Governor Pen Portraits (7 August 2018)

Name	Constituency	
Stephen McDonnell	Public Cheltenham BC	I am retired. Until 2016 I worked for Gloucester City Council as Environmental Co-ordinator for 26 years. Prior to that I worked within the NHS as an RMN for 10 years. I was also branch secretary of Gloucester City Unison Branch and County members Welfare officer. Since retiring I am acting for the Gloucestershire Branch Exec as retired members officer. I am also on the committee of the Unison retired members association. I am also vice chair of the CEEMG Cotswold Energy and Environment Managers Group. I am a member of U3A creative writing group and Vocalantic's Choir. I feel I have a wealth of knowledge and experience I could offer to the trust. I am looking for additional stimulating roles to engage my mind as although retired I still feel I have much more to offer and can do this through volunteering. I am an experienced and knowledgeable person who is good at working with public sector organisations and managing complex relationships. I have the ability to offer constructive criticism and a strong belief in a continuous improvement of services. I have experience of client services, environmental auditing and people skills.
Vic Godding	Public Cheltenham BC	I am 75 years of age, very active sports wise and come from a non-medical background. I retired from work in 2012 when Angela, my wife of 50 years needed me in the early years of her Dementia onset. Since her move into a Care Home I have become involved with the Alzheimer's Society and the recently formed Gloucester Dementia Action Alliance. In addition, I have taken an interest in the possible use of Digital Reminiscence Therapy, widely used in the NHS but very limited within the Care Home sector. It is about cost and availability. Following my wife's demise into Dementia and her entry into a Care Home in 2014, this gave me an opportunity to stand as a Public Governor for Cheltenham and build on my limited experience of Dementia and the caring needs for a loved one. I have already served as a Governor for 3 years and this has been an eye opener for me, not just in terms of Dementia but the full spectrum of mental health issues and the impact on so many people. I decided to stand for a second term as a Governor as I wish to carry on for a further 3 years and give my time to the governance role of a tremendous organisation. I have been a member of the Service Experience and Nominations & Remuneration Committees, as well as sitting on N.E.D interview panels. In addition, I have taken up the new role as an Observer of the Trust's Governance Board Committee and have also taken the opportunity to visit 2gethers inpatient facilities.

Name	Constituency	
Kate Atkinson	Public Cotswold DC	I am a service user due to upper motor neurone and PTSD. I am also a carer for someone with mental health problems. I wanted to be a governor because I believe the Trust needs to help as many people as it can. I am a carer for four people with dementia and someone with mental health problems. I feel that I need to do this to help the Trust reach all those who need them.
VACANT	Public Cotswold DC	

Name	Constituency	
Hilary Bowen	Public Forest DC	I have been discharged from the services of 2gether which I have used for many years. I have taken an interest in the governance of the Trust and its predecessor organisation. I have attended Board meetings and I contributed to the consultation on the Trust's application for FT status. Now a widow and no longer with caring responsibilities, I am resuming my involvement. I am very proud to have been appointed a Governor of the Gloucestershire charitable organisation, Barnwood Trust. I am a committee member of the Coleford Drop-in, of Forest of Dean Walking for Health and I have been enhanced DBS certified to work as a volunteer reviewer with Healthwatch Gloucestershire, which has been commissioned by the County Council to review support planning for people with a Learning Disability. I was also treasurer of the Forest of Dean Health Forum. I'm told I always have a different angle from everyone else. This can give me particular insight, but because I have organisational dyspraxia, I prefer to listen at meetings and perhaps fire the occasional exocet rather than get lost in the minutiae. I read the papers later at home, and if necessary follow with a written consideration of the proceedings. The retiring Medical Director, a Psychiatrist, laughed when I told him that I'm completely cracked, but it's the cracks that let the light in.
Graham Adams	Public Forest DC	I promise to represent the interests and views of the people of the Forest Of Dean and feel I am fully able and qualified to do this as I was born and have lived in the area for most of my life and fully understand the unique qualities of the forest and the people in the area. I have been a member of the NHS for a considerable number of years and my interest was first drawn to the Trust when both my mother In law and mother needed care due to their age and frailty. I am semi-retired and am able to spend the time needed to discuss any problems with whoever should need to discuss them with me, and my previous experience as a Director of a large organisation will enable me to ably represent and discuss the problems through the appropriate channels. Having attended training in Corporate Governance and with an understanding of 'The Code Of Best Practice' I will find this of use at Governor meetings, my professional qualifications in Purchasing and Supply (MCIPS) and Quality Assurance Procedures can be drawn upon if necessary.

