

Council of Governors

Our Council of Governors puts the Trust's values of Compassionate, Inclusive and Committed at the centre of the way we work. We look to harness the lived experiences and special knowledge brought to the group from each of our constituencies in helping service users by holding the Board to account.



**Birmingham and Solihull
Mental Health**
NHS Foundation Trust

Role of the Council of Governors

The Council of Governors serves a crucial function in shaping the direction and accountability of NHS foundation trusts. Their remit includes holding the board of directors to account for the performance of the trust, representing the views of NHS foundation trust members and the wider community, and ensuring that the organisation's activities remain aligned with its core values and commitments to public service. Governors act as a vital link between patients, staff, the public, and the trust, promoting openness, transparency, and responsiveness to local needs. They are also responsible for significant appointments, such as selecting the chair and non-executive directors, and play a key role in setting the trust's strategic vision and priorities for the future.

Meet our Lead and Deputy Lead Governors

David Slatter
Lead Governor



Chris Barber
Deputy Lead Governor

As Lead and Deputy Lead Governors, we recognise the Council of Governors as a cornerstone of effective governance within the NHS. The Council plays a vital role in representing the interests of the public, patients, and staff, ensuring that the voice of our communities is heard at the highest levels of decision-making. Through its statutory duties, the Council provides robust oversight, holds the Board of Directors to account, and supports the delivery of high-quality, patient-centred care.

The Council of Governors acts as a bridge between the organisation and its stakeholders, facilitating transparent dialogue and promoting accountability. By engaging with members and the wider public, governors help shape the strategic direction of the Trust, influence key appointments, and contribute to decisions that impact the future of healthcare provision. Their collective expertise and insight are invaluable in guiding the Trust towards continuous improvement and excellence.

We firmly believe that a strong, active, and well-informed Council of Governors is essential to safeguarding the values of the NHS, upholding its founding principles, and ensuring that our services remain responsive, inclusive, and sustainable. As governors, we are committed to championing the interests of those we serve, fostering collaborative relationships, and driving positive change across our organisation.

Our Lead Governor



David Slatter

David worked as a senior recruitment and resourcing professional with nearly three decades of experience leading talent strategies across the public and private sectors. A Chartered Member of the CIPD, he specialises in employer branding, executive search, assessment design, and strategic workforce development.

His career included delivering award-winning diversity and graduate marketing programmes for the [Metropolitan Police Service](#) and the [Civil Service](#), as well as leading large-scale recruitment and employer brand initiatives for major corporate and public sector organisations including local councils and NHS clients.

David provides consultancy support in recruitment transformation, employer value proposition (EVP) development, and governance improvement. He is proud to hold governance leadership roles as Lead Governor at [Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust](#) and Vice Chair of [Balsall Parish Council](#), where he focuses on community health, wellbeing, and strategic engagement.

David's leadership blends strategic vision with practical delivery, driving performance improvement, innovation, and lasting organisational impact.

Our Deputy Lead Governor



Chris Barber

Chris is a semi-retired registered learning disability nurse. He trained as a nurse at South Ockendon in Essex from October 1986 to December 1989. Chris specialises in supporting autistic people and has worked in many clinical areas including many within the Trust on an agency basis. Chris was diagnosed as autistic in November 2008, has served on the National Autistic Society's council from 2012 to 2016 and serves as the deputy chair of the Birmingham Autism and ADHD Partnership Board. Chris is a published author of four books on autism and learning disability and numerous nursing journal articles. He currently serves on three nursing journal editorial boards (including the British Journal of Nursing) and is a school governor at his local Catholic primary school. Chris is currently working on a PhD in autism theology at Aberdeen University. In his spare time, Chris enjoys watching Dr. Who and listening to prog rock!

Staff Governors

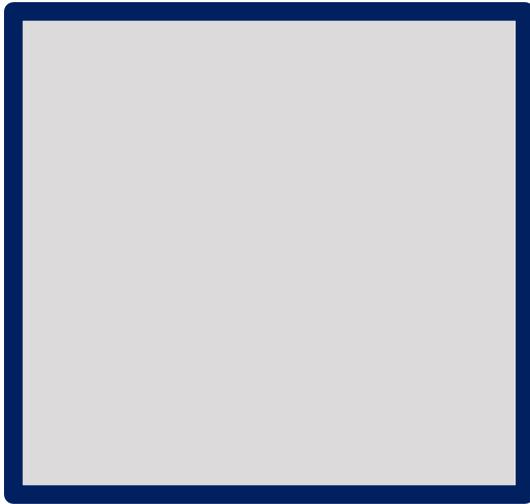


Leona Tasab
Clinical and Medical
Staff Governor
September 2025-
September 2028
Second term

