



NHS Pension Board member biographies

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Introduction

The NHS Pension Board has an equal number of employer and member representatives and is overseen by an independent chair.

Members are appointed after being nominated by NHS trades unions and employer organisations. The independent chair is a ministerial appointment, following the public appointments process.

Non-employer or member representatives such as Department of Health and Social Care officials and Welsh Government representatives attend NHS Pension Board meetings in an observer capacity.

The chair is Helen Miles.

The member representatives are:

- Chelsea Beasdale
- Jim Fahie
- Dean Rogers
- Vishal Sharma
- Richard Munn
- Glyn Jenkins

The employer representatives are:

- Stuart Murdoch
- Paul Thomas
- Emma Skitt
- Michael Smith
- Karen Beckett
- Amanda Bromley

Helen Miles

Helen is a qualified solicitor (England and Wales), who has specialised in pensions legal advice for 30 years. Helen was appointed to the Pensions Board in 2019, as the independent chair. She continues to practice pensions law as a partner in an international

law firm. Helen is also governor at a large West Midlands further education college and at a leading national specialist college for visually impaired students.

She holds a LLB (Hons) from the University of Nottingham and is a member of the Association of Pension Lawyers.

Chelsea Beasdale

Chelsea has 10 years of experience working for the Royal College of Nursing (RCN), where she has dedicated herself to representing and advocating for the rights and interests of healthcare professionals. Currently working as a national officer, Chelsea is responsible for leading the RCN's work on policy development and member representation across several important health and social care employers. She brings substantial knowledge of workforce and employment issues alongside a strongly held commitment to safeguarding the long-term financial security of scheme members.

Jim Fahie

Jim is an assistant director at the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy with an interest in pensions. Jim was appointed to the NHS pension board in late 2024.

Jim's background is one of having been a physiotherapist working predominantly in the NHS, where he was a member of the NHS Pension Scheme before joining the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in 2013. Jim has a BSc (Hons) Physio from Sheffield Polytechnic.

Dean Rogers

Dean is the Executive Director at the Society of Radiographers. He's spent over 25 years in leadership roles across a number of different trade unions across local government, the civil service, education, justice and the culture sectors, before joining the Society of Radiographers (SoR) in December 2019. He joined the NHS Pension Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) in 2022.

Dean is also a member of the TUC General Council and a board member of Unions21. He's previously been a trustee and board member of a sustainability charity and was a school governor for 12 years. He is a chartered member of the CIPD. Outside of work his interests include sport, theatre, history and playing ukulele.

Vish Sharma

Dr Sharma is a consultant cardiologist in Liverpool. He has an extensive background with pensions and in particular the NHS Pension Scheme. He has chaired the BMA Pensions Committee since 2019. During that time, he led the various campaigns highlighting the detrimental impact of pension taxation on the NHS that was resulting in tens of thousands of scheme members having to reduce their working hours or retire early.

Dr Sharma, directly engaged with the Department of Health and Social Care, HM Treasury and the Chancellor to secure significant improvements including the raising of the tapered annual allowance thresholds announced in the March 2020 Budget and the abolition of the lifetime allowance and the raising of the annual allowance announced in the March 2023 Budget.

Dr Sharma continues to highlight issues faced by scheme members and is focused on ensuring that the NHS Pension Scheme continues to deliver significant benefits while reducing the complexity for all stakeholders.

Richard Munn

Richard is a National Officer for Unite covering the Health Sector membership. Richard has been a trade union activist and official for over 25 years and has experience of organising, negotiating and representing members in a wide range of sectors; NHS, civil air transport, aerospace, higher education, local government, utilities and transport. In many of these sectors Richard has been involved in negotiations over pensions. Richard was Unite's lead negotiator in Wales for NHS members for over a decade and led on a number of policy, pay and terms and conditions negotiations in Wales. Richard currently represents Unite on the NHS UK staff council executive.

Richard is a Welsh learner and a passionate advocate for the Welsh language following his relocation to Wales in his 30s.

In his spare time Richard is a volunteer athletics coach.

