

Your
insight into the
world of Bradford's
hospitals



Bradford Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Members' news



Dear Members,

See below for recent news on our hospitals

EXCEL Programme: Patient feedback matters to us

Have you visited the Emergency Department? We would love to hear from you.

If you have an experience to share, please join us for our Patient Engagement Event focused on improving the care you or your family receive.

We are hosting a Patient Engagement Event on **17th November 2025, 11am – 3pm in the Listening for Life Centre at Bradford Royal Infirmary**, to hear your experiences and ideas about urgent and emergency care. Your feedback will help us make real improvements to how care is delivered when it matters most.

A light lunch will be provided. Limited places are available.

To secure your place Please RSVP: Patient Experience Officer, George Reynolds: email george.reynolds@bthft.nhs.uk



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Help Us Improve Urgent and Emergency Care

17.11.25 11am - 3pm Listening for Life Centre BRI

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Elections to our Council of Governors

Thank you to all those who nominated themselves for upcoming vacancies on our Council of Governors. The full statement of nominated candidates is available [here](#) and the uncontested report is available [here](#) (the uncontested report includes those governors who have been elected 'unopposed'). Elections open today in two of our membership constituencies: Bradford West and one of our Staff groups. The notice of the poll is available [here](#).

All those eligible to vote will receive their voting pack either via email or by post to home addresses if we don't have an email address. If you are eligible to vote please can we urge you to do so. Voting closes on **Friday 21 November 2025 at 5pm**. If you would like to find out more about the role before you cast your vote then we recommend you take a look at our special document, [Becoming a Governor](#).

We will make a formal announcement soon on those governors who have been elected unopposed once we confirm their start dates and complete their pre-appointment checks.

Introducing Martha's Rule...

Our Trust is introducing Martha's Rule, a patient safety initiative to support the early detection of deterioration by making sure the concerns of patients, families, carers and staff are listened to and acted upon.

You know yourself or your loved one better than anyone.

We recognise that patients and the people closest to them are experts in their own health and may notice subtle changes before the health care team. Therefore their input is vital in the care we provide. **If you're worried about a health condition getting worse, talk to us.**

Martha's story

In 2021, Martha Mills, died from sepsis that she developed while being treated in hospital for a pancreatic injury following an accident on her bike. Martha's families concerns about her deteriorating condition were not responded to. A coroner declared in 2023 that Martha, aged 13, most likely would have survived if she had been admitted to intensive care sooner. [NHS England have introduced Martha's Rule](#) as a standardised approach that prioritises patient safety and involves the patient and/or their family members when looking at the patients current condition, most importantly giving them a voice to express serious concerns/significant changes.

The 3 core components of Martha's Rule are..

- Patients will be asked, at least daily, about how they are feeling, and if they are getting better or worse, and this information will be acted on appropriately.
- All staff will be able, at any time, to ask for a review from a different team if they are concerned that a patient is deteriorating, and they are not being responded to.
- This escalation route will also always be available to patients themselves, their families and carers and advertised across the hospital.

Empowering patients, families, carers and staff

Martha's Rule actively encourages patients, families and carers to tell staff if they are worried a health condition is getting worse. They may notice small changes that could be early warning signs of deterioration before they show up in routine measurements.

If, after speaking to the care team, they remain worried and feel they are not being listened to, they can call a dedicated number for a rapid review from a different team. Martha's Rule also empowers staff to call for a rapid review if they feel their concerns about a patient are not being responded to.

Our commitment

We will regularly ask for your views and take your concerns seriously. We see you as a partner in the care we are providing and want you to raise any worries and concerns you may have.

Difference between Martha's Rule and second opinion

Martha's Rule allows hospital in-patients and their families to seek a rapid review if their condition, or the condition of a loved one, is deteriorating.

A second opinion is when you would like to see another consultant to discuss any diagnosis or treatment.

This service will be available at our Trust from Monday 3rd November, with the number advertised across the hospital. It will only apply to acute in-patient wards at Bradford Royal Infirmary. Our other sites, such as St Lukes and Westwood Park, are not included at this stage.

Car Parking Changes

At Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, we're making parking simpler, fairer and more efficient, providing a better experience for patients, colleagues and visitors.

The new parking system uses the latest Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology and went live for the public on Monday, 18 August at Bradford Royal Infirmary (BRI) and will soon go live at St Luke's Hospital soon. You can keep up to date with the latest information available on our website here: <https://www.bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/parking-is-changing/>

Volunteer Recruitment NOW OPEN

Our latest volunteer recruitment is now open at our Trust. We have some new role opportunities available, and we are also recruiting for some of our existing roles. You can find out more about all roles here [Volunteering Opportunities | Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Volunteering](#).

