

Council of Governors Bulletin January 2026

NHS University Hospitals of Liverpool Group (UHLG) Board of Directors Meetings held in public

The next UHLG Board of Directors meeting scheduled to be held in public is due to take place on Thursday, 12 March 2026.

Governors are asked to check the website in advance of the meeting for details of any changes.

Should you wish to attend in person, please register your interest with the Corporate Governance Team. A reminder that all Board of Directors meetings are streamed live via the UHLG Website, with recordings available to watch back following the meeting [here](#).

Governors will receive a link to the Board meeting papers and the livestream link in advance of the meeting via email from the Corporate Governance Team.

If you would like to submit a question to the Board, please note that it must be submitted via email to Hollie.Holding@liverpoolft.nhs.uk at least three working days before the Board meeting.

General Updates

Governor Elections

Following the formal declaration of results for the Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Liverpool Women's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Governor elections, the following Governors have been duly elected to represent their respective constituencies. The Trusts were pleased to welcome each individual and look forward to their contribution in representing the interests of members, staff, patients and the wider community.

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (LUHFT)

- Public – City Region South (Uncontested): Dorcas Akeju; Harry Glen Gallimore-King; Joanne Kay
- Public – City Region North: Karl Roberts; Robert Cannon; Emeka Ogiji
- Public – Rest of England and Wales: Anna De Beer; Jackie McNally
- Staff – Allied Health Professionals, Scientists and Technicians: George Taylor; Rachel Smith
- Staff – Medics: Rohith Gopala Rao
- Staff – Non-Clinical: Joanne Pepper

Liverpool Women's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (LWH)

- Public – City Region North: Alison Fillingham; Suraj Sharma
- Public – Knowsley: Jennifer McConville; Jackie Sudworth
- Public – Rest of England and Wales: Samantha Samuel Suganda Xavier
- Staff – Midwives: Amber Houghton

LWH Council of Governors Meeting

The LWH Council of Governors Meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 12 February 2026 at 3pm-5pm. The meeting will take place in the Blair Bell Lecture Theatre, LWH.

If you have not received an invitation, please contact the Corporate Governance Team at Corporate.Governance@liverpoolft.nhs.uk.

Council of Governors Coffee Morning

The next Council of Governors Coffee Morning is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 25 February 2026 at 11:00am via Teams. To attend the Coffee Morning, please join the meeting [here](#). The Meeting ID is: 370 915 338 256 8 Passcode: pF6Nn3dC

Governance and Organisational Changes

Whilst we await the outcome of the LAASP business case, we know it's important that we continue to maintain effective working and management of our hospitals. As part of this there are a number of changes to our governance and management arrangements as we come together as UHL Group. Working to become more operationally effective, these changes will enable consistency across our sites in how they are run and how we can better support our people, services and patients.

From 1 April 2026, we are moving from five Hospital Management Boards (HMB) to three new HMB structures:

- Aintree Hospital Management Board
- Royal Liverpool and Liverpool Women's Hospital Management Board
- Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital / Broadgreen / Diagnostic and Treatment Centre Hospital Management Board.

It's important to note that these changes only relate to management arrangements – not how patients access our services, where they are located or the hospital names. Where more than one hospital reports into a Hospital Management Board, they will continue to run as they are and maintain their own identity, as this is what is familiar to our patients.

UHL 2030 Strategy

We're excited to be able to start working more on the UHL 2030 strategy. Our first strategy for the Group, outlines a once-in-a-generation opportunity for bold changes and transformation in delivery of healthcare to better meet the needs of our patients.

UHL 2030 is a five-year data-driven strategy, based upon population health data for the communities that we serve. It sets out the health challenges that we face, which include:

- Number of people living with long-term health conditions rising
- Persistence of deep health inequalities
- Many patients facing lower life expectancy than the national average and fewer years of their life in good health - a lot of which is preventable ill-health
- If we continue as we are health gaps will widen.

Our strategy makes clear that we need to rethink how care is designed and delivered so it is more proactive, preventative and aligned to community needs.

Read January's Education Echo

The Education Echo January 2026 is now available to [read here](#). This newsletter gives you the chance to see the education opportunities available at UHL Group.

This edition includes educators at Nursing Live, creating a coaching culture, being a PNA and educational successes, further opportunities and more. Email [Learning and Development](#) to submit information.



State of the art mobile unit to bring breast screening to the communities of Liverpool

In a project led by UHL Group, a new mobile unit has been launched to improve breast screening uptake among women in some of the hardest to reach areas of Liverpool.

Currently, women in Liverpool are offered breast screening services at Broadgreen Hospital, which isn't serviced by direct public transport links from the North and Central parts of the city, which have some of the lowest screening uptake rates in the country. By bringing services direct to local communities, we want to eliminate some of the barriers women face when they are invited along to their screening.



