

LOCUM CONSULTANT POST APPLICATION INFORMATION PACK

Locum Consultant Trauma & Orthopaedic Surgeon
with an interest in hand and wrist surgery or foot
and ankle surgery

Post Reference **185-37562-6502**

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Applications are invited for a locum consultant post in Trauma & Orthopaedics at North Devon District Hospital, Royal Devon University Healthcare Foundation Trust. Details of the post and descriptions of the department & Trust are included in this information pack as follows:

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1. INTRODUCTION

We have an exciting opportunity for a Locum consultant in Trauma & Orthopaedics, with a special interest in hand & wrist or foot & ankle surgery, to compliment the current department surgery at North Devon District Hospital.

The department wishes to facilitate a Locum colleague to continue the development of the range of orthopaedic services provided in North Devon, particularly in hand & wrist or foot & ankle surgery.

The successful applicant will provide comprehensive trauma & orthopaedic surgery services in North Devon, supported by experienced SAS surgeons, Specialty Registrars, junior medical staff and skilled nursing & therapy teams. You will join a team of eight other consultant surgeons who provide a broad spectrum of expertise in orthopaedics, including complex hip arthroplasty, foot & ankle surgery, knee surgery, hand surgery, shoulder & elbow surgery and spinal services.

Outpatient clinics take place in a recently refurbished department at North Devon District Hospital and at several community hospitals in the area. There is excellent imaging support. Operating sessions are in two laminar flow theatres and a dedicated day surgery unit. We have consistently excellent performance for day surgery rates.

The department has Specialty Registrars, Core Surgical Trainees and Foundation Doctors, rotating within their respective Peninsula Training Programmes. There are ample opportunities for teaching and training throughout the Trust and the region. The Trust encourages involvement with research and national clinical audit.

The post is based at North Devon District Hospital, part of Royal Devon University Healthcare Foundation NHS Trust (RDUH), with some clinical sessions provided at peripheral community sites. RDUH is a unique organisation with integrated acute and community services across North and East Devon. The acute hospital, North Devon District Hospital (NDDH) provides a full complement of secondary care services for the local population, including emergency care, cancer services, maternity and paediatric services. It is a designated Trauma Unit and Cancer Unit.

North Devon provides a beautiful environment in which to live and work, with a wide variety of outdoor and cultural activities and excellent local schools. With National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty on the doorstep, the area offers an excellent quality of life.

2. JOB DESCRIPTION

2.1 Post Title

Locum Consultant Trauma & Orthopaedic Surgeon with a subspecialty interest in hand & wrist or foot & ankle surgery.

2.2 Clinical Commitments

Clinical activity includes outpatient clinics, inpatient and day surgery operating sessions, ward rounds and on call duties.

Outpatients

There are regular orthopaedic outpatient clinics at North Devon District Hospital and peripheral clinics are also scheduled. The number of peripheral clinics is specified in the attached timetables and will not exceed alternative weeks. Travel time is included as direct clinical care (DCC). Whilst off-site, clinical cover for inpatients is provided by the on-call consultant. There are daily new patient fracture clinics during the trauma week and follow-up fracture clinics in the remaining weeks.

Operating Lists

Inpatient and day surgery operating lists are scheduled as detailed in the attached timetable. Orthopaedics have all day lists available both in laminar flow environment and day surgery at NDDH. We also have access to a weekly all day theatre at SWAOC. Sessions include time to see patients pre- and post-operatively and appropriate time for ward rounds of inpatients is added. Appropriate travel time to SWAOC will also be included within the job plan. There are trauma lists each weekday during the trauma week. In addition, one quarter of a programmed activity is built into each job plan as flexible time, equivalent to eight operating lists per year to be performed at mutually convenient times.

MDTs

Dependant on the successful applicant's chosen sub speciality interest, appropriate local and regional MDTs will form part of the job pan.

On Call Rota

Consultants share the on-call rota, on a 1 in 8 basis with prospective cover included in the job plan. The emergency work is arranged as a "hot" trauma week during which, the consultant has only emergency duties, including ward rounds, new patient fracture clinics and trauma lists. The timetable is arranged to facilitate compliance with the standards for Seven Day Services. The consultant is supported by SAS surgeons or Specialty Registrars and junior medical staff. The trauma week is followed by a non-clinical week.

