



Sheffield
Hospitals
Charity



Sheffield Hospitals Charity Chair Candidate Information Pack April 2026

Welcome from our Chief Executive



Thank you for taking an interest in joining us at this exciting time.

It is a privilege and a joy to lead Sheffield Hospitals Charity.

In the first two years of our 2024–27 strategy, we strengthened our foundations, sharpened our focus, and significantly increased our impact. Most notably, we have doubled our grant-giving expenditure to £4.2 million in 2025/26, enabling us to support more life-changing and life-saving work across Sheffield’s NHS than ever before.

This progress has taken place during a period of considerable socio-economic upheaval, alongside continued pressures and changes within the NHS. Against this backdrop, the role of Sheffield Hospitals Charity - as the official charity partner to Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS FT and Sheffield Health Partnership University NHS FT - is more important than ever.

We have stepped up our collaborative work, recognising that we achieve more when we partner with others. This year, we are investing in projects delivered by service-delivery charities of all sizes. We are funding the British Red Cross to deliver a High Intensity Use service, supporting people who frequently attend A&E to address the wider challenges affecting their health. At the other end of the voluntary sector spectrum, we have funded two peer support workers at MAAN, helping improve access to mental health support within Sheffield’s Somali community. These partnerships reflect our commitment to equity and our belief that the best support comes from those closest to the communities they serve.

Internally, we have been evolving too. We moved into the newly renovated Leah’s Yard, positioning us proudly in the Heart of the City. We have refreshed our HR policies, enhanced employee benefits, and welcomed four new Trustees - each bringing valuable expertise, passion and commitment to our strategic ambitions.

There have been standout moments that brought our work to life publicly as well. Our award-winning immersive strategy-launch event transformed Trafalgar Warehouse into a living impact report, later exhibited at the Millennium Gallery. Our Cathedral at Christmas events have featured unforgettable, surprise performances from Tony Christie and The Everly Pregnant Brothers. And last summer, we worked with BBC 5 Live as Naga Munchetty broadcast live from the 83 bus route, highlighting health inequity in Sheffield and enabling discussion about our No Woman Left Behind campaign.

Even in these challenging times, our NHS colleagues continue to inspire me. Their dedication to improving people's lives and their constant willingness to go above and beyond for the people of Sheffield is truly humbling.

We have achieved so much, but only because our city stands behind us. Everyone who has run, walked, climbed, donated, listened, collected, sponsored a friend, or volunteered with us has played a vital role in helping us make our NHS even better.

As our new Chair, you will be joining the charity at a crucial moment: as we begin developing our next strategy. You will have the opportunity to shape our direction and support a strong, committed team in the years ahead.

Together, we can continue to build something exceptional for the people of Sheffield.

Beth Crackles
Chief Executive

Who we are

We provide additional funding to Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Sheffield Health Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust who support people at every stage on life's journey.

From welcoming babies into the world on the Jessop Wing, supporting cancer care at Weston Park, specialist care at the Royal Hallamshire, Charles Clifford and the Northern General, to improving the mental, physical and social wellbeing of people in our communities.

Our support helps to improve the lives of people across Sheffield from patients and their families to our NHS staff who take care of them.

Our vision

Every person cared for and working in our hospitals, community teams, mental health and specialist services is treated with compassion and has access to the best equipment and treatments in the best environments.

Our mission


We help Sheffield's hospitals, community teams, mental health and specialist services to cover the costs that the NHS can't. By funding support for patients and staff, life-changing research and more, we enhance care from birth to the end of life and everything in between.

Our values

» We're the best together

We work collaboratively with our beneficiary Trusts and other organisations to have the greatest impact for the people of Sheffield. We help our supporters and volunteers to give back to the NHS in ways that suit them. We employ talented people and encourage each other to be the best we can be.

» We look to the future

We help build a brighter future for the NHS in Sheffield. When funding, we ask, 'How will this help our Trusts now and in the future?'. As a charity, we aim to be financially and environmentally sustainable. When investing in our charity, we ask, 'Does this help build a sustainable organisation and a happy, productive team?'.


» We go the extra mile

Whether you're a patient, NHS staff, supporter or employee, we strive to make people feel uplifted. Our funding is always above and beyond what the NHS can provide, and we ask, 'How can we fund the best outcomes in this area?'. We go the extra mile for each other, our beneficiaries and our supporters, and ask, 'How can we help?'. As a team, we celebrate our successes and work hard to improve and innovate.



Our strategy

We've worked to understand what really matters in Sheffield, and where our Charity's limited funds can have the most impact.

Our three-year strategy has been developed alongside our NHS colleagues and Charity staff, as well as drawing on conversations in patient forums and listening to our incredible supporters.

The plan is ambitious and rightly so. We're determined to keep making a difference.

[Find out more.](#)

» Our impact

We aim to give at least £2.5 million to support high-impact projects across Sheffield's NHS every single year.

In 2025/26, we gave £4.2 million

This support helps to improve the lives of people across Sheffield and beyond, from patients and their families to the NHS staff who take care of them.

The donations we receive mean we can provide support for things not ordinarily funded by the NHS, from life-changing research, to innovative technology, cutting-edge equipment and more.

Together we can help make Sheffield's hospitals, community teams, mental health and specialist services the best they can be.

[Download our latest impact report.](#)



How we help

We help Sheffield's hospitals, community teams, mental health and specialist services to cover costs their NHS budgets can't. We fund support for patients and staff, life-changing research and more, so that we can enhance care from birth to the end of life and everything in between.