Dr Anu Shrotri, Director of Breast Screening, said: "For many women in our city, giving up half a day to travel across the city to attend a breast screening appointment simply isn't an option. By offering accessible services closer to home we hope to increase uptake and early detection of breast cancer and ultimately save lives."

[Read more on our website here.](#)

Introduction to mindfulness

Colleagues are invited to join a free session to explore benefits of mindfulness on Friday 20 February at 10:00am - 12noon, in Aintree Clinical Sciences Building, Conference Room. Open to all UHL Group staff, clinical and non-clinical, this gentle introduction to mindfulness will support you to understand practical techniques to:

- Reduce stress and improve focus
- Support emotional resilience
- Enhance wellbeing in a busy healthcare environment.

[Click here to register](#) your attendance. If you are feeling particularly vulnerable or have experienced trauma recently, you may want to contact session facilitator [Tharindu Kandewatte \(Tee\)](#) to ensure this session is right for you.

NED and Governor Engagement Visits

Upcoming visits for the Governor and Non-Executive Director Visiting Engagement Programme are included below. The purpose of the visits is to provide a forum which allows members of staff to engage with Trust Governors and Non-Executive Directors on issues such as quality of care and staff support across both Trusts.

Please also keep an eye out for emails from the team with additional visits and dates, as these are shared regularly. If you would like to take part in visits, please email Corporate.Governance@liverpoolft.nhs.uk with the date and site due to be visited.

LHCH

January 2026	NED and Governors Attending
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital – Radiology Thursday 19 February 2026 at 12.30pm - 2:30pm	Non-Executive Director – Sarah Walker Governors – Ian Ferguson and Mike Carney

LWH

January 2026	NED and Governors Attending
No visits are scheduled at LWH during February 2026.	

LUHFT

January 2026	NED and Governors Attending
Royal Hospital – Surgery Division Tuesday 3 February 2026 at 9.30am – 12:30pm	Non-Executive Director – TBC Governors – Jackie McNally and Robyn Birch
Aintree Hospital – Surgery Division Monday 23 February 2026 at 1:00pm – 4:00pm	Non-Executive Director – Geoffrey Appleton Governors – Vinita Mishra and Moira McLoughlin

Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust

Bus lane consultation on Upper Parliament Street

Liverpool City Council is proposing to use Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras to enforce two new proposed bus lanes in Liverpool. One of the new bus lanes will be on Upper Parliament Street – westbound between Mulgrave Street and Princes Avenue.

The council has had consulted on the use of ANPR cameras to enforce these bus lanes. The consultation ended on 19 January 2026.

'Bringing Life' Lecture series at Liverpool Medical Institution

You are invited to an exploration of maternity care in the UK. A national discussion is in progress about NHS maternity culture and optimal rates of intervention. Between September 2025 and June 2026 we will be exploring birth in the UK, seeking to understand why it has changed and exploring what it should become.

Join us for the public lectures from the iconic Liverpool Medical Institution. Come in person or join the live streams online to 6-7pm on selected dates (published on www.lmi.org/events).

[Please click here](#) for more information and to view the programme of lectures taking place for the rest of the year.

Many thanks for contributing to the important debate and helping to make the series a success.

LWH Charity 2026 Events

- Power Pageant – A celebration of women's strength, health and power - 14 March 2026

- Liverpool Half Marathon and 10-Miler - 15 March 2026
- Black Knights Skydive - 28 March 2026
- Pram Push - 15 May 2026
- Born Survivor Challenge - 16 May 2026
- Golf Day - 25 May 2026
- Honeysuckle Baby Bereavement Walk - 3 July 2026
- LWH Strictly - 21 November 2026
- Santa Dash - 5 December 2026

Email Fundraising@lwh.nhs.uk to register your interest in any of these events.

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Royal Liverpool and Liverpool Women's Hospital Leadership Team (HLT)

Recent appointments have been made to the following positions and will commence from 1 April 2026.

- Oliver Zuzan - Medical Director
- Lindsey Vlasman - Director of Nursing
- Joanne Eccles - Director of Operations
- Rachel London - Director of People
- Director of Finance – To be confirmed



Enjoying the Arts

Our Hospital Arts (HARTS) team have been busy working with artists to brighten up the walls and spaces throughout our hospitals.

Recently the team has installed a selection of work by Graham Boyd of Absolutely Designs, which is now displayed in A&E in the Royal. Read about more of the projects the [HARTS team are involved in here](#).



Join us for Macmillan Marketplace

To mark World Cancer Day, Macmillan Cancer Support Service is hosting a Macmillan Marketplace event for staff, patients, carers, and anyone affected by a cancer diagnosis.