Whilst volunteers can apply directly online, we can offer more accessible applications where required. Further information on volunteering can be found directly on the website - [Voluntary services – Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust \(bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk\)](#)

Mel's weekly round-ups

September and October round ups



- **Our Partners – BIHR Mobile Research Vehicle**

This month, the Bradford Institute for Health Research, which is part of Bradford Teaching Hospitals, introduced MRVin, a mobile research vehicle. Funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research and Bradford Hospitals Charity, this fully electric vehicle will bring research opportunities directly to our communities.

By taking research into neighbourhoods, we hope that more people will become part of our research journey.

We hear from Tracy Watson, Director of Research Operations, and John Wright, Director of Research, about how MRVin aims to make research more accessible, more inclusive, and more impactful.

Watch the film here: https://youtu.be/X_N5-1DJ8eA

- **Our People - Black History Month**

This October, we celebrate Black History Month, a time to reflect on the remarkable contributions of black people to our history, culture, and communities, and to recognise the achievements of our black colleagues who continue to enrich our NHS today. For us at Bradford Teaching Hospitals, it's also about looking ahead, creating a workplace where everyone feels respected, valued and able to thrive.

By listening, learning and challenging inequality, we can ensure our hospitals are places of outstanding care that embody dignity, compassion and inclusion.

Watch the film here: <https://youtu.be/t9FuVE4FLC0>

- **This week's film is full of energy as we highlight a very special charity challenge run by our hospital Therapy services – a 24-hour Therapy Dash!**

It was the idea of Physiotherapist Lisa Capewell, whose vision and determination united colleagues across Therapy services to keep a treadmill, a bike and a rowing machine going for 24 hours on the concourse at Bradford Royal Infirmary.

Together they raised funds for Bradford Hospitals Charity and inspired staff, patients and visitors to make physical activity a part of everyday life.

Watch the film here: <https://youtu.be/RJTbGAnWREo>

- **September's round-up (bite-size)**

As we come to the end of September, here's a round-up of stories from across the Trust.

From the opening of our brand new antenatal clinic in the Women's and Newborn Unit at Bradford Royal Infirmary, to Organ Donation Week and hearing impactful personal stories about the need for more people to consider joining the NHS Organ Donor Register, it's been a busy month.

There was also a podcast with Iain McBeath, Strategic Director of Health and Wellbeing at Bradford Council, about the Health on the High Street model and our work as a healthcare partnership on developing neighbourhood health.

And you can see a summary of some other exciting things that have been happening in our hospitals.

[Watch the round-up here.](#)

- **Let's Talk with Mel podcast – Health on the High Street**

Join Mel Pickup, Chief Executive of Bradford Teaching Hospitals, for a conversation with Iain Macbeath, Strategic Director of Health and Wellbeing at Bradford Council, as he introduces the groundbreaking *Health on the High Street* initiative. Inspired by Barnsley's successful model, the scheme aims to bring NHS services such as outpatient clinics, diagnostics, and minor procedures into accessible city-centre spaces like shopping centres.

Discover how Bradford is leading the way in rethinking healthcare delivery, and why making care more accessible, efficient, and humane could shape the future of the NHS.

Listen to it here: <https://tinyurl.com/mwtjs9ja>

- **Organ Donation Week took place in September - hear powerful stories from Bradford about the impact of organ donation and transplantation.**

Discover the journey of patients and donors, including living donations and the urgent need for more donors. Learn how one donor can save up to nine lives and why registering as an organ donor only takes two minutes but can change lives forever.

Join us in raising awareness and honouring the generosity of donors and their families who make life-saving transplants possible.

Watch the film here: <https://youtu.be/TQrC9O5uBJs>

- **This film focuses on an exciting development which is part of our Outstanding Maternity Services (OMS) programme.**

The Women's and Newborn Unit at Bradford Royal Infirmary is undergoing an ambitious £15.5m worth of refurbishment and in August, we proudly opened our brand new Antenatal Clinic which is already making a difference for patients and staff alike.

With a brighter reception and waiting area, improved assessment spaces and enhanced facilities, the clinic has been designed to provide greater comfort, privacy and efficient care for pregnant women from across the district.

Today, we'll hear from Sarah Elton, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, and Alison Powell, Midwifery Lead for the OMS programme, who share how these improvements will support patients and staff and ensure our facilities are fit for the future.

Watch the film here: <https://youtu.be/JGqZuPLD0Hk>

We hope you find these round ups useful. Please do share with your family and friends. If you have any feedback you would like to share then please do – see our contact details at the end of this email.

Your Membership Data – Membership Portal

You have control of the data we hold on you!

Here you can create your own log in and keep your own information up to date:

<https://secure.membra.co.uk/memberportal/bradfordteaching/>

You can also update your profile information and in particular let us know if you have any special requirements that we should take account of.

Regards

Membership Office

To unsubscribe click [here](#).



Have a question about your membership? Contact us through these channels:

Email: membership@bthft.nhs.uk

Or keep up to date with news:

Twitter: [@BTHFT](#)

Facebook: [@BradfordHospitals](#)

Website: [Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#)