



Trust shortlisted for three HSJ Patient Safety Awards

Colleagues at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust are celebrating after being shortlisted in three categories for this year's HSJ Patient Safety Awards – a prestigious national recognition of excellence in healthcare.

The HSJ Patient Safety Awards celebrate individuals and teams across 25 categories and highlight those who have gone above and beyond to improve patient safety across health and care.

The three categories the Trust has been shortlisted for are:

Best use of integrated care and partnership working in patient safety

The Trust's partnership with social care teams has improved patient safety within the Urgent and Emergency Care Centre (UECC) by using simulation training. The project focused on making sure everyone works together smoothly, boosting staff confidence and ensuring consistent practices for safeguarding children from abuse and neglect. As a result, colleagues are better equipped to spot and respond to issues. This helps keep vulnerable patients safer.

Top: Virtual Ward

Bottom left: Safeguarding Bottom right: The Community Ready Unit



Harnessing a human factors approach to improve patient safety

The Community Ready Unit has improved patient discharge by prioritising safety and dignity through a person-centred approach. By refining processes, the language used and improving environments based on patient feedback, The Community Ready Unit has reduced discharge risks and enhanced patient flow through the hospital and back into the community.

Virtual or remote care initiative of the year

The Trust's Virtual Ward provides hospital-level care at home, helping to prevent hospital admissions and allowing patients more independence. The team combine daily visits with experienced clinical oversight to manage complex health needs safely, reducing unnecessary hospital stays. This approach not only improves the patient experience but helps prevent deterioration and also saves valuable hospital space and services.

Helen Dobson, Chief Nurse at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, shares her excitement about the shortlisting announcement: "It's incredible to be shortlisted and recognised for the work our teams do to ensure the safety of patients under our care. It is truly an honour to see our teams receive recognition for their efforts in providing person-centred care to our community."

FOR HEALTHCARE LEADERS

HSJ

The next phase of the awards process will involve in-person presentations by our teams to a panel of judges before the main awards ceremony takes place on 15 September.

Inside this issue

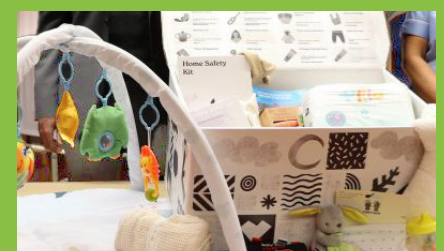
Celebrating colleagues at the Trust's Proud Awards
pages 3



Talking about dying and organ donation page 7



Hospital and Community Charity page 8



Welcome from our Chief Executive



It has continued to be a busy few months with increased demand for our services. While this typically reduces in the summer, our preparations for next winter are already underway. We look at the steps we have taken previously and what impact these had to help inform our plans for the winter months.

In the next few weeks, we will see the building works in the former fracture clinic end, with the new area providing us with increased capacity for the Urgent and Emergency Care Centre (UECC) and a stronger offer for Same

Day Emergency Care (SDEC). This will help us to reduce wait times and help ensure patients are seen at the right time by the right healthcare professional for their needs. The SDEC unit will allow more patients to be treated without full admission to hospital.

The investment in our services won't end there though as our £7 million scheme continues with a new sexual health clinic opening in the next few months, followed by a brand new fracture clinic with dedicated X-ray facility opening in the winter. This scheme of building works has taken a lot of coordination due to the number and complexity of the moves

needed to free up space in the hospital. I'd like to thank all the teams involved in enabling the works to take place with minimal impact on the day-to-day running of the hospital and patient care.

We currently have a project in progress with Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust which will see investment in a joint inpatient facility, based in Rotherham Hospital, for haematology patients from both towns. We will keep you informed of progress on this over the coming months.

Dr Richard Jenkins
Chief Executive

A message from our Chair



When I started my role in Rotherham, I was struck by the sheer amount of determination and ambition our teams have to constantly improve the services we provide to the people of Rotherham. Over the past 18 months, I have had the privilege of meeting a number of our teams and hearing their plans for future developments and improvements, and I'm pleased to see a number of these come to fruition.

