

#### 4. Ethnic group (please tick)

We would be grateful if you would answer the following question about nationality, although you are under no obligation to do so.

- White British
- Any other white background
- Chinese       Asian or Asian British
- Black or Black British
- Other Ethnic Group

#### Exclusion to Membership

I apply to join the Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust membership and to be bound by the rules of the organisation as described in the Constitution.

I understand that I may not become a member if within the last five years I have been involved in a serious incident of violence against any of the Foundation Trust's employees or registered volunteers.

I also understand that I may be disqualified from membership if it is found that I have behaved in a manner incompatible with membership.

A copy of the Constitution is available on the website at [www.coch.nhs.uk](http://www.coch.nhs.uk) or by application to the office of the Foundation Trust Secretary.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Applying for membership

To apply for membership please complete the application form overleaf and return to the address shown.

Public membership is open to residents who live within the areas of: Chester, Ellesmere Port & Neston, Wirral, Crewe & Nantwich, Vale Royal, Halton, Flintshire, and Wrexham.

When your application is accepted, we will notify of your geographical constituency and your representative on the Council of Members, based on your postcode. A full list of Council Members is available on our website:  
[www.coch.nhs.uk](http://www.coch.nhs.uk).

### Your information and how we safeguard it

It is important that we keep any details about you confidential. The information you provide on this form can only be used by us in relation to your membership of the Foundation Trust. Apart from your name, access to this information will only be available to those responsible for administration of the membership register. Anyone who receives this information is legally obliged to keep it confidential. We will ensure that the information will not be passed on to any third parties.

#### Further information

Please return the form in an envelope to:

**Freepost NWW8421A**  
**Foundation Trust Membership**  
**Countess of Chester Hospital NHS**  
**Foundation Trust**  
**Liverpool Road**  
**Chester CH2 1ZZ**

The Trust website has full information about membership: [www.coch.nhs.uk](http://www.coch.nhs.uk)  
For further information telephone Foundation Trust enquiries on 01244 365816

## A Guide to Foundation Trust Membership & Application Form for Public Membership

## What does being a member mean?

Becoming a member of the Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust gives you the opportunity to become more involved in your hospital.

You can be involved in a number of different ways to suit your level of interest. For instance, you might want to express your support for the hospital by becoming a member and receiving a newsletter; whilst other members may wish to be more involved by taking part in surveys or perhaps joining small discussion groups. You make the decision on just how much, or how little, you want to be involved.

## Some important points about membership:

- Membership is free – you do not need to pay any fees or subscriptions.
- As a member you will not receive any special benefits in terms of care or treatment and you will not receive any financial dividend or bonus.
- If you need hospital treatment you are not tied to receiving it at an NHS Foundation Trust where you are a member.
- You can be a member of more than one Foundation Trust if you wish.
- More than one person in your household can become a member (aged 11 or over).
- There is no upper age limit for membership.

## How can I be more involved with the Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust?

- You will receive a regular newsletter providing information about services with feedback on our performance. You can contribute to the newsletter with articles or readers' questions.
- You will receive a copy of the annual report and summary of our business plan.
- You can attend Open Days at the hospital, meet staff, and see some of the new developments and medical advances.
- You can voice your opinion and be consulted about future plans, through for example, attending Foundation Trust meetings or joining discussion groups on the shape of services.
- You can help maintain and improve our standards by taking part in surveys.
- You may wish to stand for election to the Council of Members (aged 16 or over).
- Youth Members (aged 11 to 16) can be involved in specific activities such as art-based projects.

Remember – you chose how much or how little you want to be involved.

### 1. Your contact details

Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr/Other \_\_\_\_\_  
First name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(email is our preferred option for communication)

### 2. About you

Male  Female  
Date of birth:  /  /

### 3. Specific areas of interest

If you have specific areas of interest within the hospital, please tick relevant boxes

Cardiology  Maternity  ENT  
 Children's services  Renal services  
 Emergency Care  Cancer services  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the ways in which you may wish to become involved (this does not commit you to anything)

Take part in surveys  PALS  
 Join a discussion group  
 Attend open days  Help with  
volunteering/  
fundraising  
 Attend meetings  
 Council of Members