Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) team received a Special Recognition Honour in SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Best Practice for their innovative support for neurodivergent children.

The team were recognised for their use of a new 'identification tool' which helps them recognise behaviours of young children which can indicate neurodiversity.

Once identified, the team can then give them the support they need, with the help of a parent-mediated therapy programme which uses video feedback to help to enhance an infant's communication potential through supporting parent-child interactions.

Parents and carers have praised the team for the additional support this has meant for them and their young children.



DIGITAL DEDICATION



Innovative new digitally driven care for those suffering from high blood pressure after giving birth has been recognised with a shortlisting at this year's Health Service Journal (HSJ) Digital Awards.

Our 'Digital Postnatal Hypertension Pathway' was chosen as a finalist in the 'Improving Out of Hospital Care' category for their use of digital tools, remote monitoring, and telemedicine so that new mothers with hypertension (high blood pressure) can be supported in the 'virtual ward' environment of their own home.

The aim of the pathway is to improve health outcomes, make better use of health resources, reduce hospital admissions, and help to ensure parents can be in their own home sooner.



Excellent End-of-life care



High quality care for people at the end of life was rewarded with a presentation of awards for care homes across the Stockport area, presented by our end of life quality improvement team.

Research consistently shows the majority of people would prefer to die in their usual place of residence rather than in hospital.

Six care homes providing 290 beds were recognised for working with the team to develop skills in recognising decline and advance care planning, maximise the opportunities for residents to be safely cared for and spend the end of their life cared for at home.



Bronze award for tackling racism

We've received a Bronze award from the North West Black Asian and Minority Ethnic Assembly for the development of our anti-racist work, both in terms of taking action against potential racism faced by our staff, and in tackling health inequalities.

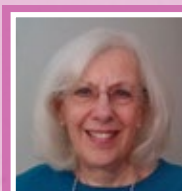
The award recognised the success of our anti-racist initiatives, which were the result of partnership between our inclusion and colleague experience team, patient experience team, and our race equality staff network members, with support from our board of directors.

MEMBERSHIP AND GOVERNORS

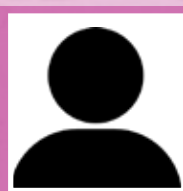
Our governors represent the interests and views of both our members and the public. They play an important role in the Trust, seeking assurance from the Board of Directors and helping to shape the Trust's future priorities and plans.

You can see our current governors and where they represent below.

Appointed:



Sue Alting
(Age UK Stockport)



Vacancy
(SMBC)



David Kirk
(Healthwatch)



Vacancy
(GM University)

Staff:



David McAllister



Yogalingam Ganeshwaran



Ruth Perez-Marino



Paula Hancock

Marple and Hazel Grove:



John Morris



Richard King

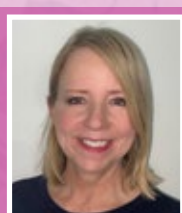


Tony Moore



Val Cottam
MBE

Heatons and Stockport West:



Victoria Macmillan



Steve Williams



Chris Summerton



Tad Kondratowicz

Bramhall and Cheadle:



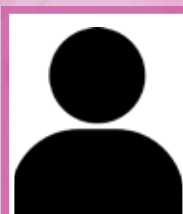
Sarah Thompson



Adrian Nottingham



Michelle Slater

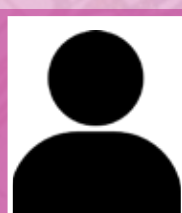


Vacancy

Tame Valley and Werneth:



Howard Austin



Vacancy



Alex Wood



Vacancy

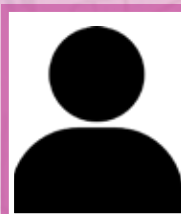
High Peak and Dales:



Mike Chantler



Tony Gosling



Vacancy

Outer Region:



Callum Kidd

Governor Elections - Would you like to be a Governor?

Our governors represent the interests and views of both our members and the public.

As part of the Council of Governors, you would play an important role in the Trust, seeking assurance from the Board of Directors and helping to shape the Trust's future priorities and plans.

We are looking for people from all walks of life and are keen that our Council of Governors reflects the diversity of our communities. We offer training and support to help you carry out your role.

