



# YorkTalk

For the communities of  
York, Selby, Hambleton  
and district

December 2007 Issue 2

## Vision for travel

**THE TRUST has unveiled its new five-year travel plan for staff, patients and visitors. It is the second such plan and aims to build on the successes of the first.**

Alison Hughes, director of strategy and facilities, explains: "There are two reasons for introducing the new plan. Firstly, we have to reduce our 'secondary' carbon footprint – and travel is a major contribution to this – but secondly, we have made a commitment to City of York Council to meet certain targets set out in the plan."

One aim of the plan is to reduce single occupant car usage by staff from 53% to 44%.

The plan focuses on three areas for improvement. These are:

- Reducing reliance on single user car journeys.
- Working with partners to develop alternatives.
- Making cycling and bus travel more affordable and more convenient.

Alison adds: "The first travel plan was a huge success. We now have a tax free purchase scheme and better facilities for



**New plan:**  
Alison Hughes

cyclists as well as discounted monthly and weekly bus travel cards. Now we want to build on that for the sake of everyone's



**Wheel good: Josette Farmer, Finance Manager, who regularly travels by bike**

health and the good of the environment. We also now have two bicycles (one female and one male) for Trust staff to use on hospital business (helmet and jacket available).

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### Factfile: Sustainable travel

- Around 100 bicycles can be produced for the same energy and resources it takes to build one car. (source: TravelWise)
- In 6,000 miles, a car will produce roughly its own weight in CO2 (source: TravelWise)
- Regular cycling will give you a fitness level equivalent to being 10 years younger. (Source: Car Free London Exhibition)

### NewsTalk

## Welcome

INSIDE this newsletter, to help you plan for 2008, is a tear-off strip which contains dates of the Trust AGM, Members' Council meetings and YorkTalk events.

**Please note** that the Members' Council meeting originally scheduled for 9 January has been moved to **8 January**.

On the reverse of the tear-off strip is a list of Foundation Trust governors, broken down by their constituencies.

Feedback on this newsletter and ideas for features in future editions are both welcomed. Please contact Jayne Bone – details below.

8 JANUARY  
2008

## Accessibility

If you would like to receive YorkTalk in a more accessible format, for example printed in a larger text size, please contact **Jayne Bone**, head of chairman and chief executive's office, York Hospital, York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE Tel. 01904 725233 E-mail: [jayne.bone@york.nhs.uk](mailto:jayne.bone@york.nhs.uk)

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NewsTalk

## Members' Council

GOVERNORS are to be involved in the appointment of the chief executive.

Chairman Alan Maynard assured governors at the second full Foundation Members' Council meeting that their views would be taken account in the process.

Acting chief executive Patrick Crowley was formally introduced to the Council and it was agreed that the post would be advertised in April 2008.

Former chief executive Jim Easton, who is heading south to become chief executive of the South Central Strategic Health Authority, gave an update on current pressures and priorities, saying that the PCT contract was "challenging". He also informed governors that the Trust had been the subject of an unannounced hygiene inspection. A report on the outcome had yet to be received.

The Trust's head of systems and network services Sue Rushbrook gave a presentation about IT systems in use, including the Core Patient Database.

## Packed AGM



MORE than 60 people attended the Trust's annual general meeting on 26 September.

Chairman Alan Maynard paid tribute to chief executive Jim Easton, who was attending his last AGM at the Trust, and there were questions from the public about finances, pharmacy delays, car parking, infection control and the no smoking policy.

Jim gave a presentation on developments at the Trust and director of finance (now acting chief executive) Patrick Crowley illustrated the Trust's financial position.

# Patrick takes the helm from Jim

**PATRICK CROWLEY has taken over the role of chief executive after the departure of Jim Easton, who takes on a new role at South Central Strategic Health Authority in Berkshire.**

Jim became chief executive of the Trust in September 2003. He has been a manager in the UK National Health Service for 19 years, with a broad background, including mental health, primary care, planning and policy development as well as hospital management.

There have been many tributes from colleagues and governors over the past few months as the date of Jim's departure neared.

Patrick has worked for the Trust since 1991 in a variety of finance and performance management roles prior to his appointment as director of finance and performance in 2001. In that role, he had responsibility for finance, corporate performance management, information services and commissioning.

In the past, Patrick has worked for the Ministry of Defence and in the private sector.



**New role in the south:**  
Jim Easton

## Q&A Patrick Crowley

**How have the first weeks been in your new role?**

Hectic but enjoyable! Whilst much of the day job is familiar, I have had to learn quickly in some areas where I have no prior knowledge. I have also had to work hard to leave my finance and performance director role behind and am pleased to report this now seems to be happening... freeing up my time a bit and getting out of the hair of other very capable people who can now get on with their jobs!

