

Acquisition of the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases NHS Foundation Trust by the Royal United Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – Background

The acquisition of the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases NHS Foundation Trust (RNHRD) by the Royal United Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (RUH) on 1st February 2015, followed approval by The RUH and RNHRD Trust Boards, the Council of Governors of both organisations acting on behalf of around 17,500 public and staff members and [Monitor](#), the independent regulator of Foundation Trusts.

In the lead up to acquisition we engaged with a wide range of people through a variety of methods including newsletter updates, a [dedicated website page](#), verbal briefings, presentations at public meetings, media releases and newspaper articles and our Annual General Meetings. We listened to what people were saying, in particular what concerns they had around the proposed acquisition of the RNHRD and what they felt was important when thinking about the future of the RNHRD's services. You can find out more about the process [here](#).

We used the feedback provided by patients, carers, staff, healthcare partners and the wider community to help inform a set of [overarching principles](#) for acquisition. These principles describe our vision for the future, taking into account what we know matters to our patients, staff and partners, such as continuity of high quality care, ensuring clinicians remain at the forefront of their services, further strengthening research and development and continuing to build on the established RNHRD brand.

More detail and the RNHRD Board papers relating to the acquisition can be found [here](#).

We have been able to report to local Health Scrutiny representatives and a forum of stakeholders including commissioner and patient representation, that the acquisition and the bringing together of the organisations has gone smoothly and is progressing well.

