

CANDIDATES' ELECTION STATEMENTS

Election to the Council of Governors
Patient: Patients: Service Users: Oxfordshire

Please read carefully before casting your vote.

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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

Jayne Champion



Hello, my name is Jayne Champion, 51 years old from Oxford. I have been a mental health patient for many years. I would like to have the opportunity to help with many improvements to the service. I feel that service users are the best people to help do this. As I have had a lot of Mental health Issues amongst my family. I feel I have all the passion and energy needed. I have previously been a governor and therefore know everything which is expected of me. My aim is to make the service much more approachable. More easily available, and finally much more successful. We need to hear about these success stories! As we all need to succeed, with good care and good encouragement. We all deserve it!

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Adrian Cox



I have been a service user of Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust for fourteen years, serving on committees concerning clinical audit and information governance, among other things, and I have worked with the Patients Advice and Liaison Service visiting inpatients. I have also contributed to the Service Users Advisory Group at Oxford Brookes University on the desired standard of applicants to courses leading to NHS careers. SURAG was concerned particularly about values in addition to medical knowledge, a focus particularly sharp following some recent failings in NHS hospitals and one always of particular importance in mental healthcare.

I have a first degree from UCL in mathematics and followed an MA in the philosophy and ethics of mental health at Warwick University. I am a former civil servant.

I believe the NHS is an impressive organization and a pillar of our society. Talk of 'selling off the NHS' and such like is alarmist and unhelpful. It is too often a smokescreen covering areas in need of reform. I have absolutely nothing to contribute clinically to Oxford Health (staffed, as it is, with outstanding clinicians) but I believe its management is not always up to the mark.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: The Conservative Party

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Gillian Margaret Evans



I came to Oxford as a student in 1993 and, following graduation, worked for many years as a senior manager in publishing, which enabled me to develop the analytical, decision-making, and communication skills that I believe are necessary to fulfilling the role of governor. I am currently a member of the Trust and have been a mental health patient for the past seven years, during which time I have experienced several inpatient admissions, as well as life as a 'service user' in the community. As a result, I have an in-depth understanding of the complex issues surrounding mental health. As a sufferer of mental illness, I have a particular interest in the use of compassion-based therapies; on a political level I am also deeply concerned that recent budget cuts and organisational restructuring within the Trust should neither put undue pressure on mental health professionals, nor compromise the level of care provided to patients. Mental health remains the 'cinderella service' of the NHS and changes need to be

made to the way in which MH Trusts are funded and managed, in order to ensure optimum conditions for staff and patients alike. If elected, I will do my utmost to represent at Council level the diverse interests and concerns of Oxford Health patients. My key aim is to ensure that the Trust is able to live up to its stated promise of providing a 'caring, safe and excellent' service to patients.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Sophie McCallum



My motivation for applying for the role of Governor is because I would like to do a PhD in bipolar in five years time and would like to give something back.

I was diagnosed twenty years ago with bipolar and have been to hospital three times.

In 1996 I spent 28 days voluntarily at the Priory in Marchwood.

In 1997 I spent 28 days under section at Winchester NHS hospital.

In 2011 I was sectioned by the police and spent 6 weeks in Cornwall, which cost the taxpayer £25k.

I enjoyed my stay at the NHS hospitals as there is a better community feel; which aids recovery.

I noticed the difference in treatment in 2011, compared with 15 years earlier. In 2011, because I was not over-medicated, I was able to study for horticultural exams whilst in hospital and get back into volunteering (at the Eden Project) as soon as I left.

I have worked at Yarnton Nurseries Garden Centre for two years, four days a week and am completing my Open University Honours degree. I wrote two mental health books which are with Luath publishers.

I take medication for anxiety and am receiving psychotherapy. My only grumble with the NHS is that my bipolar is bought on by issues around rape; which was not mentioned by the NHS for 20 years. I would like to get involved with causes of mental illness such as rape and drugs.

I have done CBT with the NHS and had a CPN since 2011. *(statement cut at word limit)*

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None

Gill Randall



I have been involved with the NHS as a physiotherapist from a junior post to team leader in major and minor hospitals intermittently for 30 years. So I have witnessed its growth and development from the inside. I have always been a great supporter; and been amazed by all the services provided. It has expanded beyond recognition from those early days. I've felt it to be a victim of its own success, with the more services it provides; scanners, and investigative machines, experts in specialist fields; the more that people want to access those services.

As a service user, personally, I have used the NHS very little. Of the services used, for pregnancies and minor surgeries, I have always been treated with the utmost care. I do place great importance on the promotion of self-care. I have been very passionate about supporting NHS staff, and encouraging their own self-care and awareness. I was involved in a fast track service for staff when sick, which prioritized

them for physiotherapy treatment, to aid their quicker return to work. I have always believed that when staff feel valued in their work, they will provide an optimum service.

I am very interested in shaping the future development of the NHS. I would relish the challenge of being a part of the decision making team supporting the NHS locally. I would bring commitment, dedication and service to the best of my ability to guide and optimize the use of the available resources.

Declaration of Interests:

Political Party: None

Financial or other interest in the Trust: None