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Dear Members of Surrey Health Scrutiny Committee

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (which runs East Surrey Hospital) is on the journey to becoming a NHS foundation trust (FT).

FTs are membership organisations free from central government control and are accountable, through a Council of Governors, to their local community, patients and staff. Being an FT will provide new ways for patients, local people and partner organisations to contribute to the way the Trust is run and the development of its future plans.

As part of our journey to FT we are conducting a public consultation on our proposals that are set out in our consultation document ‘Have your say’ (available at www.sash.nhs.uk/ft). As a key representative in our local area, we would like your support and to hear any comments you have on our proposals:

All of our FT membership and governor proposals are set out in the document, but in your trusted opinion, have we got it right?

We would also like to ask for your support by becoming a member, and encouraging your patients, colleagues, neighbours, family and friends to become members too.

To be a successful FT we need a membership that represents the communities we serve and we are hoping that you will be able to spread the word for us through your links with the local community.

Members can choose their level of involvement. Some members simply want to show their support by registering as a member, and others want to be actively involved in the governance of the Trust.

Our consultation runs until the end of February. We are very willing to visit community groups to present our FT plans, and answer any questions. If you would like us to arrange a meeting or presentation, please contact Eloise Clarke on 01737 768511 x 6199.

Michael Wilson
Chief Executive

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