By looking after the staff and services at the centre of patient care, we're making sure they're ready to look after you.

Our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion

Sheffield Hospitals Charity is dedicated to providing an inclusive working environment that encourages diversity and equal opportunities for all. We are committed to supporting a team that is representative of a variety of backgrounds, perspectives and skills.

We will seek to make reasonable adjustments to overcome barriers to employment and appointments to our Board caused by disability and/or neurodiversity, and encourage applications from these candidates. We are deeply committed to inclusive working practices. During the application process, we will:

- Pay for childcare and care costs whilst you are at interviews.
- Pay for your travel costs to the office and back for interviews.
- Provide this document in a Word document format readily available to download.
- Offer a guaranteed first stage interview with Inclusive Boards for disabled candidates who meet the minimum requirements for the role.

If you need any reasonable adjustments or think there is something else we can do to support your candidacy, please contact Inclusive Boards at

shc@inclusiveboards.co.uk.

The role and responsibilities

The Chair plays an important role in the governance of the charity, providing leadership to the Board of Trustees to work together, reach good collective decisions, and manage any conflicts. The responsibilities of our Chair are as follows:

Oversight and governance

- Lead the Board of Trustees to support development of and approve the charity's strategy and corresponding plan.
- Lead the Board to make key strategic decisions in the organisation's best interests and in line with its charitable objects.
- Lead the Board in ensuring there is financial strategy oversight, and the organisation's resources are managed responsibly.
- Ensure the organisation is operating in line with charity law, charity regulation and its own governing document.
- Build an effective, diverse board that can work well together for the good of the organisation.

Working with trustees

- Support trustees with development and annual one-to-one reviews.
- Help the Board work as a team, drawing on specific expertise, lived experience, and diversity of thought across the Board.
- Chair board meetings and work with the CEO and EA to ensure they are well-planned and minuted and that actions are circulated and followed up.
- Ensure trustees are given the information they need to make decisions effectively.
- Support the recruitment of trustees, identifying any skills or knowledge gaps.
- Build a diverse board that functions in an accessible and inclusive way.

The Chair-CEO relationship

- Manage the relationship with the CEO, providing appropriate challenge and support to help them effectively lead the charity.
- Conduct the CEO appraisals and reviews and support their leadership development.
- Lead on CEO recruitment.
- Relate any concerns of the Board to the CEO and Senior Leadership Team.
- Work with the CEO to make sure the Board has all the information required, in a timely manner, to make strategic decisions.

Ambassadorial responsibilities

- The Chair may be required, from time to time, to act as a champion and ambassador for the Charity.

Person specification

Candidates will need to demonstrate that they have the necessary experience and will need to demonstrate the following skills, experience, and attributes.

Essential

- Passion for the National Health Service and an understanding of the role of health charities.
- An ongoing and meaningful connection to Sheffield and good standing within the city.
- Experience as a board member, trustee, non-executive director, or chair.
- Strong comprehension of charity law, regulation, and the roles and responsibilities of a charity chair and trustee.
- Skilled in strategic planning, financial management, risk management, and organisational performance.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to engage, influence, and negotiate with a range of senior stakeholders diverse in sector and profession.
- Capable of building and maintaining relationships in a complex stakeholder environment with competing priorities.
- Robust communication skills, both written and verbal, and the ability to communicate complex information to a range of diverse stakeholders.
- The ability to lead effectively and inclusively during times of transformational change within and beyond an organisation.

Desirable

- Previous chairing experience at the non-executive level.
- Experience in working within the health and social care and/or charity sectors – either as an employee or appointee.
- Experience in charity fundraising, income generation, marketing and communications.
- Understanding of health-related research and innovation and impact assessment skills.
- Well versed in people management, wellbeing and learning and development.

Additional information

Time commitment

The Board meets five times per year, plus an annual strategy away day. The Chair is also encouraged to engage in charity activities and events such as staff team away days and fundraising events. The time commitment for the role is estimated to be one day per month.

Conflict of interest

All candidates will be asked to disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest. These will be discussed on a case by case basis to establish whether and what action is needed to avoid a conflict or the perception of a conflict.

Location

Board meetings are held in person at Sheffield Hospitals Charity, Office SE6, Leah's Yard, 20 Cambridge Street, Sheffield, S1 4HP. Board members occasionally join online.

Remuneration

This role is unremunerated. Travel expenses as well as other out of pocket expenses directly incurred as part of official business will be reimbursed.

Sheffield Hospitals Charity is a registered charity (1169762).

[Find out more about us on our website.](#)



How to apply

The recruitment process is being undertaken by Inclusive Boards on behalf of Sheffield Hospitals Charity. If you wish to apply, please supply the following by **11:59pm on 10/05/2026**:

- A detailed CV setting out your career history including responsibilities and achievements.
- A cover letter (maximum two sides of A4) highlighting your suitability for the role and how you meet the person specification. Please note, your cover letter is an important part of your application and will be assessed.
- Details of two professional referees together with a brief statement of their relationship to you and over what period of time they have known you. Referees will not be contacted without your prior consent.

Please consider filling out [our diversity monitoring form](#). The information provided to us is confidential, stored securely and separately from your application, and is only used to ensure we are meeting our obligations for equal opportunities under the Equality Act 2010.

To apply, visit our website to submit your application online or send your CV and cover letter to shc@inclusiveboards.co.uk.

