

Update from Alison Jones, GP Engagement

The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust and Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust announce Maternity Improvement Partnership

The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust and Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust announced in a joint press release on 11 February that they will be formally working together as Maternity Improvement Partners.

The relationship between the two Trusts began in January 2021, with the formal agreement beginning this month. The Improvement Partnership is organised through a formal Management Agreement and will initially last for 12 to 18 months, focusing on the following:

- ◆ Maternity leadership development
- ◆ Quality of evidence and reporting
- ◆ Clinical governance approaches
- ◆ Working practice
- ◆ Culture
- ◆ Patient experience.

SaTH has a pre-existing alliance agreement with University Hospitals of Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust and the Maternity Improvement Partnership is designed to work in conjunction with this alliance.

Maternity services at Sherwood Forest Hospitals are rated “Good” Overall and “Outstanding” for Caring by the CQC, and King’s Mill Hospital, where maternity services are based, is rated “Outstanding.” Julie Hogg, the Sherwood Chief Nurse, is a midwife by background, and Sherwood Forest Hospitals has experienced a significant and sustained improvement journey of its own, driven by a supportive and inclusive culture.

Julie Hogg, Chief Nurse at Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS FT, said: **“We are delighted to be working with SaTH and know that women, babies and their families across both our organisations will benefit from this.”**

Louise Barnett, CEO at SATH, said: **“We look forward to working with our colleagues at Sherwood Forest Hospitals in this Maternity Improvement Partnership.”**

Richard Mitchell, CEO at Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS FT, said: **“We were pleased to be asked to work with SaTH. Working together is a great opportunity to reflect on our own progress at Sherwood and to learn from another organisation.”**

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Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Services lead appointed to national board role

The Head of Fertility Services at the Trust has been appointed by the Government to the board of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), the body that governs and regulates fertility treatment and research using human embryos.

As a member of the HFEA, Professor Jason Kasraie, Consultant Embryologist and Head of Fertility Services at SaTH, which runs the Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre, will play a vital role in helping to shape the future of fertility treatment, regulation and embryo research in the UK.

As part of his role, Jason will also sit on the Scientific and Clinical Advances Advisory Committee, which considers advances in science and clinical practice that are relevant to the Authority's work.

A world-class expert organisation in the fertility sector, the HFEA was the first statutory body of its type in the world.

Jason (*pictured right*), said **“It is a real honour to have been appointed as a member of the board of the HFEA. I’m really looking forward to working with colleagues on the board to help shape the future of assisted conception treatment and embryo and gamete research regulation.**

“The position should be synergistic with my role as HFEA ‘Person Responsible’ for the service and help the team at SaTH to further strengthen regulatory compliance in assisted conception.”

Louise Barnett, Chief Executive at SaTH, said **“On behalf of the Trust I would like to congratulate Jason on his appointment to the board of the HFEA. We are very proud of Jason’s achievement which will add great value to his role leading the Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre.”**

The Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre is an NHS Assisted Conception Centre delivering the latest assisted conception methods and technology to both NHS and private patients. The centre moved to its state-of-the-art facility at Severn Fields Health Village in Shrewsbury in 2018, which was designed by its multi-professional fertility team to provide scope for more advanced fertility treatments, such as pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, to be offered in the future.



To read more about the Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre please click [here](#)