

NHS Confederation  
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#### **LOCAL AND NATIONAL BACKING GIVEN TO NEW FOUNDATIONS TRUSTS**

The NHS Confederation welcomed the second wave of Foundation Trusts given the green light from the regulator today.

Gill Morgan, Chief Executive of the NHS Confederation, said: "The new wave of Foundation Trusts establishes them at the heart of the new NHS. Foundation status demonstrates that these trusts have successfully passed a rigorous approval process and achieved real local engagement and national backing.

With ambitious plans for making healthcare more responsive and tailored to local needs, Foundation Trusts are part of the new era of patient and public involvement.

Foundation Trusts have already begun to take advantage of the new freedoms that foundation status offers, responding more swiftly to local need."

Bruce Finnamore, Interim Director of the Confederation's new Foundation Trust Network added: "We look forward to working with the new Foundation Trusts to develop the role of Foundation Trusts within the NHS.

The Network will ensure Foundation Trusts have a mechanism to share learning and have a cohesive voice. The coming months will see the Network supporting Foundation Trusts to develop relationships with Ministers, the regulator, the DH, and with other NHS players.

We hope that those Trusts not given the green light today will have an early chance to reapply. The Network will provide support for this and a resource to share learning from those Trusts that have been approved in April and today."

#### **Notes for editors**

1. The NHS Confederation represents the organisations that make up the NHS. Our ordinary members include the majority of NHS trusts, primary care trusts and strategic health authorities in England; trusts and local health boards in Wales; trusts and NHS boards in Scotland; and health and social service trusts and boards in Northern Ireland.

2. In June 2004, the Confederation launched its new Foundation Trust Network. The Foundation Trust Network will be open to all Foundation Trusts and an interim Board of Chief Executives and Chairs has already been appointed to steer the Network.

3. An ISDN line is available for radio interviews (020 7959 7283). To arrange an ISDN interview please contact the press office on 020 7959 7240.