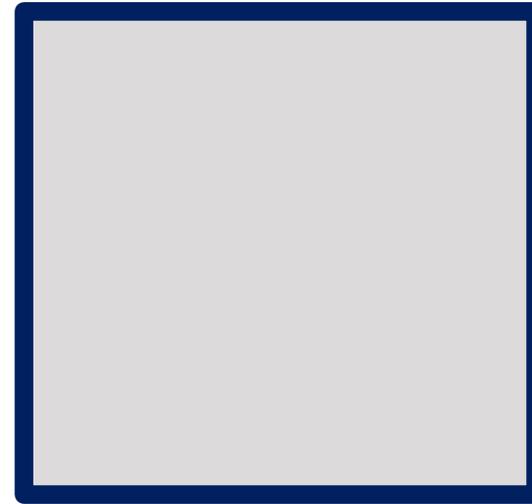


Louise Johnson
Non- Clinical Staff
Governor
January 2026- January
2029
First term

South Birmingham & Worcester- includes Northfield



Renu Marley
Public Governor
November 2023-
November 2026
Second term



Lindy Harrison
Service User/ Carer
Governor
October 2024- October
2027
First term

East Birmingham- includes Hodge Hill, Yardley



Chris Barber
Public Governor
November 2025-
November 2028
Second term



Mahmood Hussain
Service User/ Carer
Governor
October 2024- October
2027
First term

