

# CANDIDATES' ELECTION STATEMENTS

## Election to the Council of Governors Patient: Carers

Please read carefully before casting your vote.

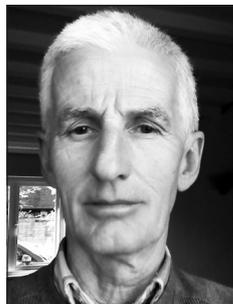
### INFORMATION

Neither ERS nor the Trust has corrected or edited the candidates' statements in any way. The views expressed on the following pages are those of the candidates only, and similarly the statements of fact and assertions expressed are made solely by the candidates and have not been validated by the Trust.

If you require the election statements in large print or in other languages, please contact John Box at ERS on 020 8365 8909, or via email at [john.box@electoralreform.co.uk](mailto:john.box@electoralreform.co.uk)

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## Tony Bailes



As the carer for an adult son with a long-term severe mental illness, I believe it is important for carers to have a voice in the way that the Trust is run and in its plans for the future. Carers have a unique insight into the way that the Trust's policies and practices impact service users and their carers.

I believe that my career background and experience equip me to serve on the Trust's Council of Governors. As a former solicitor and partner in a large London law firm, I sat on the firm's management board. In that role, I had to review and question the reports of those responsible for all aspects of the firm's performance, including its financial performance and client facing services.

My legal background also enables me to get to grips with the complex legal framework within which the Trust must operate. As I know from recent first-hand experience, the tight budgetary constraints on the Trust can lead to service users and their carers being faced with the threat of a worrying reduction in the support that they receive.

I am well placed to represent the interests and stressful concerns of carers in such situations, and to keep a watching brief as a Governor to ensure that the Trust fulfils its legal obligations to service users and carers. In my view the clinical needs of service users should always be paramount.

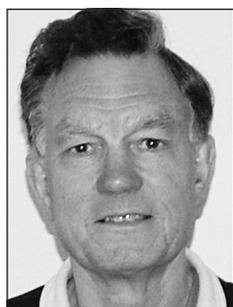
### **Declaration of Interests:**

**Political Party:** None

**Financial or other interest in the Trust:** None

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## Alan Jones



My name is Alan Jones and I am a 67 year old retired business man.

I worked in the Automotive Industry for over 40 years, much of the time supervising a team of people dealing with the pressure of meeting targets and budgets; listening to ideas and making decisions about best practice and how to achieve goals and improve service provision.

I have been a carer for my son who has enduring mental health problems for thirteen years and feel that, if elected, I would be able to bring the experience gained at work plus that from my involvement with Mental Health Services to the post.

I have been a member of Rethink and the Carers Reference Group, for some time and enjoy the challenge of ensuring Service User views are brought to the attention of the people shaping and funding Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Mental Health Services.

I believe that to improve services, we must ensure that those people holding the purse strings are making the right decisions and introducing policies that meet the needs of all Service Users.

Our aim must be to provide **first class** Mental Health Facilities from initial diagnosis right through treatment both in Hospital and the Community.

Together we can work to make this Authority a place where staff want to work and Service Users feel their needs are met and they are treated with respect and dignity.

### **Declaration of Interests:**

**Political Party:** None

**Financial or other interest in the Trust:** I attend Carers meetings in which members of Oxford Health are there.