The hard work and dedication is also being recognised on a national level with teams recently shortlisted for a number of awards. These include two shortlistings for the HSJ

Digital Awards and three for the HSJ Patient Safety Awards. It is a fantastic achievement to get this far given the strong competition from other NHS organisations, and we wish our teams the very best of luck for the next round of judging.

Last Friday, I had the opportunity to attend our annual Proud Awards which recognise teams and individuals across our hospital and community services. This year we received more than 520 nominations in total, with over 100 from members of the public. It was inspiring to see and hear the impact our colleagues have on each other, our patients and their loved ones. The awards provide an

important reminder about why we do what we do for the local population. You can find out more about our winners in the following pages.

As I mentioned in the previous edition of Your Health, there have been a number of announcements about the NHS in recent months. We are yet to fully understand the impact these changes may have locally, but we will continue to prioritise the quality of patient care we provide and ensuring we are providing sustainable and cost-effective services for Rotherham.

Dr Mike Richmond
Chairman





Celebrating the achievements of our colleagues at the 2025 Proud Awards

Colleagues from teams and departments from Rotherham Hospital and the Trust's services across Rotherham gathered at Magna on Friday 20 June for the annual Proud Awards, with 530 people in attendance.





Making Rotherham Proud!

The Proud Awards, hosted by Hits Radio presenter Stephanie Hirst, provide the opportunity to hear about the fantastic work taking place every single day, and recognise the dedicated NHS staff who help deliver patient care and NHS services, whether they're in a patient-facing role or behind the scenes.

This year, more than 520 nominations were received, including over 100 from members of the public. Each nomination demonstrated the impact a person or team has had on patients, families and colleagues.

Long service awards

This year's event saw a number of colleagues recognised for reaching 40, 50 or even 60 years of service for the NHS. The Trust's Chair, Dr Mike Richmond, and Chief Executive, Dr Richard Jenkins, presented long service badges, certificates and thank you cards, along with passing on their congratulations on behalf of the Board of Directors.

40 years of service:

Debra Allport
Alison Carr
Jacqueline Firth
Wendy Griffith
Tania Keeton
Daksha Patel
Kathryn Parke
Joanne Toon
Joanne Yeardley



50 years of service:

Joan Beighton



60 years of service:

Dr Bijoy Mondal



Excellence Awards

sponsored by Bridger Carr Architects

Excellence Award – Individual

Fiona Hendry, Consultant for Palliative Care

Awarded in recognition of the palliative care provided to a complex respiratory patient.

Excellence Award – Team

Health Informatics

Awarded in recognition of the successful implementation of a new Same Day Emergency Care data set in September 2024, making the Trust one of the first in the country to do so.

Excellence Award – Public

Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit

Awarded following a letter from a patient's relative expressing their gratitude about the end of life care given to their father.

Volunteer of the Year

Pat Wiles, Charity Volunteer

Awarded in recognition of the work done to support Rotherham Hospital and Community Charity.

Learner of the Year

Ayan Muhammad, Cancer Services
Shannon Allonby-Wright, Children's Ward

Awarded in recognition of their achievements in learning and how they have put their learning into practice in the workplace.

Diversity and Inclusion

Infant Feeding Team

Awarded to recognise the steps the team took to set up the Ferham infant feeding group to support mothers from the Muslim community.

*Thank!
You!*

to our sponsors

We would like to thank the kindness and generosity of our 2025 Proud Award sponsors. Their contributions helped to make the evening extra special for our colleagues.





Unsung Hero

Caroline Saunders, Mammographer, Breast Imaging

Awarded in recognition of her efforts to comfort a recently bereaved woman

Danny Hallatt, Project Manager, Estates Capital Projects

Awarded in recognition of the work he has done with teams to facilitate estates work from small scale moves to large refurbishments.

Non-Clinical Team of the Year

Respiratory Physiology and Medical Physics administration team

Awarded in recognition of the work they have done to reduce the number of patients not attending appointments.

Quality Improvement Award

Infection Prevention and Control team and Fitzwilliam Ward

Awarded in recognition of the 'Gloves Off' campaign, reducing unnecessary use of single use surgical gloves.