Solihull (inc. Meridan) and Coventry

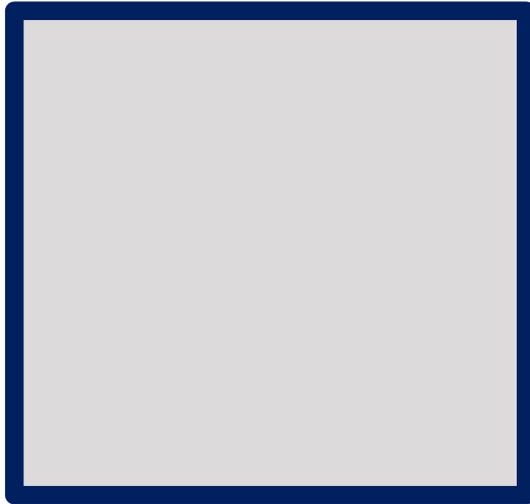


David Slatter
Public Governor
February 2024-
February 2027
First term



Hassan Malik
Service User/ Carer
Governor
October 2024- October 2027
First term

Northeast Birmingham- includes Erdington and Sutton Coldfield



Natalie Bromwich

Public Governor

January 2026- January
2029

First term



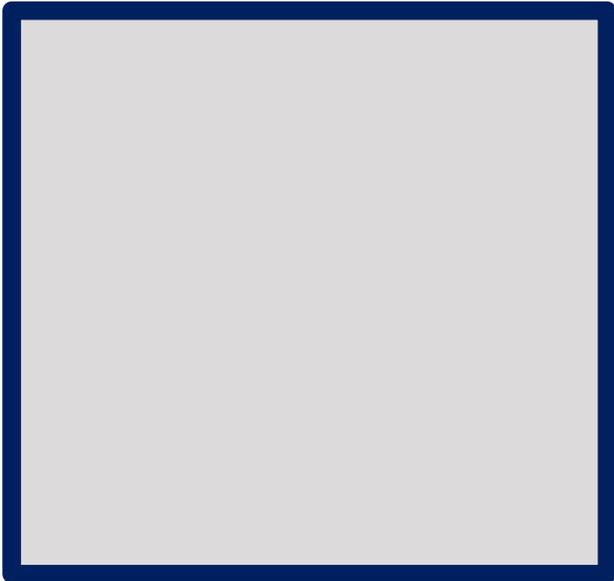
Annabella Mason

**Service User/ Carer
Governor**

January 2026- January 2029

First term

North Birmingham- includes Perry Barr



Steven Blake

Public Governor

January 2026- January
2029

First term



Lisa McMahon

**Service User/ Carer
Governor**

January 2026- January 2029

First term

Central Birmingham- includes Ladywood



Linda Hutchings

Public Governor

September 2023-
September 2026

First term



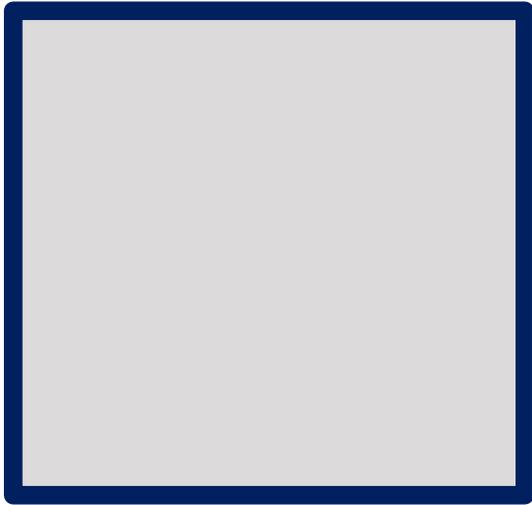
Umar Ali

Service User/ carer Governor

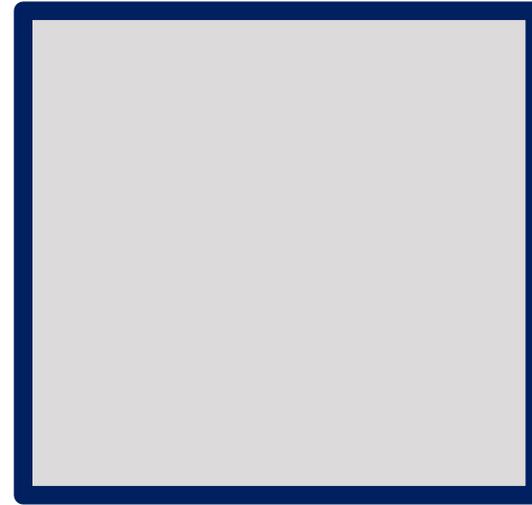
November 2025- November 2028

Second term

Southeast Birmingham- includes Hall Green, Edgbaston, Selly Oak and Moseley

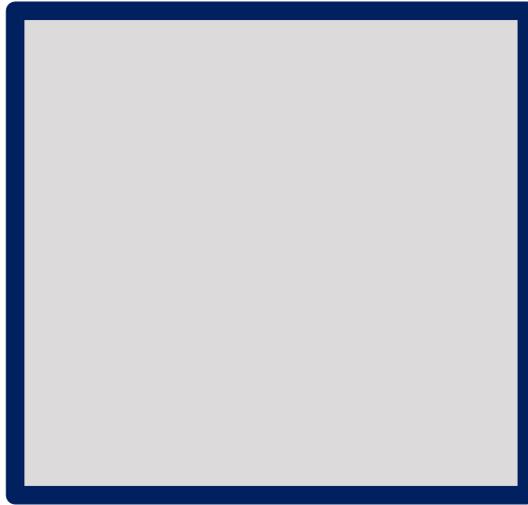


Vacancy



Vacancy

Rest of West Midlands



Vacancy

Stakeholder appointed governors



Robert Mapp
Birmingham City
University

December 2023-
December 2026

First term

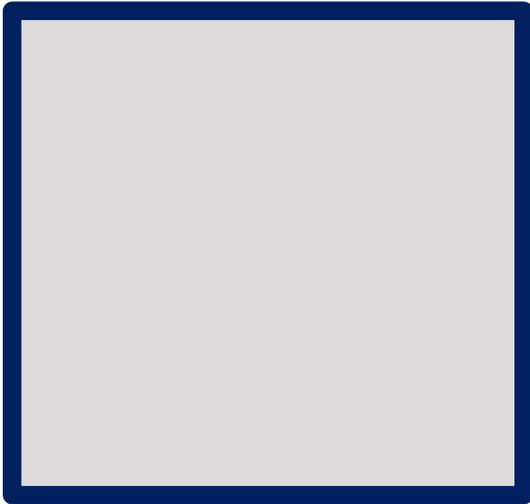


Dr Matthew Broome
Birmingham City
University

March 2024- March
2027

First term

Stakeholder appointed governors



Councillor Kath Scott

**Birmingham City
Council**

September 2023-
September 2026

First term



Councillor Samantha Gethen

Solihull Council

September 2024- September 2027

First term

Stakeholder appointed governors



**West Midlands Police
Vacancy**



**Harpal Bath
Council for Voluntary
Services**

December 2023-
December 2026
First Term