Name	Constituency	
Xin Zhao	Public Gloucester City	I am a registered nurse and moved from China to England with my family in 2003. I have worked for the NHS and private care sector. I am currently managing a 69 bedded nursing home for a well-known charity in the Cheltenham area. I am determined to deliver safe, effective, compassionate, high quality care. Through my work, I maintain excellent relations with the residents, their families and my staff. I have a good working relationship with the local authority, NHS hospitals and Mental Health Services. I have good knowledge and understanding to the latest legislations and guidance related to elderly care. I am very passionate about our elderly citizens' health and well-being, especially to those who live with dementia. I also have a great interest in mental health of children and young people. As a mother to three young girls, like many other parents in the Gloucestershire area I would like to speak up my concerns about the impact of social media on the mental health of our young generation. Being a Governor of 2gether Foundation Trust, it will enable me to have some influence on the provision of safe and effective mental health services for the public. I can contribute my health and social care experience and skills to the Council, represent the interests of the Trust members and the public. I am strongly committed to ensure 2gether Foundation Trust continues its high quality care to our local people.
Said Hansdot	Public Gloucester City	I have been a Councillor in the Barton and Tredworth ward of the City since 2010. My ward is a diverse community where people face many challenges. Mental health is often a factor which affects people in my ward. Many of the hard to reach communities are located in my ward. English language and cultural barriers often mean that people cannot access services. I believe that my experience can be translated across the City. As a City Councillor I also view the City as a whole, seeing the problems that people suffering from mental ill health. I have served on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Council which holds the administration to account and acts as a critical friend. I am on the Board of Trustees for Gloucester City Homes which is the largest social landlord in the City. Homelessness is a major problem for people with mental health issues and they are often at risk of losing their homes. I have spent many years as a community activist and I believe that if elected I can bring a valuable voice for those who are currently underrepresented in the NHS. If elected I will speak up for service users to enable all people to get the support and treatment they need.

Name	Constituency	
Ann Elias	Public Stroud DC	I qualified as a registered general nurse in 1989 and have worked within the NHS for many years. During the last year eight years of my career I worked as an Occupational Health Advisor for the 2gether Trust. I believe that my experience within the Trust has provided me with both a good understanding and awareness of the requirements needed for the staff, service and service users. I consider team collaboration to be essential in ensuring the development of the service and engaging patients, staff and the general public. Despite cuts in government funding within the Mental Health Services I believe that the 2gether Trust have been able to make significant progress with the development of psychological therapies; the "Let's Talk" service being just one of them. Due to the continuing pressures on the NHS we all have a duty to support the Mental Health Services and encourage improvement. I feel that it is important to ensure that we continue to provide a professional, caring and compassionate voice which allows the Trust to provide a stable and accessible service.
Mervyn Dawe	Public Stroud DC	I have lived in Gloucestershire all my life and Thrupp near Stroud since 1980. I trained as a Psychiatric Nurse in the early 1970s and was employed at Coney Hill Hospital and later the Community. I then went on to hold various positions within the field of learning disabilities and was recognised for upholding high standards. Retiring in 2011. For the last 10 years of my career I was seconded by democratic election of the Trust Trade Union and Professional Bodies to lead these joint organisations on negotiation affecting staff and provision of service. Service users were always at the centre of our strategy. Until retirement I sat on the Council of Governors representing qualified nursing staff. I am pleased that my previous union colleagues have given their encouragement for me putting myself forward to undertake this role. I would wish to do so in the interests of Stroud and the wider community. I have witnessed great improvements in both care and society's attitude towards those who are vulnerable members of our society. However, I have major concerns as to what I hear of the government's position on the provision of services and their proclaimed provision of additional monies. My experience however, is government interference can often be detrimental and in conflict with those at the sharp end. My primary aim will be to test government rhetoric against that of the actual situation within the trust.

