

# The C.O.M.municator

Council of Members Newsletter - Issue 1

## Council of Members



*"Patiently perfecting our passion for patients"*

**W**elcome to this first issue of "The C.O.M.municator", the newsletter for The Council of Members of the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust.

This will be our portal to keep you all updated as to the good work our members are taking part in whilst also giving everyone the chance to pose questions, pass on knowledge and produce the odd article or two.

The Council of Members gives us a wonderful opportunity to get involved with the infrastructure of the Trust hopefully help to make a difference towards the care of all who need the help and services of the Trust, making us the best Trust that we can be.

The beauty of our Council of Members is that we are made up of everyday people from many different walks of life, all viewing life from a different angle giving us an excellent perspective and ability to view the services from the outside looking in as opposed to the norm. Thus enabling us to give the 'Patient's Perspective'.

So far we are a group of seven strong with plenty of room to grow and we are actively seeking new members to fill our ranks.

**If your interest is peaking read on and let us see if we can make a difference together...**



Andy Finch  
Editor



## Council of **Members**

Bhajan Singh Devsi

Vivienne Watson-Douglas

Diane Vukmirovic

John Homer

Michael Hough

Carole Johnstone

Andy Finch

All our members have been very busy since the inception of the Council, each taking on different projects as and when they can across several sites within the Trust, not just New Cross Hospital, but many sites within the local area.

The projects have been very different in their approach and form. Some taking the part of attending meetings with other groups, some taking part in 'event' days interacting with both public and staff completing surveys.

Diane has had the opportunity to get involved with the development of the new Bereavement Centre... "As a volunteer for the Council of Members I was given a great opportunity to comment on and influence the design of the Bereavement Centre which is being developed at New Cross Hospital. I was able to review the plans, give my views and suggest possible improvements, which are being fed back to the development team. Being part of COM's means I get an opportunity to represent patient's views. I look forward to seeing the outcome of this important development"

*August 2018*

This just illustrates the wonderful opportunities offered to all of us, giving us the chance to make a difference and put forth both vital and valued input.

Diane has also been involved with projects involving Infection Control, The Ratification of Leaflet work stream, just to name a couple.



*Cheryl Etches, Deputy Chief Executive (front centre) with the Council of Members team volunteers.*



*Diane Vukmirovic*

Other members of the council have been just as busy with different projects, quickly highlighting the opportunity for expansion of the council.

Membership of the council is open to all, the greater the diversity we can muster, the greater the benefits are for all.

There is of course, a set process for becoming a council member. Firstly a desire to become a member is a good starting place. From there you need to apply via the systems in place with the Patient Experience Department who will have a chat with you and work out if your skill set can be utilised.

Recruitment for the council is on-going so if you are interested or know anyone who is interested either pop into Patient Experience Department for a chat or drop us an email to [rwt-tr.EqualityandDiversity@nhs.net](mailto:rwt-tr.EqualityandDiversity@nhs.net)



## Projects undertaken by Council Members in recent months:

### Project Undertaken

- Infection Prevention and Control Group
- PLACE Audit
- Trust Policy Group
- Equality Diversity and Inclusion Steering Group
- Equality Delivery System Public Assessment and Grading Event
- Divisional Patient Information Ratification Group
- Emergency Department Local Survey
- Research Leads Network Group
- The C.O.M.municator Newsletter Editor
- Children's and Young People's Survey
- Involvement into the development of the new Bereavement Centre
- Patient stories, patient engagement and promotional events

### Council Member Involved

- Diane Vukmirovic
- Michael Hough
- Bhajan Singh Devsi
- John Homer
- John Homer and Diane Vukmirovic
- Diane Vukmirovic
- John Homer
- Carole Johnstone
- Andy Finch
- Bhajan Singh Devsi, Micheal Hough, John Homer
- Diane Vukmirovic
- All members

# Council of Members

Would you like to represent younger people in your local healthcare services by joining our Council of Members?

- We are recruiting enthusiastic people from all backgrounds and ages, who would like to make a difference
- It would look great on your CV and you would be helping to improve healthcare services

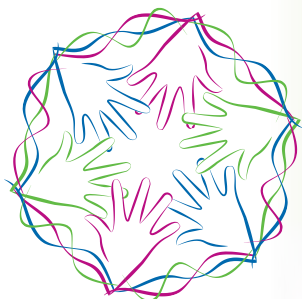
For more information please see our website:

[www.royalwolverhampton.nhs.uk](http://www.royalwolverhampton.nhs.uk)

or call 01902 694479 / 4111  
for further information

**Working together**

**Helping to improve healthcare  
services for everyone**



## Council of Members