



June 26th, 2015

New Trust Chief Executive announced

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust has named Steve Williamson as its next Chief Executive. Mr Williamson, currently Chief Operating Officer at the Trust, will succeed Lorraine Lambert when she retires in September after a long and dedicated NHS career spanning 36 years. Trust Chairman Peter Davidson said: "We had a very strong field and we are delighted to have found a truly excellent candidate in Steve. Not only does he already have considerable NHS experience at Chief Operating Officer level, he has also worked as part of our team for the past year and is very familiar with our culture and way of working. I am confident he will embrace this and drive forward with real enthusiasm as he leads the organisation through its next challenging phase of development.

"I know that, when he takes up the reins, he will benefit from and build upon Lorraine's impressive legacy, which has left the Trust in a strong position to deliver an exciting strategic agenda of integrated health and social care development."

Mr Williamson said: "With its already outstanding record of achievement, I am thrilled and honoured to have been given this opportunity to lead the Trust going forward and I feel confident that, together with our fantastic, caring staff and our commitment to partnership working, we can make a real impact on improving the health of our local population and achieve our vision of becoming the premier combined hospital, community and wellbeing provider in the North East by 2020.

"We have a great team and real ambition for the future and I am really looking forward to the challenge."

Mr Williamson, who was brought up in Ashington, joined the Trust in 2014 from University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, where he was Divisional Director for Trauma and Specialist Services. At Southampton, he led the creation of the Wessex Major Trauma Centre and the integration and improvement of stroke services across South East Hampshire and directed significant local and specialist health services across the Wessex region, serving a population of three million. Previously, he was Associate Chief Operating Officer at Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust, ran the regional Wessex Renal and Transplant Service, worked in local government at Associate Director level and also led the creation of a new government organisation, Her Majesty's Courts Service, in Hampshire and Isle of Wight.



Mrs Lambert added: "I wish Steve all the very best in his new role. I have no doubt he will do a fantastic job and that he will forge ahead with our programme to transform services, whilst ensuring the people we serve have access to local services now and in the future. I will be sad to leave all the wonderful staff who have given me such tremendous support in my 18 years as Chief Executive at South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust and I know they will give him the same level of commitment and loyalty they have always given to me. It has been my privilege and my pleasure to work with such caring people and I am humbled every day by the commitment they show to our patients."

ends

Pictured above: Steve Williamson

Issued on behalf of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust by Kay Jordan

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