

# Melanie Brooks appointed new Corporate Director, Adult Social Care and Health

Adult care and support  
15 January 2019



Melanie Brooks has been appointed as the new Corporate Director for Adult Social Care and Health at Nottinghamshire County Council, following David Pearson's retirement after a 36-year career at the council.

Melanie will oversee the delivery of health and care to adults, their carers and families, which include some of the most vulnerable residents in Nottinghamshire, through sustainable commissioning and direct delivery of care services. She places great importance on championing the voice of people who need social care through engagement with them, and then shaping, influencing and implementing policy and council services.

Melanie comes to Nottinghamshire from Birmingham City Council where she was an Assistant Director for Adult Social Care, leading social work and provider services. She managed operational services in social care, with a particular focus on developing services to support greater independence, such as Day Opportunities and Enablement.

Melanie brings with her a wealth of experience, having worked in health and social care for 25 years, initially as a residential social worker and then in management and leadership roles, including within the NHS and voluntary sector organisations. She has contributed to national work in mental health, developing recovery principles and coproduction approaches.

Melanie has a real passion for supporting people to live the lives they want and has

worked in a variety of roles: leading operational services, the voluntary sector and campaigning, commissioning and strategy. She has a particular interest in mental health, and has spent many years as a volunteer supporting the charity Mind at both national and local levels. In recent years she has worked as a consultant and in interim roles, supporting services to develop, change and grow.

Melanie says of her new role:

“I am delighted to be taking the Corporate Director role with Nottinghamshire. Adult Social Care is known for its good performance and services are well regarded, and this is a great platform to work with citizens, staff, councillors and partners to agree the next phase in the social care strategy. My priorities will be to increase support given to people at home, make sure everyone has a healthier life, work to keep people safe including close working with children services and with the NHS work to make the best use of our resources in local areas.

“I will be new to the area and it is exciting to be able to explore the county. I will be moving from Bedfordshire with my family when we have schools and a new home organised. As a trail runner and mountain biker, I will be spending a lot of time in the countryside, running along the River Trent and biking in Sherwood Forest.”

Coun Stuart Wallace, Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee chairman said:

"I am delighted to welcome Melanie Brooks to the council as the new corporate director for Adult Social Care and Health. This is a key role, one which has developed over time to address new pressures and challenges, and encompass new partnerships and approaches to delivering adult social care. It is an exciting time and I am certain that Melanie will enjoy working with our professional and committed colleagues as they adjust to changes in care and health nationally and locally. I am sure that Melanie and her family will settle into Nottinghamshire in no time."

Melanie will be the Statutory Director for Adult Social Services and as such is responsible for ensuring that Nottinghamshire County Council meets its statutory duty to residents and that adults needing care and support are safeguarded from abuse or neglect.

**ENDS**