Inspiring Leader Award

Annmarie Grogan, Clinical Lead for Children's Virtual Ward

Awarded in recognition of the impact she, and her style of leadership, have on her team.

Clinical Team of the Year

Acute Response Team

Awarded in recognition of their successful implementation of Call4Concern (Martha's Rule).

Partnership Award

Trusted Assessors, Care Homes Team

Awarded in recognition of work between the hospital and care homes to help enable more appropriate, person-centred and timely discharge from hospital.

Public Recognition Award

Claire Christopherson, Midwife

Awarded following a heartfelt nomination from a young first-time mum who spoke about how Claire could ease all her worries, she could trust and confide in Claire.

Governor's Award for living the Values

Danny Hallatt, Project Manager, Estates Capital Projects

Awarded for his embodiment of the Trust's values of Ambitious, Caring and Together in everything he does.

Chief Executive's Award

Home Chemotherapy Service

Awarded in recognition of the great strides the relatively new service has made, providing vital services to some of our most vulnerable patients in the comfort of their own homes.

Chairman's Award

Pulmonary Rehabilitation Team

Awarded in recognition of the valuable work the team do with respiratory patients and the impact they have on improving lives.



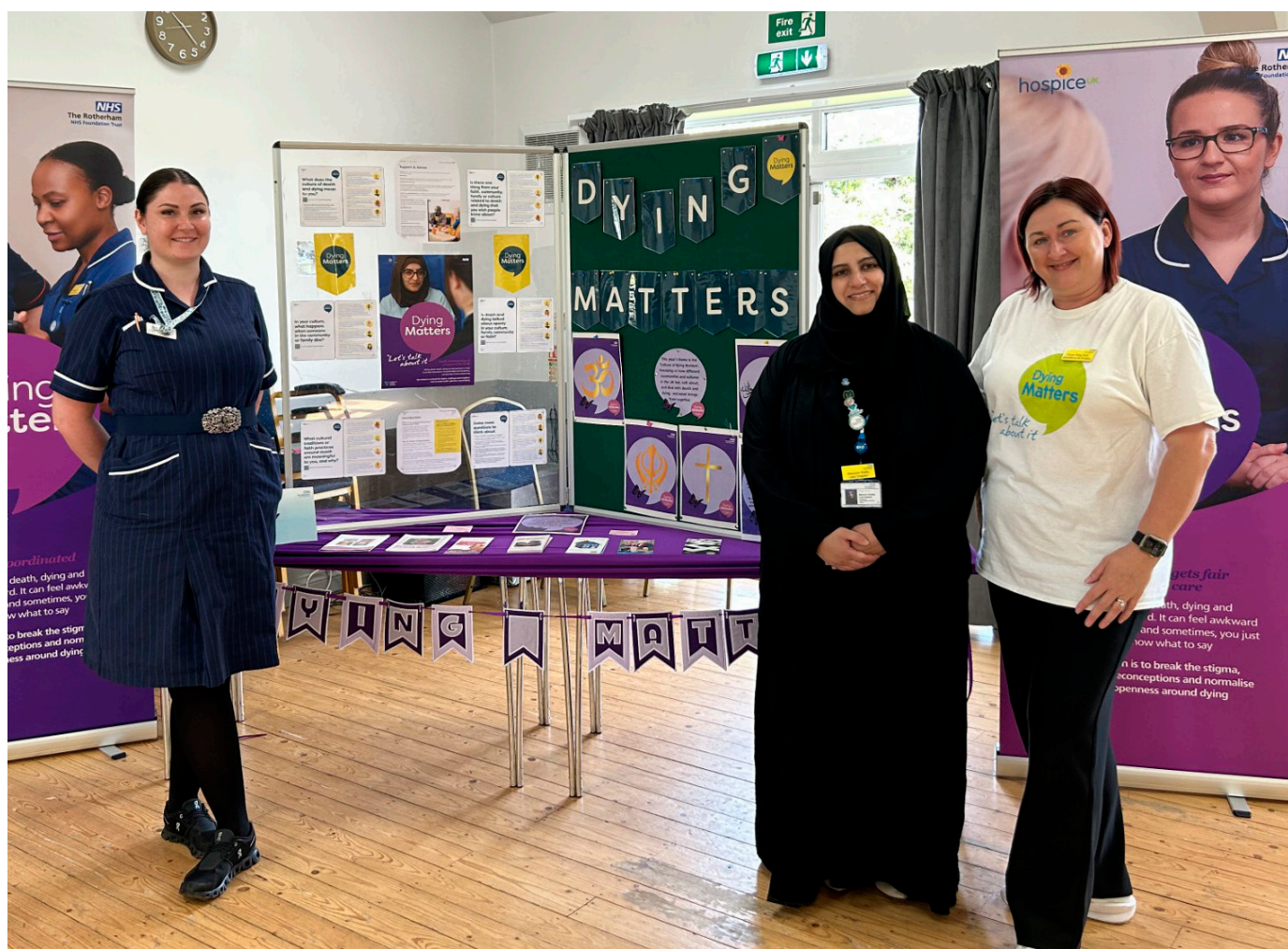
Talking about death is never easy. But making sure your final wishes are understood and having conversations about dying with dignity and respect is one of the most important things you can do for your family.

