Members of the Board of Directors

Richard Fraser
Chair
Appointed December 2016

Born in Glasgow, Richard studied civil and mechanical engineering at university. His first senior job was site manager during the construction of the landmark oil storage tanks at Stanlow, near Ellesmere Port. He has more than 30 years’ experience as a Board director at a number of large companies. He is also chair of St Helens and Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust.

Ann Pennell
Non-Executive Director and Vice-chair
Appointed December 2015

Ann Pennell has more than 15 years’ experience at a senior director level in local government and has held a number of Board level management positions working closely with the NHS in:

- Children and young people’s services
- Social care
- Housing, education and regeneration

She has led large-scale change and improvement programmes in public services working collaboratively with a range of partners.

Ann was an assistant chief executive in London where she graduated with a post-graduate degree in education and teaching qualifications. She re-located to Lancashire to be close to family. She has two sons and lives locally.
Carol Baxter
Non-Executive Director
Appointed February 2016

Professor Carol Baxter’s career has embraced the public sector in a variety of roles, including as a nurse-advisor to central government departments, national and international agencies and as a professor of nursing.

She has extensive experience of leadership roles in the third sector (where she established and chaired a charitable organisation addressing healthcare for ethnic minorities), and also the independent sector as an organisational and personal development consultant.

She was Head of Equality, Diversity and Human Rights at NHS Employers from 2005 to 2014. She is also a Principal Research Fellow in the Department of Primary Care and Public Health at Imperial College London; a trustee at the Employer’s Network for Equality and Inclusion and a non-executive director at Centre for Better Ageing.

Carol was awarded a CBE in the Queen’s 2009 Birthday Honours list for services to equal opportunities and was inducted into the Nursing Times Nursing Hall of Fame in 2010.
**Ged Clarke**  
Non-Executive Director  
Appointed May 2016

Ged, who was educated in Southport, is a chartered accountant, having qualified with Price Waterhouse in Liverpool. He went on to form Kinsella Clarke Chartered Accountants in Bootle.

His health background is gleaned from seven years at the Walton Centre for Neurology and Neurosurgery Foundation Trust. At the Walton Centre he was non-executive director before becoming chair of the audit committee and then vice-chairman. He played a key role in the process of that Trust obtaining foundation trust status.

Ged lives in Birkdale and has three grown up children. In his spare time he enjoys golf at the Royal Birkdale Golf Club.

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**Jim Birrell**  
Non-Executive Director  
Appointed September 2017

Jim qualified as an accountant in local government before moving into the NHS in 1983. Following periods as the Finance Director at Alder Hey and then North West Regional Director of Finance, Jim spent 10 years as Chief Executive at Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

In the latter role he developed a keen interest and commitment to improving quality. Since retiring from Aintree in 2011, Jim has undertaken a number of management consultancy assignments, including work for NHS Improvement.

He lives in Southport.
Julie Gorry
Non-Executive Director
Appointed September 2017

Julie was chief executive of Wirral Hospice for 12 years and has more than 20 years’ experience as an executive director in the independent sector and the NHS.

Previously, she was North West regional representative for the National Council for Palliative Care for more than 15 years before its merger with Hospice UK in summer 2017. She was also chair of the Hospice Chief Executive Advisory Group for the North West Strategic Clinical Network for Palliative and End of Life Care.

Julie, who is a practicing nurse, is a specialist advisor for Care Quality Commission. She has a Master Arts in Strategic Human Resources and a passion for improving quality, patient safety and patient experience.

Pauline Gibson
Designate Non-Executive Director
Appointed September 2017

Pauline is director of Staffordshire-based Excel Coaching and Consulting. She is a fellow of Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development.

She is an experienced board director specialising in executive coaching, strategic leadership development, transformational teams and culture change. She has spearheaded significant culture change programmes and is skilled in developing a high performing leadership cadre and driving catalytic team performance.
Karen Jackson
Interim Chief Executive
Appointed April 2017

Karen Jackson joined the Trust on secondment from NHS Improvement, the national organisation which supports NHS providers and local health systems. She was mostly recently working with NHS Improvement to lead work on improving urgent care service delivery across England. Before this she was chief executive at North Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust and has a professional background in NHS finance. She is a graduate in genetics from the University of Liverpool.

Steve Shanahan
Director of Finance
Appointed November 2015

Steve Shanahan was Executive Director of Finance at North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust before joining the Trust on secondment in November 2015. He was made substantive in August 2016. He had a career at Board level in the private sector before joining the NHS in 2005 when he was appointed Finance Director at Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust. He lives in West Lancashire.
Rob Gillies
Executive Medical Director
Appointed June 2013

Rob Gillies was formerly Deputy Medical Director at Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust in Manchester.

He graduated from Liverpool University in 1982 doing basic surgical training in Liverpool and higher surgical training in the North East, West Midlands and a knee surgery fellowship in Toronto during 1993. He was appointed as a consultant orthopaedic knee surgeon at Mid-Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in 1995.

In 2004 Rob was appointed as Associate Postgraduate Dean in Mersey Deanery and Honorary Senior Lecturer at the University of Liverpool and led on the introduction of Modernising Medical Careers and the selection and assessment of junior doctors. In 2008, he obtained a Masters in Medical Education from University College London and in 2013 was awarded a Masters with merit in Medical Leadership from Birbeck, London University, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

He has chaired regional and national surgical training committees for the Royal College of Surgeons of England. He has performed various Quality Assurance roles for Royal colleges, higher education institutions and the General Medical Council. Rob is also the Trust Caldicott Guardian.

Rob is married with four children. He follows Liverpool FC and trains German short-haired pointer gun dogs.
Sheila Lloyd
Director of Nursing and Quality
Appointed October 2016

Sheila has held senior nursing and managerial posts since 2004 in both specialist and large acute trusts. Sheila qualified as a Registered General Nurse in 1991 at what was then Walton and Fazakerley hospitals, now Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Sheila specialised in heart and chest nursing in Liverpool and has held various clinical posts at ward and nurse specialist level. In addition, Sheila was a cancer manager within a regional gynaecological cancer centre and was Assistant Director of Nursing, Quality and Commissioning within the former North West Strategic Health Authority.

More recently she has undertaken turnaround work with Children and Young People’s Services focusing on clinical governance, safety, effectiveness and patient and staff experience. Sheila was successful in completing the national Breaking Through Top Talent Leadership Programme in 2012.

She was most recently Executive Director of Nursing and Quality at the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

Sheila is a member of the Royal College of Nursing Executive Nurse Network.
Therese Patten
Chief Operating Officer
Appointed October 2016

Therese joined the Trust from Liverpool’s Alder Hey Children’s Hospital NHS Foundation Trust in Liverpool where she was Associate Director Strategic Development and Partnership. This was an executive role leading on the delivery of the strategic plan which included delivering strategic local and international partnerships.

Therese has worked in the NHS, private health and international aid sectors. She has more than 20 years’ experience in healthcare, more recently in board positions as Chief Operating Officer and Commercial Director.

Before that she worked in Liverpool, including a community trust, and for a time in the private healthcare sector. In the 1990s, she worked in Somaliland and Zimbabwe in health education and nutrition, and later for the Department for International Development in Pakistan.

Jane Royds
Associate Director of Strategic HR
Appointed June 2017

Jane was previously Executive Director of Non-clinical Services at Queenscourt Hospice in Southport.

She has worked 27 years in human resources (HR) for the NHS across community, primary care and mental health organisations prior to joining the hospice.

She is a Fellow of the CIPD and has a MA in Strategic HR.