



## Who we are, what we do

Main provider of community healthcare across B&H and West Sussex.

Formed in October 2010 through the merger of

West Sussex Health Healthcare closer to home South Downs Health NHS Trust

4,400 staff: community & specialist nurses; doctors; therapists; healthcare assistants; support staff. Plus 500 volunteers.

Provide high quality medical, nursing and therapeutic care to more than **8,000 people a day:**

- With care and compassion.
- with quality our top priority.

£ Spent around £185m in 2012/13.

## Our vision

### Excellent care at the heart of the community.

We support people to:

- Plan for and manage changes in their health.
- Live healthier, more independent lives in their own homes.
- Avoid unnecessary visits to hospital.

The NHS nationally and locally needs to respond to rising demand (people living longer and needing more care, rising levels of ill-health).

Need to shift more care from the acute sector into the community.

We are the specialist community healthcare provider, so are a key part of the answer!

Becoming an NHS foundation trust is central to our future.

## Where we work

90% of NHS care is provided **in the community** by GPs and by community health and care providers like us.

We care for our patients in a range of settings:

- Mainly in our patients' own homes.
- Our community hospitals, urgent treatment centre, minor injury units, child development centres and other locations.
- In care homes, GP surgeries and acute hospitals.

Across the age range, we care for some of the most vulnerable people:

- Our health visitors care for babies and young children.
- Our specialist doctors, nurses and therapists care for young people and adults with long-term conditions.
- Our multi-disciplinary community teams care for the frail elderly and people at the end of their lives.

## About NHS FTs

### About the consultation

- We will consult for 12 weeks: Mon, 10 June-Fri, 30 August.
- See our full or summary consultation documents.
- Or go to our website [www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft](http://www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft)

### NHS FTs are

- Part of the NHS. Over half of all NHS services provided by NHS FTs.
- Work within framework of NHS Constitution, providing care that's free at the point of delivery.

### Why are they different?

- Greater freedom from government control.
- More financial autonomy. Invest and improve services for patients.
- Greater scope to decide own future.
- Accountable in new ways to their communities and staff – through members & governors.

## Why we want to be an FT

A stronger, more independent place at the heart of our community.

More freedom to set our own strategy for the long term.

News ways to be accountable to the people we serve – members & governors.

Play our full role in transforming local health & care system to better meet health and social care needs of local people from the resources available.

Government wants every NHS trust to become an NHSFT.

We believe we will be best placed to deliver **excellent care at the heart of the community** as an independent community NHSFT.

## Members

Anyone aged 12 or above, and lives in West Sussex, Brighton & Hove or nearby. Our target is 5,000 public members – **please join us.**

All staff with a permanent contract of employment of more than 12 months automatically become a member. Staff are our greatest asset. **We want them to be passionate about FT.**

Members have a say in running the trust – and can vote for their governor  
Can even stand for election to become a governor.



## Members and governors

Are the heart of the NHS FT idea.

Become a member and have your say in how the trust is run and how services are provided to meet local needs.

Vote for a governor to represent your views.

Stand for election as a governor yourself!

Governors work with board of directors to help run trust.



## Council of governors

Represents members' views.

Works with the board of directors, and holds board to account.

Influences how we develop and the services we provide.

We will have 20 members of our council of governors.

**Elected governors form the majority.**

<b>PUBLIC GOVERNORS</b>	<b>11</b>
Local council electoral areas(s)	Number
Adur District Council	1
Arun District Council	1
Brighton & Hove City Council	3
Chichester District Council	1
Crawley Borough Council	1
Horsham District Council	1
Mid Sussex District Council	1
Worthing Borough Council	1
Out of Area	1

<b>STAFF GOVERNORS</b>	<b>4</b>
Doctors & Dentists	1
Nurses	1
Therapists, Allied Health Professionals & Health Care Assistants	1
Support Staff	1
<b>APPOINTED GOVERNORS</b>	<b>5</b>
Local councils: WSCC, B&H	2
Voluntary/Charity	1
CCGs	1
Trade Union/Staff Side	1



**We welcome:**

- Your questions.
- Your comments.
- Your support.

[www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft](http://www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/ft)

Tel: 01273 242096

