



# Martin Wright

## Non-executive Director

“ **The NHS saved my life as a child and has continued to support me and my family in too many ways to mention.** ”

**What is your job title, what does it involve day-to-day and how long have you been working in that role and/or at the Trust?**

I'm a non-executive director and I sit on the Trust's Board. I'm also a member of two of the Trust's committees, I chair the Audit Committee and sit on the Finance and Performance Committee. My role is to represent the Trust's governors to make sure that the executive directors are managing the Trust effectively and efficiently.

I work at the Trust part-time, setting aside roughly a week each month to prepare for and attend the Board and committee meetings.

I was appointed in January 2018 so I've only been with the Trust for four months.

**Why did you choose to work for the NHS?**

I've recently retired from a career leading a finance team in one of the world's largest law firms. Until my appointment earlier this year I've never worked in the NHS but my wife made her career in the NHS and many members of my family, myself included, have much to thank the NHS for over the course of our lives.

I believe I've developed skills in my career which are of benefit to the NHS and to the Trust given the continued challenges faced with regard to funding and financial control. I also believe there's a lot for me to learn and much for me to gain from working alongside a high-performing team dedicated to caring and support.

**What's your favourite part about the job?**

My favourite part is meeting the people delivering the service and understanding their work and challenges. The Trust is blessed with many talented and dedicated individuals.

**What's the most challenging part about your job?**

My greatest challenge has been learning the NHS 'language'. If, like me, you haven't grown up in the NHS, some of the terms used and approaches adopted can be confusing and take some time to understand. I am four months in and still learning!

**Tell us about:****a time you were really proud of your work**

It's early days for me so I'm not sure I can yet claim a moment of great pride in my work with the Trust. I am however, very proud to have been appointed to my role and proud to be associated with the excellent work of the Trust.

**your fondest memory of working at the Trust**

We begin each Board meeting with a presentation involving staff, service users or carers. It's listening to their stories that reminds all of us attending the Board meeting why we are there and why the work we all do is important.

**What do our values of integrity, simplicity and caring mean to you? How do you show these values in the work that you do?**

I'm part of a team of directors engaged in the running of a very complex organisation, seeking to deliver a first-class service within narrow financial constraints. All of the directors must have the integrity to devote the time and attention to understand the organisation. They must have the ability to simplify what they see to find the key issues requiring attention and they must constantly remind themselves that at the core of their role is the promotion of excellent care and support to the many service users in our care.

**What message would you give to inspire the future NHS workforce in your area of work or in general?**

I would simply ask people to look around and see the difference which this Trust, and many others like it, makes to the lives of its service users.

**How has the NHS made a difference to you/how have you seen the NHS help people?**

The NHS saved my life as a child and has continued to support me and my family in too many ways to mention.