**What are the biggest challenges the Trust faces at the moment?**

The biggest challenge is that we are still uncertain of the impact of the PCT's financial situation and its response to this will have on the Foundation Trusts services in the medium and longer term. This means we are still unable to plan with real confidence in a number of areas, but I am hopeful this will improve as the PCT's top team is able to focus more on the future. The immediate challenge is one we face each year as we plan for the winter period. This year is particularly unpredictable as we have yet to fully understand the impact of primary care and community based initiatives to reduce hospital admissions and

**Ambitions for the Trust:**  
Patrick Crowley



whether they can be sustained if the winter proves a difficult one. However, I am happy we have the right spirit and resolve within the hospital to manage whatever might be thrown at us!

**What are your ambitions for the Trust?**

Predictable I guess... a future that will allow us to improve the hospital environment where it is most challenged, particularly the ward block, and stable finances that will offer us a real choice in terms of the services we provide, and how well we want to provide them. We have to continue to aspire to be the best and collectively work towards this. I believe anything is possible if we trust and believe in ourselves and are prepared to take whatever action is necessary to keep us moving forward. I firmly believe in the future of York and our ability to further reinforce our role as the leading provider of secondary care services in North Yorkshire.



**Vision: how the new car park will look when it is completed**

## Travel vision

*Continued from page 1*  
These can be booked through the Porter's Lodge."

Work on the new patient and visitor car park is about to start. Cable diversions and preparation will take place before Christmas and construction will begin early in 2008. Arrangements for temporary parking around the Bootham Park Chapel and at the Nuffield Hospital have been made.

For up to date information please check the Trust's website at [www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk)

**GovernorTalk James Porteous MBE, Vice Chair of Governors**

**What is your background?**

I have lived in York for over 50 years and recently retired from senior management with Rowntree, latterly Nestlé.



I now have a business and marketing consultancy.

A wheelchair user since the age of six, following Polio, I am married with grown-up daughters and two dogs. I am chairman of governors at both Applefields and Hob Moor Oaks (York's two schools for pupils with special educational needs), regional president of the British Polio Fellowship and a founder member of the North Yorkshire Board of The Princes Youth Business Trust.

I was involved with the introduction of Shopmobility in York and was on York's crime prevention panel for a number of years.

**Why did you want to become a governor?**

A number of friends and colleagues suggested to me that with my mixture of business, commercial, charity and disability experience, I would be able to contribute to the development

of the Foundation Trust. I was happy to be nominated.

I do have a belief that it is appropriate to try to give something back to the local community where one has been able to enjoy living for a great number of years. If I can help I am happy so to do.

**How do you see your role as vice chair developing?**

I would hope that I can develop the role into being a support to all the governors as a contact point and conduit for the flow of information. I would also like to be a support to the chairman and board by being in tune with the overall views of the governors, who are, I am pleased to say, a wide and diverse group who all skilfully represent the constituents who elected them.

**How is the Trust doing as a Foundation Trust?**

Early days, but the first signs are very encouraging – everyone is working hard and pulling in the same direction. Ask again in a year.

**What is the biggest challenge that you and the rest of the governors face?**

I think it is ensuring that maximum benefit is gained by

the way the governors work with the board, management and staff of the Hospital. We must focus on our local community benefiting from the wise and prudent use of valuable facilities and, by necessity, limited funds, as well as the Trust providing a full, efficient, effective and stable service which is second to none.

**What is your biggest hope for the Foundation Trust?**

That we have the best hospital and hospital Foundation Trust in the country – as the old phrase goes, "The best is only just good enough for York".

**Anything else you would like to mention?**

This is the first time that I have been involved with the health service at such close quarters – other than as a patient. It has been a pleasure to meet so many skilled and talented people within both the governing body and the hospital staff. We are very lucky to have so many dedicated and committed people involved.

*James was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2001 for Services to the community of York, and disabled people in particular.*

# Nursing boost

**THE TRUST is to invest £1.25million in extra nursing staff at York Hospital.**

The move has been made to both improve patient care and help the working lives of existing nursing staff.

The 25 new nursing posts will be created in the areas where there is most need, such as elderly, medical and general wards.

Deputy chief executive Mike Proctor explained: "It is a significant step up in the number of people that will be available to look after patients and we expect that will lead to an improvement in the quality of service we will be able to offer.

"I think it's really positive news for patients and it will also enable staff to deliver the quality of care that they aspire to."



**Addressing the need for extra nurses: Mike Proctor**



## Tear off and keep 2008 Calendar



**8/1/2008 4-6pm Members' Council**  
Lecture Theatre, Post Graduate Centre, YH  
(Please note the change in this date from that previously advertised).



**3/3/2008 12.30pm for one hour YorkTalk Presentation on clinical/service area**  
Seminar Room, Learning and Research Centre, YH.  
Topic to be published in due course.



**23/4/2008 4-6pm Members' Council**  
Civic Centre, Portholme Road, Selby.



**2/5/2008 12.30pm for one hour YorkTalk Presentation**  
Seminar Room, Learning and Research Centre, YH. Topic to be published in due course.