Emergency Calls

In exceptional circumstances, the Trust may request emergency cover for colleagues. However, the Trust recognises that there is no contractual expectation of availability when a consultant has no scheduled duties.

Clinical Administration

You will undertake administrative work associated with your clinical and other professional work. Adequate time and facilities for clinical administration, including appropriate office space, secretarial support and access to a personal computer, software & internet access, will be available.

2.3 Supporting Professional Activities

You will be expected to participate in a variety of professional activities (SPA) to support your personal clinical practice and the overall work of the department and Trust. All consultants receive 1.5 SPA sessions for generic non-clinical work that is expected of most consultants. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Appraisal, job planning & revalidation
- Personal & professional development, including service development
- Professional administration, including related correspondence
- Clinical supervision of junior staff and other educational activities
- Governance and quality improvement activities
- Departmental & divisional meetings and other clinical or managerial meetings

2.4 Relationships

You will work closely with other medical staff, allied health professionals and non-clinical colleagues both within the department and in other specialties. In particular, you will be expected to develop working relationships with clinical colleagues within surgery, radiology, theatres, anaesthetics and therapies.

We encourage development of regional networks with other providers and links with the arthroplasty services at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital. It is expected that the successful applicant will work within the established network and local commissioning guidance.

3. OUTLINE JOB PLAN

A provisional outline job plan is below but is subject to modification. The individual job plan and detailed timetable will be discussed with the successful candidate. Special interests will be accommodated unless this is incompatible with service requirements.

	PAs
DCC	
Predictable & unpredictable on-call work	1.00
Weekday emergency work, including scheduled trauma lists	1.90
Routine outpatient clinics	1.00
Elective operating lists including flexible time (max 0.25PA)	2.10
Flexible ward rounds	0.13
Trauma MDT + sub specialty MDT	0.30
Administration	1.50
Travel	0.07
SPA	
Generic	1.50
Non-generic	0.50
Total	10.00

3.1 Provisional Timetables

Timetables are on an eight week cycle to accommodate the emergency working pattern.

The emergency work is timetabled to accommodate the requirements of the national Seven Day Services standards including face to face review of all new admissions within 14 hours. Consultant “on-call days” include time for morning & evening ward rounds, ward reviews, supervising trauma lists and new patient fracture clinics; plus clinical administration time. PA allocations for the scheduled emergency work and the predictable/ unpredictable on-call work include an appropriate amount for internal prospective cover.

As detailed above, a small amount of flexible time is included in the job plans but not timetabled. Time is allocated for attendance at MDTs and network meetings.

The Friday morning departmental meetings are a combination of an emergency trauma & orthopaedic MDT and generic SPA work, including clinical management, governance and CPD activities.

All SPA time (generic & non-generic) is timetabled for clarity. It is accepted that, on occasion, SPA work may need to be time-shifted to accommodate other commitments.

4. PERSON SPECIFICATION

Applicants must demonstrate on the application form that they fulfil all essential criteria to be considered for shortlisting. Appointment is subject to pre-employment checks, including occupational health, police checks and a minimum of three satisfactory references, including one from your current Responsible Officer.

Requirement	Essential Attributes	Desirable Attributes
Qualifications & Training		
Professional Qualifications	<p>Primary Medical Qualification (MBBS or equivalent).</p> <p>An appropriate higher Trauma and Orthopaedic surgical qualification.</p>	<p>Distinctions, Prizes, Scholarships.</p> <p>Additional postgraduate qualifications.</p>
Professional Training & Memberships	<p>Full GMC registration & licence to practice.</p> <p>Entry on the GMC Specialist Register in Trauma & Orthopaedics via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCT or CESR (CP). Proposed CCT/CESR (CP) date must be within 6 months of interview • CESR or • European Community Rights 	
Clinical Experience		
Employment	<p>Evidence of completion of a comprehensive broad-based, orthopaedic surgical training programme at Specialty Registrar level or equivalent.</p> <p>or</p> <p>Clear demonstration of equivalent experience, with a minimum of six years at a level comparable with or senior to Specialty Registrar.</p> <p>Evidence of training in general orthopaedic trauma and subspecialty interest (lower limb).</p> <p>Career progression consistent with personal circumstances.</p>	<p>Specialist fellowship in lower limb surgery.</p>
Clinical Knowledge and Skills	<p>Demonstrates ability to fulfil comprehensive general trauma & orthopaedic surgery duties at consultant level. Able to take full and independent responsibility for clinical care of patients and provide an expert clinical opinion on a range of problems.</p> <p>Demonstrates a clear, logical approach to clinical problems and an appropriate level of clinical knowledge. Able to prioritise clinical need.</p> <p>Portfolio of practical clinical experience, including evidence of ability to perform all common trauma and subspecialty surgery.</p> <p>Caring approach to patients.</p>	<p>Demonstrates awareness of breadth of clinical issues.</p> <p>Clinical feedback from colleagues and patients.</p>