Name	Constituency	
Josephine Smith	Public Tewkesbury BC	I was married to a farmer for 50 years in which time we had 3 children and 6 grandchildren. My husband passed away 5 ½ years ago after suffering with Dementia, I nursed him myself to the last six days of his life which he spent in hospital. Our eldest son was born with Down Syndrome and he lived at home with the family where I was his full-time carer. He passed away 3 ½ years ago at the age of 52 where the last few weeks of his life were spent in hospital. From the time I spent there with my son I was able to build up a good rapport with all of the hospital staff and develop a working understanding of all the pressures within the NHS. I have been a member of many committees including chairman of Highnam Parish Council, governor of two schools, one main stream and one special needs, president of Highnam WI and trustee to a local charity. Alongside this time spent in wider aspects of the community I have also been very committed locally by helping to run a club for people with learning disabilities for over 33 years. Having been in the Governor role for the past 3 years I have built good relationships with the Officers and staff and I feel I have gained much knowledge and experience. I have enjoyed being on the Council and believe I still have a lot to give to the role.
Bren McInerney	Public Tewkesbury BC	Apart from my time in the Royal Navy I've lived in Tewksbury since 1970. Gaining an undergraduate/post graduate degree in health sciences, I have/am working across NHS, Social Care and Voluntary and Community organisations to ensure better engagement and involvement of local people and communities. I volunteer on my local parish council, village hall, and chair a social housing organisation. I have very good knowledge of 2gether NHS Foundation Trust (2g) and have been a member since the very beginning. I've attended many 2g board and Governors meetings and led (as a lay person) assessment of the environment and cleanliness of all 2gether's buildings. I've posed public questions to the 2g board around areas such as complaints and concerns, equity of access to services, and their literature. I'm no different to the 1 in 4 people who will experience a mental health need and have accessed my GP and discussed and accessed services for mental health needs. In addition to my own experience I will seek to bring, with anonymity, real time knowledge from working in the community with/alongside people from diverse communities, Black and Minority Ethnic communities, learning disabilities, and young people who do not always feel they have a voice. Should I be elected as a Governor I would like to focus on better engagement with the membership/wider community, access to services for the most vulnerable, and quality of the patient and carers experiences – remembering people are at the heart of my thoughts and actions.

Name	Constituency	
Cherry Newton	Public Herefordshire	I am a member of 2gether NHS Foundation Trust and have been a public governor for the past 2 years. I have lived in Herefordshire for 45 years and was employed as a state registered nurse for the past 30 years. I retired 5 years ago and enjoy walking, gardening, reading. As a mother of an adult who has experienced mental ill health for a number of years, I have been closely involved in the issues that can arise. I was originally involved with Herefordshire Carers Support and a working group for the implementation for the Triangle of Care. More recently I have participated in events as an expert by experience, attend Herefordshire Healthwatch, 2gether Membership Committee and meetings with the Royal College of Psychiatry as a carer. I attend the Mental Health Scrutiny Committee as an observer within the trust. Financial constraints for the trust still remain a problem however as a governor have seen that the trust works well to do the best it can within those confines. From my experience I would like to see more carers and service users aware of what services are available and would like to think that I can influence improved outcomes for cared for and carer in the present and future.
Miles Goodwin	Public Herefordshire	I have been a Carer for 15 years looking after a close family relative with Vascular Dementia. Due to my experience as a Carer, I have a special interest in the 'Triangle of Care' and its implementation in Herefordshire. I am also interested in Veterans Mental Health – both my parents served in the armed forces. As well as being a 'Member' of 2gether NHS I am also an 'Expert by Experience' and at present sit on several committees including the Membership Advisory Group. I was a member of the 2gether 'Implementing Recovery and Organisational Change (ImROC)' team (2011-13) and sat on the Steering/Management Group for the Severn and Wye Recovery College. I was Vice-Chairman and Treasurer of the now defunct Mental Health Reference Group and have been instrumental in setting up its successor – Healthwatch Herefordshire Mental Health Forum. I am also a Director of Carers in Partnership which 'promotes the Carers voice in the way Mental Health Services are set up and run'. I volunteer occasionally at EnviroAbility – a local mental health charity. I have been very actively involved trying to improve the services within the Herefordshire Locality for a number of years while representing the interests of the Members and public. I want to promote and increase membership while enabling members to become more pro-active. I would support the Trust's strategy and future direction. Holding to account the Non-Executive Directors, both individually and collectively, for the performance of the Board of Directors.