The event will be held in **Aintree Boardroom (by Aintree Lodge entrance)** on **Friday 6 February 2026** from 10.30am – 2.30pm.

Come along to:

- Explore information stands and wellbeing resources
- Connect with local and Trust-wide support services
- Learn more about what's available for people living with and beyond cancer
- Everyone is welcome - drop in anytime during the event!

Email Macinfo@liverpoolft.nhs.uk for more information.

Light Up The Night for Woodlands

In 2026, Woodlands Hospice will be celebrating an incredible milestone - 30 years of care, compassion, and community - and they're inviting everyone to join us for Light Up The Night 2026. This is a special event that brings people together to remember, celebrate, and honour the lives touched by Woodlands Hospice over the past three decades.

[Click for more details](#) about how to get involved.

Awarded for Excellence in Acute Oncology



Congratulations to Amy Cardinal, an Acute Oncology Nurse at Aintree, who has received a national award for Excellence in Acute Oncology at the UK Oncology Nursing Society (UKONS) Celebrating the Inspirational Cancer Nurse Conference.

Amy was awarded the accolade in recognition of her outstanding dedication to improving patient outcomes, which has been driven by her own personal journey after losing her father to Hodgkin's Lymphoma in 2021.

Her creation of the Jeff Gordon Framework, named in honour of her father, aims to ensure Acute Oncology data is visible and embedded within care delivery, enabling effective and meaningful use of patient data to shape services around their needs.

This can support faster treatment by spotting early warning signs, avoidance of unnecessary tests or procedures, and shorter stays in hospital.

Amy said: "I'm proud to be leading this work in honour of my father. By turning my pain into purpose, I can help to improve cancer care for patients in our hospitals, ensuring that patients can receive treatment that is better informed by their data."

In remembrance of Sue Thomalla

Following the passing of Clinical Nurse Specialist, Sue Thomalla, the Falls Team has shared the following message:



"We are deeply saddened to share the passing of Sue Thomalla, who bravely fought cancer. Sue was more than a colleague, she was a dear friend to so many of us. Her kindness, dedication, and the care she showed to others has left a lasting impact on everyone. She will be missed more than words can express.

"Sue dedicated over 30 years of service to the Trust. To honour her memory, a message book has been placed on Ward 6B Brendan's office (Ward Manager) for colleagues who wish to leave a message for Sue or her family."

In remembrance of Zena Miller

Following the death of much-loved Zena Miller, the SWAN Team has shared the following message. "We are deeply saddened to share the news of Zena's death, Zena has worked in the organisation for many years and was much respected and dear friend to her colleagues, her beautiful smile, dedication, and the care she showed to others has left a lasting impact on everyone she met, She will be missed by so many. Our thoughts are with her family, friends and colleagues."



Scouse School Exchange – sharing cultures

Following the success of Scouse School – where our ethnic minority colleagues embraced Scouse culture, banter and boss lingo – we launched Scouse School Exchange.

This time, we've flipped the script. Scouse School Exchange gives colleagues the opportunity to step into the shoes of those from different cultures, sharing stories, traditions, food, language and experiences. The sessions aim to raise cultural awareness, strengthen inclusivity, and build belonging across our NHS community. You can watch the **Scouse School Exchange video** [here](#).

Upcoming sessions - [register here](#).

- **24 March 2026 at Aintree.**

Liverpool Stroke Prevention Conference

The North Mersey Stroke Service is hosting the first Stroke Prevention Conference in Liverpool on 30 January 2026 from 9:00am – 5:00pm at Aintree University Hospital.

This conference is dedicated to spreading awareness about stroke prevention and the latest advancements in the field. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from experts, network with fellow professionals, and make a difference in stroke care.

Colleagues from Aintree's Urology Centre feature in ITV documentary



This program is suitable for health professionals involved in cardiovascular disease (CVD) and stroke prevention in primary care, secondary care and public health sector. [Click here](#) Urology colleagues at Aintree have featured in an ITV documentary called 'Ketamine: What's Next?', that explores the rising trend in ketamine use and highlights the great work the team are doing for patients who are experiencing lasting side effects from taking the drug over a period of time.

Aintree's newly established Ketamine Clinic also features in the documentary. The clinic helps patients across Cheshire and Merseyside who have been referred by their GP with urological side effects that have been caused by Ketamine use. Chronic usage affects the lining of the bladder, and can shrink it, leading to frequency in needing to urinate, infections, bleeding, blockages and incontinence.

A snippet of the documentary can be seen above, or you can watch the [full documentary here for details](#), guest speakers and to reserve a place.

We strike gold for work experience programme

Aintree, Broadgreen and the Royal hospitals have been awarded the Work Experience Quality Standard (WEX) Gold Award by NHS England, in recognition of the outstanding opportunities they provide for young people aspiring to a career in the NHS.