Stuart Murdoch

Stuart is the Assistant Pension Manager for Capita plc, working as a corporate pension subject matter expert for the past 12 years. An employer representative member of the NHS Pension Board since January 2019. Stuart's role has him regularly discuss New Fair

Deal matters with all public sector pension scheme administrators and managers, exploring the practical application of the guidance in differing scenarios to ensure members continue their valuable access to those schemes. He holds a BA (Hons) from the University of Sheffield.

Paul Thomas

Paul has worked within NHS Wales for over 40 years originally graduating in biomedical sciences. He worked as a senior biomedical scientist for over 25 years before changing career direction to work as a senior manager within the Aneurin Bevan Workforce and Organisational Development team.

Paul was then appointed as Director of Employment Services for the newly formed NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership in 2011 where he managed a team of 320 people providing services such as payroll, pensions, expenses payment, lease cars and recruitment for all NHS Wales health boards. This role requires giving support, advice and guidance on employment services and NHS pension issues to health boards and directly to the Welsh Government.

Emma Skitt

Emma is a project and programme management professional with a keen interest in and detailed knowledge of the NHS Pension Scheme, including employer administration, national policy and implementation of scheme changes. Emma has worked for NHS Employers for over 10 years and has extensive knowledge of the NHS employment offer including total reward and its impact on attraction, motivation and retention of the NHS workforce. Emma has an interest in how psychology plays a role in financial decisions and how to tailor pension communications to support members to make informed financial decisions for their current and future selves.

Michael Smith

Michael is vice-chair of NHS Confederation's primary care network (PCN) and has over 20 years' experience in the NHS. Starting in mental health, Michael has been a primary care commissioner, managed medicine in an acute hospital and worked independently for a number of years managing large scale change, developing sustainable services grown from clinical networks.

As Bolton GP Federation's first chief officer, Michael has worked with the board to develop and establish primary care delivery at scale, rooted in local practices, delivered through PCNs and founded on partnership - with NHS trusts, council teams and, crucially, Bolton's vibrant voluntary sector, for whom he is a trustee of the local infrastructure organisation. Michael sits on the Greater Manchester Primary Care Provider Collaborative Board as Managing Director of the GM Federations Provider Collaborative, in which role he is responsible for integrated care board (ICB) wide primary care education through the GM Training Hub as well as a number of ICB wide clinical and digital services, all developed and delivered through a provider collaborative model.

Karen Beckett

Karen is qualified in payroll and benefits and is Head of Payroll and Benefits for Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust. She was appointed to the NHS Pensions Board as an employer representative in 2024. Karen has experience of nearly 40 years in payroll, pensions and reward in both the private and public sector. Having worked predominantly in the NHS, her expertise is in NHS payroll, pensions, and benefits. Karen has overseen many changes to the NHS pension scheme at trust level including choice exercises, introduction of the 1995, 2008 and 2015 schemes, changes to part time rules, McCloud, partial retirement rules and much more.

She completed the Chartered Institute of Payroll Professionals (CIPP) Certificate in Pensions Administration and has a 2:1 BA (Hons) in applied business and management (CIPP). Karen has been included in the Reward Strategy Reward 300 listing for the last 5 years. She is a fellow member of the CIPPP and also holds individual chartered status.

Amanda Bromley

Amanda is a highly motivated human resources and organisational development professional with extensive operational and strategic experience, which has been obtained from holding senior HR positions in a number of organisations in acute, community and mental health services.

Amanda commenced her career at Tameside Community and Priority Services NHS Trust before moving on to Wroughtington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Tameside Acute NHS Foundation Trust and the University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust. She returned to Tameside Hospital NHS Foundation Trust in June 2013. More recently she has taken on a joint role and is the Director of People and OD for both

Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care Foundation Trust and Stockport NHS Foundation Trust.

Amanda is passionate about putting staff and patients at the heart of everything she does, and she firmly believes that the development of a culture built around engagement, continuous learning, leadership development and shared values enables an organisation to be successful and sustainable.