We are holding elections in the following public constituencies for a 2 or 3-year term of office:

Bramhall & Cheadle

4 SEATS

Marple & Hazel Grove

4 SEATS

We are also holding by-elections in the following public constituencies for a 1-year term of office:

Tame Valley & Werneth

2 SEATS

High Peak & Dales

1 SEAT

Nominations open on Friday 4th July 2025 and close at 5pm on Friday 1st August 2025.

HOW TO APPLY

To be a governor you must be a member of the Trust. To become a member scan the QR code or visit our website at www.stockport.nhs.uk/page_186



To find out more about the elections, the role of a governor or to complete a nomination form online, visit: www.cesvotes.com/stockport2025 or contact the Membership Team via email: membership@stockport.nhs.uk

Upcoming Council of Governors Meeting Dates

10th September 2025, 10:00am-12:00 noon

10th December 2025, 10:00am-12:00 noon

11th March 2026, 4:00pm-6:00pm

Anyone wishing to observe the meetings virtually can contact the Membership Office for joining instructions - please email membership@stockport.nhs.uk or call 0161 419 5166.

HOLD THE DATE: Annual Members' Meeting

2nd October 2025, 5:00pm-6:30pm, Pinewood House Education Centre, Stepping Hill Hospital

If you would like to contact your governor and provide feedback on any of our services, you can do so via the Corporate Affairs Team: membership@stockport.nhs.uk. Please note governors are not responsible for the operational management of the organisation, including responding to complaints regarding a patient's individual treatment.

The following governors can be contacted directly via the email addresses detailed below.
Howard Austin (public governor, Tame Valley & Werneth) – gov-howard.austin@stockport.nhs.uk
Chris Summerton (public governor, Heatons & Stockport West) – gov-chris.summerton@stockport.nhs.uk

Supporting your local **NHS** at Stepping Hill Hospital and in the community

One of our doctors went the extra mile to support the charity - in fact over 13 miles!

Dr Nidhi Kakkar, a junior medical fellow doctor at our department of medicine for older people, completed the Budapest Spring Half-Marathon in Hungary to raise money the charity, combining her passions for running and patient care.



The Killeen family kindly made a donation to help enhance the Hyper-Acute Stroke Unit family room in our emergency department, in memory of wife, mum and sister Brenda.

The money was spent purchasing a padded sofa and chairs to make the environment more comfortable and homely for future families and loved ones of patients in our care – including facilities for families to make a hot drink.



Our catering team have been able to provide new blue crockery thanks to funding from the charity, which is better for our patients living with dementia.

Research shows switching from white to blue plates and bowls help patients living with dementia improve their eating, as the blue rim of the plate contrasts with the food, making it easier to see.

This, in turn, helps them with their nutritional intake.



The Charity was able to support the introduction of a new advanced simulation mannequin to the children's services team. The high-fidelity mannequin, representing a young child patient, offers realistic anatomical features, allowing healthcare providers to practice and refine their clinical skills in a safe and controlled environment. After a competition they named him Manny – short for both mannequin and Manchester!

ACUTE FRAILTY UNIT THERAPY GARDEN

A beautiful new therapy garden with an Alice in Wonderland theme has officially opened. The charity-funded garden, designed to offer therapeutic support and a calming environment, is set to benefit patients with a wide range of long-term conditions, including those living with dementia and mobility issues.

The Acute Frailty Unit Therapy Garden, which transforms a once-neglected courtyard into a vibrant and peaceful outdoor space, was funded by a £68,000 grant from the Greener Communities Fund, which exists to create and enhance green spaces and improve access to nature for NHS staff and patients. The Greener Communities Fund is a partnership between NHS Charities Together and the environmental charity Hubbub, supported by Starbucks – and the garden is one of the first completed projects from the second round of the Greener Communities Fund.

The project was led by Groundwork Greater Manchester (GGM), with the support of Stockport NHS Charity and the hospital's therapy staff. Over the past year, local landscapers worked to create a tranquil space where patients with long-term health conditions, dementia or mobility issues can relax, or engage in structured outdoor activities to help them build stamina. The outdoor space will also provide a mental health boost for patients and their loved ones, as well as staff and volunteers.



Special thanks to



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Or visit www.justgiving.com/stockportnhs



Find out more about our work and opportunities to get involved by emailing charity@stockport.nhs.uk or calling 0161 419 4575.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

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





Stockport
NHS Foundation Trust

GET IN TOUCH

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Hazel Grove, Stockport, SK2 7JE



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