Name	Constituency	
Mike Scott	Public Greater England	I'm semi-retired, been married to Jane for 30yrs, have two grown-up daughters and live outside Gloucestershire in Bredon's Norton. On a personal note, one daughter has been a 2gether Trust patient and over the last 10yrs we have experienced a broad range of Primary, Community and Inpatient mental health services. My daughter is currently in treatment outside the county, quite reasonably because the specialist services are not available locally. I have volunteered as a leader of a MH carer support group and more recently adult advocacy. Additionally, I have senior experience of the commissioning and delivery of elective healthcare services. I'm standing because I am lucky enough to be fit and healthy with some spare time that I would like to put to good use. As a family, we are grateful for the great care our daughter has received but, as you would expect, there have been times it could have been much better. I relish the chance to volunteer as a Governor as I believe the role offers a great opportunity to represent the interests of patients and carers, and in doing so make a tangible contribution to the development of the Trust and how services are developed and delivered. Finally, the mix of energy, empathy and experience I offer (including out-of-county independent sector services) leaves me well placed to represent the interests of patients, carers and even professionals to improve quality and outcomes.
Jan Furniaux	Staff Medical and Nursing	I have been a Registered Nurse for over 30 years and have held a number of nursing and management positions in Gloucestershire – with a nursing background in services for people with dementia. I have experience of the Staff Governor role – and I am confident that I could be a strong nursing voice on the Board of Governors. I am a Clinical on Call Manager and I am committed to supporting our staff (often the nursing workforce) during the long and challenging out of hours periods – this role gives me a good understanding of the pressures and challenges faced by our nursing staff on a daily basis. My qualifications in nursing, management and leadership in the NHS could positively contribute to the Council of Governors. I have a sound understanding of the challenges faced by the staff of 2gether NHS Foundation Trust and am committed to the delivery of high quality services in Gloucestershire and Herefordshire. As a Staff Governor I will be committed to the involvement of nursing staff in the development and direction of the Trust vision. This is particularly important at this time – as we begin the process of joining with Gloucestershire Care Services to form a single organisation. If elected to the Council of Governors, I am keen to identify ways in which the Council can support the Trust to find new ways of understanding and responding to the voice of nurses in the organisation.

Name	Constituency	
Dr Faisal Khan	Staff Medical and Nursing	As an inpatient consultant and inpatient lead I have had first-hand experience of seeing the challenges that the trust and the NHS as a whole faces in this current time of change. Change in my view also means an opportunity to do better. As a clinician I work closely with patients, carers, staff and colleagues in other specialties. I am becoming more aware of needs at our work place and more so at an organizational level. With challenges ranging from recruitment, staff retention, patient satisfaction, transition from hospital into community, budget restraints and more recently the merger between 2gether and GCS, I feel its imperative that we all do our best in ensuring a quality service for all. I am currently the inpatient lead at Wotton Lawn hospital and was the clinical lead for the crisis service in Bristol before starting as a consultant in Gloucester. I take pride in working very well with others and encourage others to develop new skills at clinical and management level. I am looking forward to a new challenge and if given the opportunity, strongly believe that I can contribute positively and productively as a governor. I am keen to be part of the journey that the trust is on at this crucial time and develop not just as a clinician but also as a professional.
Dr Anneka Rose	Staff Medical and Nursing	This year I will begin an ST6 Psychiatrist post, having joined the trust in 2013. Previously I worked in hospitals across South Wales and as an HCA while studying medicine in London. My current post is split between the Cheltenham Crisis Team and the Autism Diagnostic Service as I have a particular interest in neurodevelopmental conditions. I enjoy working with colleagues from all disciplines across the trust and am a clinical supervisor to two non-medical prescribers. I am passionate about service development, in particular making the experience of transition between teams as seamless as possible for our service users and their families. I am closely involved with a pilot STP project that places mental health nurses in specialist roles in a primary care setting; I presented this at last year's AGM. I am also a clinical representative at the Mental Health Legislation Operational Group. Having spent a year working on a multi-specialty on-call rota I am aware of many concerns held by staff and the challenges that we face recruiting to sub-specialties. This year I will represent the trust at the RCPsych International Congress to promote recruitment. My current positions give me the opportunity to engage with a diverse cohort of medical and nursing staff and as governor I would strive to communicate your views as our organisation develops. I will take the appointment as Governor as a challenge that will enable me to grow professionally and support the smooth running of the trust.