That is why we have partnered with faith leaders across Rotherham to have vital conversations with dignity and respect. Recently, members from our nursing, palliative care and chaplaincy teams met with representatives from Rotherham's Muslim community to listen and learn about their specific needs. This led to open and honest discussions about death, as well as organ and tissue donation.

Chief Nurse, Helen Dobson, praised the effort. She said: "Our mission as healthcare providers is to provide compassionate care to every patient. I am incredibly proud of our teams for actively building trust within the community. Understanding the unique needs of the people we serve is vital."

The Trust's lead chaplain, Maysoon Shafiq, highlighted the spiritual dimension of this collaboration. She explained:

"Our role is to walk alongside people of all faiths and none. This partnership with the Muslim community demonstrates how listening to each other allows us to provide care that respects not just the physical, but the spiritual and cultural needs. Honouring a patient's beliefs at the end of their life is a core aspect of our duty."



As part of this initiative, Trust representatives visited a local mosque to speak directly with women from the Muslim community. Lead Nurse for Palliative Care and Chaplaincy, Karen Shay-Nutt, reflected on the experience: "Being welcomed and engaging in open discussions with the sisters about their fears and concerns was invaluable," she said.

Why these conversations save lives

These conversations are about more than providing comfort; they have the potential to save lives. Figures from NHS Blood and Transplant on family consent or authorisation paint a picture.

Overall, consent rates were 40% for ethnic minority donors in 2024, compared with 71% for white potential donors. This means that people from Asian and Black backgrounds may have to wait longer for a matching organ if they need a life-saving transplant.

This delay often stems from uncertainty about what faith teaches about organ and tissue donation. It is a critical issue that can be addressed. Did you know that most major religions, including Islam, support organ donation as a compassionate act? By encouraging open, respectful dialogue, myths can be busted and communities can be empowered with factual information.

Talking about dying and organ donation with the local community

How you can help

Everyone has the capacity to make a difference. We are encouraging people across Rotherham to:

