# Press Release | 1 August 2025

**Celebrating progress and partnerships at The QEH's Annual Members Meeting**

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**Major milestones, progress and ambitions for the future were all showcased as The Queen Elizabeth Hospital reflected on a busy year as part of its Annual Members’ Meeting.**

The hybrid event on 30 July – the first major public event at the hospital since the launch of the Norfolk and Waveney University Hospitals Group - saw around 80 attendees hear from a range of keynote speakers.A group of people in a room watching a presentation

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Before the meeting got underway members of the public, staff, governors, and stakeholders were offered the chance to explore key services and innovations, including:

* Informative displays and engaging conversations with teams from the Electronic Patient Record (EPR) programme, QEHKL Charity, Research, Culture and Engagement, and more
* Tours of the new Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) – providing faster access to diagnostic tests with state-of-the-art imaging equipment – and the beautiful Stroke Rehabilitation Garden – funded by the [QEHKL Charity](https://qehklcharity.co.uk/) and designed to support the physical and psychological recovery of stroke patients

A group of people standing in a room

AI-generated content may be incorrect.During the formal meeting visitors enjoyed presentations from Trust leaders on key milestones over the past year, including the Trust’s financial performance, the growing demand on emergency services, and the hospital’s new Teaching Hospital status, awarded earlier this year.

Interim Group Chair, Mark Friend, opened the event by emphasising the importance of showcasing the Trust’s passion for patient care and maintaining high standards through a period of national transition in the NHS.

Attendees heard from Emma Clark, Consultant Nurse, on the success of the Peddars Way end-of-life unit, a calm and compassionate space made possible through the generous support of a legacy donation. Paula Fuller, Complex Discharge Matron, outlined how new accelerated discharge pathways are helping more patients leave hospital safely and quickly – improving recovery and freeing up beds for others in need.

In addition, Helen Muncey, Head of Education, also discussed the recent announcement of the hospital achieving Teaching Hospital status, and highlighted the quality of education provided, strong academic partnerships, and the importance of research and workforce development at The QEH. Helen also outlined the hospital's future ambitions, including gaining accreditation for simulation training and launching new educational programmes.

Reflecting on the Trust’s year, Professor Lesley Dwyer, Group Chief Executive, said: “We’ve made tremendous strides this year – from improving patient pathways to launching innovative spaces like the CDC and Peddars Way Unit. What’s been especially rewarding is the level of teamwork across our hospitals and our community partners. The formation of the Norfolk and Waveney University Hospitals Group earlier this year marks an exciting new era of shared expertise, improved services, and better outcomes for patients across our region.”

Attendees were also brought up to date on the progress of the New QEH Hospital programme, a flagship redevelopment that aims to bring a new, state-of-the-art hospital to King’s Lynn by 2032.

Chris Bown, Interim Executive Managing Director, said: “The New QEH will be one of the most modern hospitals in Europe once built. It’s not just about bricks and mortar – it’s about transforming care for generations to come, with patients, staff and innovation at the heart of the design.”

The meeting concluded with a lively Q&A session, where guests asked thoughtful and wide-ranging questions, particularly about the future hospital build and how services will evolve. Engagement from staff, governors, and the public underscored a strong sense of partnership and pride in the Trust’s progress.

For anyone who missed the meeting, a recording is available to watch back [here](https://youtu.be/b7f-FWUNMIU).

**Ends. Notes to editors;** For media enquiries only, please contact Communications Team, [media.enquiries@qehkl.nhs.uk](mailto:media.enquiries@qehkl.nhs.uk) or 01553 613216. For all other enquiries, please contact QEH Switchboard on 01553 613613.