The Trust has received its strongest ever endorsement as a great place to work by staff, as shown in the national NHS Staff Survey, published in February.

Findings from the survey, in which all staff were asked a series of work-related questions, placed Poole Hospital in the top 20 per cent of all Trusts nationally in almost half of the 32 question areas.

Judy Saunders, director of human resources and organisational development said: “This is the first time that we have surveyed all our staff rather than just a sample, and we are absolutely delighted with the feedback about the Trust in this year’s survey.”

“Changes made include the introduction of a new leadership development programme, a greater emphasis on staff engagement, more frequent team meetings, improving support and training to staff who reported experiencing harassment or violence, departments developing new ways to communicate with their staff, and questionnaires that give staff a chance to air their views on a regular basis.”

The report also highlighted a number of areas that could be improved, including staff working extra hours and witnessing potentially harmful errors.

“Our performance this year is excellent, but we are not complacent,” said Judy. “We will work hard to continue to improve our performance in those areas that have been identified in the report as less satisfactory.”
Recently I had the great honour to present our Long Service Awards. The thirty-four members of staff recognised had completed 25 or 40 years of continuous service and represented services including nursing, personal assistants and secretaries, catering, porters, radiographers, radiotherapists, theatre staff and orthopaedic specialists. This was a great opportunity to celebrate the motivation, dedication and commitment of our wonderful staff. They shared with us their experiences of working at Poole Hospital and also provided some photographs of when they were much younger. It was a very special event which epitomised the spirit of Poole Hospital.

Many patients and members of the public provided feedback and information to the CQC and this is very much appreciated. We are looking forward to learning from the CQC about how we can continue to improve our services for patients.

Looking ahead, by the time of the next issue we will have had our 2016 Staff Awards Evening. This is a great opportunity to recognise those staff members, volunteers and fundraisers who go the extra mile for Poole Hospital. The event takes place on the 27th April and I’m sure it will be a great celebration of the amazing contribution of wonderful people.

Finally, I'd like to welcome John Payne and Frances Rye as clinical staff Governors who join the Council on 1 April. These are very important roles in ensuring that staff are fully represented on the Council of Governors. Thank you very much for your continuing support.

Angela Schofield,
Chairman of Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

A personal message from Angela Schofield, Chairman of Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

As many members will know the Care and Quality Commission (CQC) have recently inspected the hospital. We will not know the outcome for some weeks but they were very appreciative of the welcome and co-operation they received. They felt that “The Poole Approach, friendly, professional, person-centred care with dignity and respect for all” was evident and well understood.

Council of Governors’ Meeting, 14 January 2016

At the last meeting of the Council the agenda included reports on progress of the Quality Report topics from this year and approval of the topics for the Quality Report for 2016/17.

The Council also reviewed the external audit plan for 2016/17 and the policy for use of auditors for other work if required.

To read the full agenda and supporting papers please go to our website: www.poole.nhs.uk

Board of Directors’, Council of Governors’ and Hospital Executive Group away day – December 2015

A successful joint development day was held on the 16 December. The topics on the agenda for the day included: The Trust's strategy and position in relation to the Dorset Clinical Services Review and the Vanguard Programme, the outcomes of the recent values consultation and an informative presentation from Clinical Director, Dr George McInnes on Radiology services. The session also included a presentation from DACBeachcroft, in relation to holding to account in the context of the well led review.

Training and development is an integral part of making sure your elected Governors keep pace with current healthcare thinking, initiatives and policies.
The next public elections will commence in the summer of 2016 where we will lose our long standing Governors as they will have reached their maximum term of office.

If you would be interested in standing in future elections or talking about the hospital to one of the Governors please contact the membership office on 01202 448723 or e-mail us members.contact@poole.nhs.uk
### Diary dates 2016

| MAR       | 30 March | Board of directors’ meeting  
|           | 10.15am, boardrooms of Poole Hospital |
| APR       | 21 April | Members’ Event  
|           | 1.30pm-4pm, Wareham Parish Hall, The Quay |
| APR       | 28 April | Clinical presentation (Dermatology)  
|           | 2pm, boardrooms of Poole Hospital |
| APR       | 28 April | Council of Governors’ meeting  
|           | 4.30pm, boardrooms of Poole Hospital |

You are welcome to observe the public meetings of the council of Governors or the board of directors. Please refer to our website for confirmed timings, agendas and supporting papers: poole.nhs.uk

To book your place for the April events please contact the membership office on 01202 448723 or email members.contact@poole.nhs.uk

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### Building the Best

**end of life care**

Poole Hospital has been named as one of only **10 in the country** to take part in a new programme to improve palliative care across the UK. The ‘Building on the best’ programme will support improvements in quality and experience of palliative and end of life care across the UK.

The programme is funded by Macmillan Cancer Support and is supported by a partnership between the National Council for Palliative Care (NCPC), Macmillan Cancer Support, NHS England and the NHS Trust Development Authority in England.

Saskie Dorman, consultant in palliative medicine at Forest Holme Hospice, part of Poole Hospital, said: “Building on the Best will allow end-of-life care throughout the hospital to be more responsive to the needs of patients and their families. The palliative care that people receive at Poole Hospital is highly regarded, and we have been at the forefront of developments in this field in recent years.”

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### Innovative altitude research

Cardiologists at Poole Hospital recently implanted hairpin-sized heart monitors into 16 members of the armed forces who will be taking part in a **1-2 month mountain climb** of the **6920m Tukuche peak** in Nepal and **Dhaulagiri at an altitude of 8167m** - the 7th highest mountain in the world.

This expedition is an important adventure training exercise for the military, investigating the potential relationship between increasing and extreme high altitude exposure and the development of cardiac rhythm disturbances, altitude sickness and oxygen levels. The results will be used to assess the health of military personnel deployed to high altitude, as they were in Afghanistan.

Dr Christopher Boos, consultant cardiologist and physician, led the team at Poole Hospital in inserting the climbers with a Medtronic Reveal LINQ™, a wireless cardiac heart monitor which will automatically transmit the electrical patterns of each heartbeat, via a satellite phone, back to the ground in the UK, for real-time analysis – medical research which has never been done before.

Dr Boos said: “This exciting study brings to life the concept that people can be remotely located, yet still able to rely on quick diagnoses through medical technology. A climber’s cardiac system has never before been so thoroughly studied at such extreme altitudes and the research will unlock some of the unexplained mysteries of altitude sickness and counteract the life-threatening symptoms it inflicts.

“Poole Hospital is proud to have been selected to perform this procedure, enabling us to support this valuable medical research. We wish all climbers the best of luck as they embark on this challenging and important expedition and look forward to the outcomes.”

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