

**26 April 2011****Communications Department**

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**Press Release****RUH appoints new non-executive directors**

Two new non-executive directors have been appointed at the Royal United Hospital Bath NHS Trust.

They are Joanna Hole and Roger Newton, who have both been appointed by the Appointments Commission's Health and Social Care Appointments Committee to serve on the RUH's Trust Board from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2015.

The appointments have been made in accordance with the Commissioner for Public Appointments' Code of Practice. Both will receive an annual remuneration of £6,096.

Joanna Hole, who lives in Widcombe, Bath, is a former senior civil servant whose last appointment was in Whitehall as Head of Safety, Sustainable Development and Business Continuity at the Ministry of Defence. Prior to her experience shaping the military and civilian strategic context for these issues, she worked predominantly in the areas of corporate governance, human resources and estate policy and delivery. She continues to work on a fee paid basis for the MOD as a Chair of their Independent Grievance Appeals Panels.

Mrs Hole says: "I enjoy the opportunity to make a difference and get the most from working relationships and am delighted to have joined the RUH team. One of my priorities will be to work with the Foundation Trust Steering Group and also lend my support to the Non-Clinical Governance Committee."

Roger Newton, who lives in Calne, Wiltshire, worked for Oxfam for 18 years holding a variety of management positions, before joining Save the Children as Regional Director for East Asia. He later became a Non-Executive Director with NHS Wiltshire where he was Chair of the Workforce Committee, Vice Chair of the Audit & Assurance Committee and Vice Chair of the Provider Services Committee. Over the last 35 years, he has been an active trustee and president of an international charity based in Heddington, Wiltshire, which holds monthly 10-day retreats for about 500 students a year in Theravada Buddhist meditation.

Mr Newton says: "Coming from Wiltshire PCT I feel very proud to be associated with the RUH. The standards of patient experience and clinical excellence which the RUH has achieved in recent years have been phenomenal.

"I'm looking forward to serving the board and being part of this community of staff in delivering healthcare you can trust."

Trust Chairman Brian Stables says: "I am delighted to welcome two such highly qualified and experienced people to the Trust Board and believe they will make a real difference in helping to influence and shape the RUH."

All non-executive appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for an appointee's political activity, if any declared, to be made public. Neither Joanna Hole nor Roger Newton have declared any political activity in the last five years, and neither has declared holding any other ministerial appointments.

**Ends**