

Members Newsletter Winter Issue 2008

Foundation Trust Status

The Board of KGH is proud to announce that we have been formally authorised to operate as a Foundation Trust from November 1st.

This is recognition of the significant changes that have taken place across KGH since we started out on the application process two years ago and means that we join a group of 107 Foundation Trusts.

Achieving Foundation Trust Status is a major achievement for our staff – we are the first Trust within Northamptonshire and the third in the whole of the East Midlands to be authorised by Monitor – the independent regulator.

Elections have been held for places on our Council of Members and the first public meeting will take place on 27th November at the Kettering Conference Centre at 5pm.

We are looking forward to using the freedoms we have gained to continue to improve the services that we provide for local people. Please see our service development plans for more information about our plans for the next five years.



Don't forget to Vote!!

The by-election for the remaining vacant seats on the Council of Members commenced on the 17th October. We have vacancies for the Northampton/Daventry, Corby and Wellingborough constituencies, and in the staff class there is one vacant seat for Nursing, Midwifery and Other and one vacant seat for Non Clinical.

For those members in the vacant constituencies you will receive your ballot papers towards the end of November, and I do urge those members to ensure they do vote as this is their chance to have their voice heard.

Council of Members

MEMBER	BODY/CONSTITUENCY	
APPOINTED MEMBERS	Chris Pallot <i>Northamptonshire Primary Care Trust</i>	Sir Patrick Walker <i>North Northants Development Company</i>
	Cllr Barbara Ainge <i>Wellingborough Borough Council</i>	Cllr. Rosemary Bromwich <i>Northamptonshire County Council</i>
	Dr Sue Allen <i>The University of Northampton</i>	Pat Jackson <i>Northamptonshire Local Involvement Networks</i>
	Rosemary Hadaway <i>Nene Valley Community Action (Voluntary Sector)</i>	Mags Maguire <i>Corby VCS Ltd (Voluntary Sector)</i>
		Vacant Seats – By Election
ELECTED STAFF MEMBER	Andrew Steel <i>Medical Practitioners & Dental Practitioners</i>	0
	Margaret Paragreen, Jonathan West <i>Nursing, Midwifery & Other Clinical</i>	1
	Paul Fantini <i>Non Clinical Staff</i>	1
		Vacant Seats – By Election
PUBLIC ELECTED MEMBERS	Frank Adams, Elizabeth Cairney, Priscilla Davies, Alexander Gordon, David Moody, Glenda Weston <i>Kettering</i>	0
	Gordon Reynolds, Kenneth Elms. <i>Corby</i>	2
	Marian Holloman, Eunice Jones, Jim Morrison, Sheila White, Emma Wilson. <i>East Northamptonshire & Bedford</i>	0
	Paul Bell. <i>Wellingborough</i>	3
	Peter Radcliffe <i>Harborough District</i>	0
	Vacant <i>Daventry & Northampton</i>	1

To ensure a public led majority on the Council, the Local Authority representatives from Kettering, Corby, East Northants, Harborough will not take their seats on the Council of Members until after the by-election.

Healthcare Commission Check—Excellent

Kettering General Hospital has improved its Annual Health Check ratings for the third year achieving an **Excellent** rating for quality of services and a **Good** rating for use of resources. (The Healthcare Commission is England's healthcare watchdog and each year it rates every NHS Trust in England using its annual health check.)

The **Excellent** rating puts the Trust into the top 30% of Trusts in England for quality of services and is a big improvement on its ratings of **Fair** in 2006/7 and 2005/6. Kettering General Hospital's Chief Executive, Dr Mark Newbold, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have achieved an **Excellent** rating for quality of services.

"This is first time we have ever achieved such a high score in the very detailed assessment the Healthcare Commission carries out.

"It a reflection of just how much hard work our staff put into every aspect of patient care and also the extra resources we have put into improving our facilities, successfully tackling infection and hitting all of our national targets.

The Trust's quality of service rating was based on how well it met:

The Standards for Better Health core standards – the Trust fully met the 24 standards which cover a wide range of activities including infection control, complaints handling, medicines management and wide variety of other service areas

Existing national standards – the Trust fully met its ten key national targets including areas such as not making people wait more than four hours to be seen in A&E or more than two weeks before being seen by a consultant for suspected cancer

New national targets – The Trust received a rating of excellent for its work towards new national targets such as encouraging breast feeding during pregnancy and achieving Government referral to treatment time waiting time targets

This year's Annual Health Check also assessed the Trust in six key areas.

- ◆ **Safety and cleanliness (scored 13 out of a possible 13)**
- ◆ **Standard of care (scored 9 out of a possible 9)**
- ◆ **Waiting to be seen (scored 12 out of a possible 12)**
- ◆ **Dignity and respect (scored 10 out of a possible 10)**
- ◆ **Keeping the public healthy (scored 4 out of a possible 4)**
- ◆ **Good management (scored 17 out of a possible 17)**



In all of these areas the Trust scored the maximum marks possible.

Dr Newbold said: "The Trust is determined to improve the quality of care and the quality of experience patients have when they come to Kettering General.

"Achieving this **Excellent** rating is just the start for us – we are planning to do a lot of work to further improve patient experience during 2008-9 and beyond."