

8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Trust appoints new board members**

The Dudley Group is delighted to announce the appointment of new non-executive directors to its board. The new members bring with them significant clinical and non-clinical expertise.

Trust chairperson Dame Yve Buckland welcomed the new appointees.

“The new appointments add strength and resilience to the Trust board to support our commitment to safe patient care and operational effectiveness,” said chair Dame Yve Buckland.

“It is a great opportunity to be able to expand the range of skills and knowledge around our board. The highly qualified and diverse executive and non-executive members will add fresh perspective and expertise to drive the Trust forward.”

Joining as non-executive director is Liz Hughes, a consultant with more than 30 years' experience. She is deputy medical director for Health Education England and a consultant in chemical pathology and metabolic medicine at Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust since April 1990. She was the winner of the 'Improving safety in medicines management' category in the Patient Safety Awards 2013. Liz has held a number of national roles including chair of Academic Careers and Research Evidence.

The Trust also welcomes two associate non-executive directors: Vij Randeniya and Lowell Williams.

Vij Randeniya is deputy chairman of Birmingham Women and Children's NHS Foundation Trust and sits on the governing body of Aston University. He is also a trustee of the Royal Society for Public Health and former chief fire officer for West Midlands Fire Service. He has significant experience of large-scale project management, leadership and change management. Vij was awarded the OBE in 2016.

Lowell Williams has been the chief executive officer of Dudley College of Technology since 2008 and led the college to an OFSTED Outstanding rating in the 2017 inspection. In January 2018, he was named as one of seven appointments the government's advisory group, the National Leaders of Further Education. Lowell led the creation of Dudley's Academies Trust.

July 2019 saw the appointments of two non-executive directors, Ian James and Gary Crowe. Latterly in his career, Ian has worked for Birmingham City Council where he

led work to devolve services to the city's 11 constituencies as well as service improvement programmes for neighbourhood advice and benefits services and homelessness services. He has also worked in Staffordshire where he established and became director of the joint commissioning Unit before becoming director of communities and adult social care for Solihull Council between 2012 and 2016. Since 2016, he has worked for the Local Government Association as a care and health improvement adviser specialising in health and care leadership.

Gary Crowe is a university professor of innovation leadership who has previously held senior commercial positions in strategy, business transformation, and risk and financial management. He holds a number of external board appointments, and has served as an independent non-executive director with another NHS Trust since 2015. He is a qualified Chartered Banker and fellow of a number of professional organisations and learned societies.

**\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\***

**Below is Vij Randeniya – associate non-executive director**



**Below is Lowell Williams – associate non-executive director**



**Below is Ian James – non-executive director**



**Below is Gary Crowe – non-executive director**



**\*\*\* ENDS \*\*\***