



Yorkshire Ambulance Service **NHS**

NHS Trust

*An Aspirant Foundation Trust*

# Looking to the future

Our plans to become an NHS Foundation Trust



Summary consultation document

## Our Services

Yorkshire Ambulance Service provides 24-hour emergency and healthcare services to more than five million people across Yorkshire, including:

- An accident and emergency ambulance service which responds to 999 calls. This includes our communications centre in Wakefield and York where staff arrange the most appropriate response to meet patients' needs, and our ambulance staff who go out to patients and provide immediate clinical care.
- A non-emergency patient transport service which takes patients who are eligible for the service to and from their hospital appointments.
- A private and events service which includes medical cover for football matches, race meetings, concerts, festivals and so on. We also provide ambulance transport for private hospitals, corporations and individuals.
- A GP out-of-hours service which handles calls to some primary care trusts across Yorkshire and beyond.
- Commercial first-aid training services in our local community, approved by the Health and Safety Executive.



## Have Your Say...

We are looking to become an NHS foundation trust next year, which will bring with it several significant benefits.

We have developed plans for how we would like to take the new organisation forward in the future. However, we want to be sure that you have a say in what we are proposing.

Between now and 4 December 2011 we will be inviting everyone across Yorkshire to share their views about our plans, so that you can help shape the way that ambulance services are provided in the future.

We will also be starting to recruit 'members' who will be made up of staff, patients and public across Yorkshire, to help influence our decisions and make sure that they really benefit our local communities.

Have Your Say - visit our website for more information about our future plans and how to become a member: [www.yas.nhs/ourfutureplans](http://www.yas.nhs/ourfutureplans)

### What are foundation trusts?

NHS foundation trusts are membership organisations that are free from central government control. This means that we will have a lot more freedom to shape the way that we provide and develop services for our patients.

If foundation trusts make a profit from providing services they can invest this money back into their organisation. As a foundation trust we would also have more freedom to borrow money to fund projects to benefit our patients.

Like all other NHS organisations, NHS foundation trusts are still inspected each year by the Care Quality Commission to ensure that they are achieving national targets and standards. They are also controlled by an independent regulator called Monitor to ensure that the public's interest is protected.

## Our plans and priorities for the future

We have identified the following plans and priorities as ways in which we can continue to improve our services:

### Proposed public constituencies



### 111 number

People who call 999 sometimes don't need an emergency ambulance, but they don't know how else to get the help that they need. This is why we are planning to support a different option – a 111 number for calls that are less urgent than 999 calls, which would be introduced in 2013.



### Major trauma

Major trauma is a serious or life-threatening physical injury which often happens after an accident. We are committed to working with all our partner NHS organisations to improve the ways that we identify major trauma as quickly as possible, increase our expert emergency clinical response, and make best use of major trauma centres.



### Improving clinical outcomes

Over the next five years we are also going to be looking at how we can improve the lives of our patients who have had a stroke, a cardiac arrest or an ST elevation myocardial infarction, which is a type of heart attack.



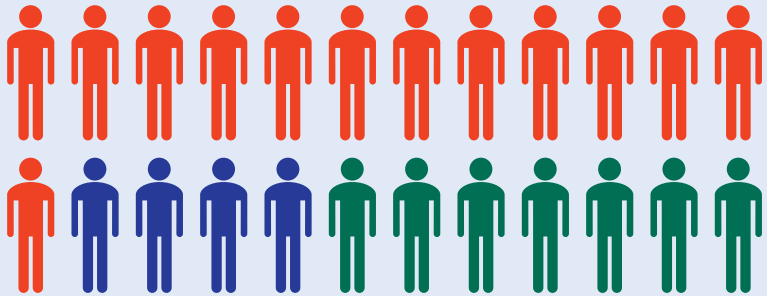
## What will our members do?

Everyone who lives in the Yorkshire area and is over the age of 16 will be able to become a member or governor. Membership is free.

Our members will work with us to represent the views of their local communities or groups, and tell us about their needs. They will be represented by a Council of Governors (most governors will be elected and a few will be appointed) which will work with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service Board of Directors to influence how we develop and provide services in the future.

We understand that some people will want to be more involved than others and our membership scheme will allow you to do this.

### Council of Governors



- **Thirteen public governors**
- **Four staff governors - three front-line/one support staff**
- **Seven appointed governors**

View the full consultation document online at:  
[www.yas.nhs.uk/ourfutureplans](http://www.yas.nhs.uk/ourfutureplans)

## Questions we would like you to consider

**Do you support our plans for the future?** Yes  No

Comments:

**Do you agree with the minimum age of 16 for membership?** Yes  No

Comments:

**Do you agree that the minimum age of governors should be 16?** Yes  No

Comments:

**Do you agree with the proposed public constituencies?** Yes  No

Comments:

**Do you agree with the split between front-line and support staff?** Yes  No

Comments:

**Do you agree with our proposals for how the Council of Governors will be made up?** Yes  No

Comments:

**How do you think we should encourage people to become members and governors?**

Comments:

**Do you have any other comments?** Yes  No

Comments:

# Your chance to become a member

## I would like to become a member of the Trust.

Title:

First name:

Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Date of birth:

/

Email

Home phone:

Mobile:

This information will remain confidential and will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act (1998).

Thank you for applying to become a member of our Trust. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Your signature:

Date:

### Detach this page and return in an envelope (no stamp needed) to:

Foundation Trust Consultation

**FREEPOST XXXXXX**

Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust

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Wakefield, West Yorkshire

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Alternatively, you can register your interest online at:

[www.yas.nhs.uk/ourfutureplans](http://www.yas.nhs.uk/ourfutureplans) and then go to the 'Get Involved' section.