Name	Constituency	
Nic Matthews I was a second of the second o	Staff Clinical, Social Care and Support	I started working in health & social care in 2003 as a support worker. It had instant appeal and since that time I have met lots of interesting people and worked alongside excellent colleagues and teams. In 2011 I qualified as an occupational therapist and for the past 7 years have specialised in the areas of Work and Health. Each day, I speak with people who are struggling, have been treated unfairly or have excessive workloads. Many of these people work in the health and social care industry. I firmly believe that the work place should not be damaging and that staff have a right to work in an environment that is safe, where you are treated with respect and valued. There is clear evidence that when an employer gets this right, everybody benefits – staff feel engaged, people receive better care and the organisation saves money. For an organisation to listen I believe there must be a strong staff voice and I would like to support staff to be heard by working as a governor. I feel that I am an approachable, considerate person. My approach as a governor will be to understand where staff fit within future organisational change and ensure the views of staff are represented and prioritised.
Alison Feher	Staff Clinical, Social Care and Support	I applied to become a governor as I would like to have the opportunity to be more involved with Trust activity, particularly with the Trust values, strategy and future planning. I would welcome attending and participating in the Council of Governors, and to consider how all aspects of health and social care in the community (working with other organisations) are addressed and how this is included in the value base of the trust and its future development. I am particularly interested in how all services work together to provide overall health and social care - to improve the experiences for people needing services. As the Trust merges with community (physical health) services, it will be an interesting time. An opportunity to improve on holistic approaches to physical, mental health and social care can only be a good thing. Promoting and supporting the Trusts strategy would be an ideal opportunity to share the good practice in mental health and social care provided by 2getherNHSFT at the moment. To be part of promoting the continual development of in-patient and community based mental health, (emotional wellbeing) and social care services would be a rewarding role. I would welcome the opportunity to act as a link to the community and to hear about how the Trust is performing. Also, to me more involved in supporting the Board of Directors - especially with longer term strategic direction with the inclusion of social care (a truly more holistic approach to individualised personal care).

Name	Constituency	
Rob Blagden	Staff Management, Admin & Other LEAD GOVERNOR	I enjoy working for 2gether NHS Foundation Trust in my role as IT Systems & Programme Manager. I see the trust making a difference in the lives of service users and carers and I care about our services being sustained into the future. I want to see the trust continue to deliver care in the most effective way, delivering the best outcomes in the most efficient manner. I always take time to listen to people and will try and help to find solutions where I can. When I commit to completing a piece of work I like to think I can be relied upon to get it done. I am supportive of change and transformation work because I believe that's the only way to ensure we remain a leader in our field of expertise. I believe I would make a reliable and fair staff governor and I'd like the opportunity to support staff and the organisation and develop new skills personally.
Katie Clark	Staff Management, Admin & Other	I joined 2gether in November 2013 as Secretary to the Head of Training following a 2 year period of 'sickness' due to Anxiety & Panic Disorder. When I reached a point where I felt able to work again I wanted to return to the NHS, specifically 2gether. From the beginning of my employment I have felt extremely well supported by both colleagues and management, now it is time to give something back. My NHS career began back in 2003 with the British Forces Health Service in Germany, since then I have had a number of administrative roles in many different trusts. More recently moving in to a training role where I now have the privilege of welcoming new colleagues to the Trust at Corporate Induction and offering assistance to those who require it. I have a passion for ensuring that everyone receives the help and support they need to carry out their role to the best of their ability. As a relatively junior member of staff I feel that I would be able to bring an alternative view on many subjects and understand the impact of decisions at ground level. I am an excellent communicator and a great believer in change being the only absolute in life. It would be an honour to represent staff at Governor level.

Name	Constituency
Carole Allaway- Martin	Appointed Gloucestershire County Council
Dr Lawrence	Appointed Clausesterabire CCC
Fielder	Gloucestershire CCG
Hazel Braund	Appointed Herefordshire CCG
CIIr Jenny Bartlett	Appointed Herefordshire County Council