The WEX Gold Award is the highest accolade available to NHS organisations and demonstrates that the placements offered are of the very highest standard.



NHS England officials praised the hospitals for offering clear career pathways, progression opportunities and strong support networks for young people undertaking placements.

Each year, the hospitals welcome more than 500 young people from across Cheshire and Merseyside, giving them access to a wide range of clinical and non-clinical placements.

In addition to work experience placements, colleagues from the three hospitals regularly visit local schools and colleges to conduct mock interviews and host NHS taster days, giving students hands-on experience of the wide range of careers available within the health service.

Annette Beaumont, Apprenticeship and Widening Participation Lead for UHL Group, said “This award is a testament to the commitment and passion of our teams and departments, who dedicate their time and expertise to supporting young people looking for a career within the NHS.

“By offering the best possible experiences and opportunities to local young people, we are not only developing our future workforce but also ensuring we continue to deliver outstanding care to our patients for years to come.”

To learn more about work experience opportunities across our hospitals, [please visit our careers website](#).

Dr Latham leads on new national TTP guidelines

We're pleased to share that Dr Johnny Latham, Clinical Psychologist, is the co-lead author for new national guidelines on psychological support for patients with Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP), which have now been published by the British Society for Haematology. TTP is a rare blood condition with potentially life-threatening complications, and patients often face long-term psychological impacts including trauma, anxiety, and cognitive difficulties. This new guideline sets out clear, practical recommendations for embedding psychological support within TTP care pathways, from diagnosis through to relapse and recovery, as well as guidance on family involvement, multidisciplinary team working, and service development.



“We're incredibly proud that our Trust has played a central role in developing this first-of-its-kind national guidance,” says Dr Latham. “It reflects a growing recognition that psychological support is not a luxury but a vital part of care, and that with the right structures in place, we can meaningfully integrate psychology into medical teams to improve outcomes for patients with rare and complex conditions.”

The guidelines are available on the [BSH Supportive Care Special Interest Group page](#)

Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital

Maple Suite opens for specialist palliative care inpatients

We have been working with NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB) with an aim to provide specialist palliative care in-patient beds to support palliative and end of life patients in the south and centre of the city.

We are pleased to announce that Maple Suite on the Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital site opened on Monday 19 January 2026.

Referrals to the unit will continue to be co-ordinated through the IMPaCT hub as previously. For discussions regarding potential admissions, the medical team can be contacted via the IMPaCT advice line on 0345 100 1002. [IMPaCT South referral form](#).

We are grateful for the hard work of all the teams involved in getting the unit opened and are looking forward to being able to provide the very best care for our patients.

LHCH goes LIVE with NHS App!

Patients can now use the NHS App to view hospital appointments that they have at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital. This means details of their appointment(s) can be accessed in one place directly on their mobile device. These services can also be used by logging in through the NHS website. For more information about the NHS App please visit www.nhs.uk/nhs-app



Stakeholders and Partners

Helping to raise awareness of fraud and bribery

The MIAA Anti-Fraud Specialist would like your help to evaluate the effectiveness of anti-fraud, bribery and corruption services at UHL Group by completing this [short awareness survey here](#).

- Do you know where to find contact details in relation to fraud, bribery and corruption?
- Have you seen any fraud, bribery and corruption awareness information over the last 12 months?
- What do you think would be the most effective method of raising awareness of fraud, bribery and corruption?

Please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey. Your response will help the MIAA Anti-Fraud Specialist to make improvements to the delivery of anti-fraud, bribery and corruption services, as well as support our hospitals' compliance with the national counter fraud standards.

Timesheet fraud in the NHS

Timesheet fraud is one of the most common staff fraud risks across the NHS. It occurs when someone knowingly provides false or misleading information about hours worked, such as:

- Claiming for shifts not worked
- Overstating hours, mileage or on-call payments
- Submitting duplicate or altered claims
- Getting someone else to clock in or out for you
- Forging signatures of authorising individuals.

There have been a number of NHS fraud cases involving timesheets, [read more](#).

Mental Health Learning

NHS Cheshire and Merseyside has shared a range of Mental Health Learning and Improvement lunch and learn sessions. [Click here](#) for the range of upcoming events.

Mersey Care Specialist Palliative Care service - hours

The Specialist Palliative Care service delivered by Mersey Care in Knowsley and St Helens, has extended their operational hours, so they will be available from 8:00am to 8:00pm, 365 days a year.

The service operates an integrated nursing and medical model with the Willowbrook Hospice Team and has a caseload of highly complex patients. This service enables the patient to achieve their preferred place of care and death, as well as preventing inappropriate hospital admissions.

For further information, visit www.merseycare.nhs.uk/eolc. Alternatively, contact the service with any general enquires on 0151 351 8520.

END