**27/6/2008 12.30pm for one hour YorkTalk Presentation**  
Lecture Theatre, PGMC. Topic to be published in due course.



**9/7/2008 4-6pm Members' Council**  
Lecture Theatre, Post Graduate Centre, YH.



**3/9/2008 12.30pm for one hour YorkTalk Presentation**  
Lecture Theatre, PGMC. Topic to be published in due course.

**29/9/2008 5.30-7pm AGM** Lecture Theatre/Common Room, Post Graduate Centre, YH



**8/10/2008 4-6pm Members' Council**  
Galtres Centre, Easingwold.



**25/11/2008 12.30pm for one hour YorkTalk Presentation**  
Lecture Theatre, PGMC. Topic to be published in due course.

| APPOINTED GOVERNORS                               |   |
|---|---|
| <b>North Yorkshire and York PCT<br/>3 seats</b>   |   |
| Mr Michael Sweet, Non-Executive Director          |   |
| General Practitioner – To be confirmed            |   |
| Gill Cashmore, Chief Officer, Selby AVS           |   |
| <b>City of York Council 3 seats</b>               |   |
| Cllr Madeleine Kirk                               |   |
| Cllr Sandy Fraser                                 |   |
| Cllr Sian Wiseman                                 |   |
| <b>North Yorkshire County Council<br/>2 seats</b> |   |
| Cllr Elizabeth Casling                            |   |
| Mrs Caroline Patmore                              |   |
| <b>University of York Medical School 1 seat</b>   |   |
| Professor Ian Greer                               |   |
| <b>Voluntary Sector<br/>1 seat</b>                |   |
| Mr Mike Moran, Chairman, York CVS                 |   |
| NOMINATED GOVERNORS                               |   |
| <b>Patient and Public Governors<br/>17 seats</b>  |   |
| <b>Patient/Carer</b>                              | Geoffrey Rennie                             |
|   | David Vasey                                 |
|   | Jane Farquharson                            |
|   | Brian Thompson                              |
| <b>Public: City of York</b>                       | James Porteous                              |
|   | Linda Hatton                                |
|   | Paul Baines                                 |
|   | Bob Towner                                  |
|   | Stephen Lewis                               |
|   | Stefan Ruff                                 |
|   | Helen Mackman                               |
| <b>Public: Selby District Council</b>             | Jane Hardy                                  |
|   | Rodney Price                                |
|   | Neville Parkinson                           |
| <b>Public: Hambleton District Council</b>         | Ann Harrison                                |
|   | Pam Turpin                                  |
| <b>Staff Governors 5 seats</b>                    |   |
| <b>Staff: Medical</b>                             | Lee Bond, Consultant Haematologist          |
| <b>Staff: Nursing</b>                             | Anne Penny, Bed Manager                     |
|   | Lynne Atkinson, Sister                      |
| <b>Staff: Non-Clinical</b>                        | Mandy McGale, Head of Patient Flow          |
| <b>Staff: Clinical Professional</b>               | Martin Skelton, Senior Biomedical Scientist |



Critical changes: clockwise from above, the entrance to the new intensive care unit; work goes on outside the unit; screens preventing contamination; and the new high dependency unit is built. YorkTalk will bring you more pictures of the facilities when they are fully operational.

# Critical care makes huge leap forward

**INFECTION control is central to the design of York Hospital's new intensive care unit (ICU), which opened recently.**

The new ICU is phase 1 of a three-phase redevelopment facilities for patients in need of critical care. Phase 2 will see visitor and staff facilities to support the unit and Phase 3 creates a new, enlarged high dependency unit (HDU).

Critical care services manager Christine Morris explains: "The old facilities were becoming very outdated. Now we have a state-of-the-art environment where infection control is literally built in. You can only enter the unit through the gown room and we can easily isolate individual patients if necessary."

The new ICU has 10 bed bays

and is currently also housing patients who would normally be housed in the HDU.

However, when Phase 3 opens next July, the new HDU will itself have eight bed bays, making the facilities for patients with greater needs some of the best in the country.

Christine adds: "What is great about the new bed bays in that they are so large compared with the old ones. "Also, the pendant system where all of the wires and tubes come down from a ceiling pendant means you can literally walk around the whole of a patient's bed, with no danger of tripping over wires, etc."

Currently Phases 2 and 3 are under construction, which has been a challenge in itself.

Christine adds: "You can imagine how difficult it has been to open the ICU only yards away from the building work. We've had to take extreme measures to stop dust and the like entering the building. However, the air quality in the new unit is fantastic because of the equipment on the roof. The standards are better than theatre standard."

Phase 2, which is due to be opened in February, will come as a relief for visitors and staff alike, who are currently managing with cramped conditions. Christine concludes: "It's been tough but everyone has coped really well and when we moved from the old ICU to the new one everyone mucked in to get the job done. We have some very well motivated staff."

**Got a story  
for YorkTalk?**

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