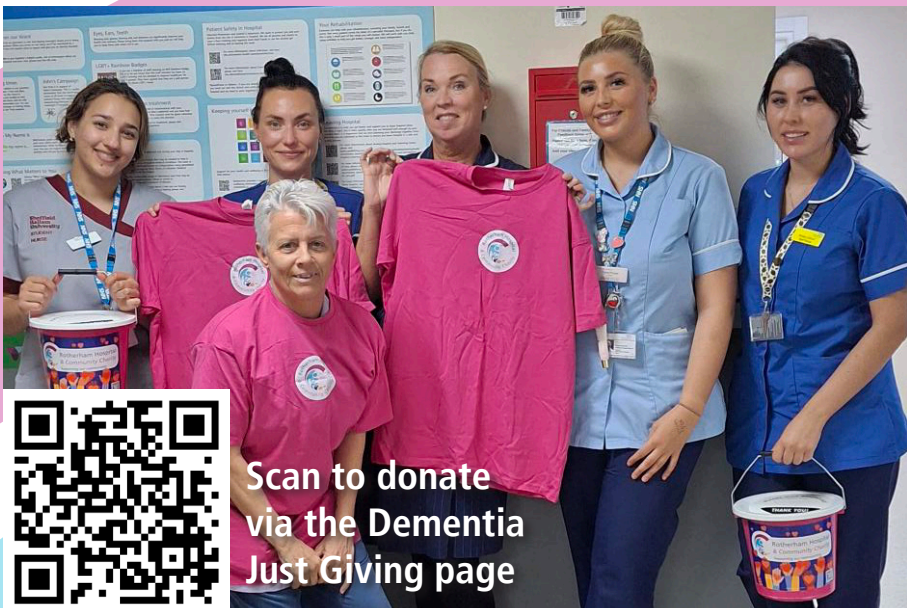
- Talk to your family. Let them know your organ donation wishes. Do not leave them with uncertainty in a time of grief.
- Record your decision. Signing the NHS Organ Donor Register is a clear way to make your choice known.
- Find out more. Visit the official NHS Organ Donation website for clear and factual information.

Your conversation could one day give up to nine people the gift of life. One day you or a loved one may need a donated organ or tissue.

Please visit
www.organdonation.nhs.uk and
register your decision today.



Climbing for a cause - Ward B5 at Rotherham Hospital take on Mam Tor for dementia patients



Scan to donate
via the Dementia
Just Giving page

Supporting three South Yorkshire NHS Charities:



Autumn Memory Walk

Sunday 19 October 2025

At Manvers Lake, Rotherham

Early bird tickets £12
Including t-shirt, medal and sponsorship pack

Together we walk in love and remembrance.

This Autumn, we invite you to come together with friends, family and our community for a special Memory Walk, organised by three local hospital charities.

Join us to share memories, come together and celebrate those special to us who we will never forget.




To book early bird sign up, please contact the Rotherham Hospital and Community Charity team:

Registered charity numbers: 1054407, 1058037, 1057917

E: trft.rhcc@nhs.net
P: 01709 426821



When it comes to going the extra mile for patients, Kerry Smith and her team from Ward B5 at Rotherham hospital are literally heading for the hills—twice!



Kerry, the dedicated Ward Manager on Ward B5, is rallying over 20 amazing colleagues for two epic hikes up the iconic Mam Tor on 29 June and 6 July, all to raise vital funds for the Rotherham Dementia Appeal.

Kerry said: "Dementia affects more than just memory—it affects families, relationships and independence. We see those challenges every day, and we want to do our bit to make a difference."

Ward B5 provides care to many elderly patients, a significant number of whom are living with dementia. The funds raised from this double summit will go directly towards transforming multiple hospital wards at Rotherham Hospital into warm, welcoming dementia-friendly spaces. The charity appeal aims to raise £250,000 to fund:

- A dementia-style café, games area and a garden inspired potting shed space
- Quiet rooms for calm and therapeutic activities
- Replacement of lighting and flooring to reduce confusion and promote safety
- Rest areas for loved ones and reclining chairs for carers to stay close to their loved ones in hospital
- Dementia-friendly clocks and bays that reduce confusion
- RITA systems (Reminiscence Interactive Therapy Activities) — using music, films and games to spark joy, memory and connection.

Rotherham Hospital and Community charity are here to make sure that the care you and your loved ones receive is the best it can be.

**However big or small,
every penny counts.**

Thank!
You!

- ✉ trft.charity@nhs.net
- Facebook [RotherhamHospitalCommunityCharity](https://www.facebook.com/RotherhamHospitalCommunityCharity)
- Instagram [rhcc_charity](https://www.instagram.com/rhcc_charity)
- X [@RHCC_Charity](https://twitter.com/RHCC_Charity)
- LinkedIn [The Rotherham Hospital and Community Charity](https://www.linkedin.com/company/The Rotherham Hospital and Community Charity)

DONATION