Requirement	Essential Attributes	Desirable Attributes
Non-Clinical Skills		
Teaching	<p>Evidence of previous teaching & training experience.</p> <p>Willingness & ability to contribute to departmental & Trust teaching programmes.</p>	<p>Defined educational roles or qualifications.</p> <p>Evidence of teaching of undergraduates, junior doctors and multi-professional groups.</p>
Management of Change & Quality Improvement	<p>Demonstrates clear understanding of quality improvement and clinical governance within the NHS.</p> <p>Demonstrates willingness to implement evidence-based practice.</p> <p>Evidence of effective personal contributions to clinical audit, governance and risk reduction.</p>	<p>Evidence of innovative development & implementation of guidance.</p> <p>Evidence of involving patients in practice.</p>
Innovation, Research, Publications & Presentations	<p>Understanding of the principles of scientific method and interpretation of medical literature. Demonstrates a critical and enquiring approach to knowledge acquisition.</p> <p>Demonstrates understanding of the research governance framework.</p>	<p>Recent evidence of relevant research, presentations or publications.</p>
Management & Leadership Experience	<p>Demonstrates familiarity with and understanding of NHS structures, management and current political issues, including an awareness of national strategic plans and constraints.</p> <p>Demonstrates willingness to lead clinical teams and develop an effective specialist clinical service.</p>	<p>Experience of formal leadership roles or training.</p>
Communication & Personal Skills	<p>Good spoken & written English language skills.</p> <p>Communicates effectively with patients, relatives, colleagues, GPs, nurses, AHPs and outside agencies.</p> <p>Ability to work with multi-professional teams and to establish good professional relationships.</p>	<p>Evidence of patient & colleague feedback.</p> <p>Excellent presentation skills; engaging audience.</p> <p>Information technology skills.</p>
Other Requirements		
Motivation & management of personal practice	<p>Punctual & reliable.</p> <p>Good personal organisational & prioritisation skills. Achieves deadlines.</p> <p>Takes responsibility for personal practice and is able to cope well with stressful situations.</p> <p>Commitment to continuing medical education.</p> <p>Flexible & adaptable attitude.</p>	<p>Demonstrates initiative in personal practice.</p> <p>Willingness to undertake additional professional responsibilities at local, regional or national levels.</p>

Commitment to post	Demonstrates enthusiasm for North Devon as a place to live and work.	
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5. THE TRAUMA & ORTHOPAEDIC DEPARTMENT

5.1 Staffing

The orthopaedic department at North Devon District Hospital is staffed by:

- eight consultant surgeons:
 - Mr W Griffiths-Jones (Lead Clinician) Knee Surgery
 - Mr C Steinlechner Upper limb surgery
 - Mr A Temple Complex & revision hip arthroplasty
 - Miss C Baldwick Upper limb surgery
 - Mr N Jagodzinski Hand & wrist surgery
 - Mr L Brunton Complex & revision hip arthroplasty
 - Mr R Cove Knee and foot & ankle surgery
 - Mr Steven Smith Spinal surgery
 - Vacancy
- seven Associate Specialist surgeons
- two Specialty Registrars
- one Core Surgical Trainee, three Foundation Year 2 doctors and four Trust doctors
- two Foundation Year 1 doctors
- two physician's associate
- one trainee advanced care practitioner

In addition to medical staff, the team includes an experienced team of nurses led by our Ward Managers, Mrs Emma Mock (Glossop) & Mrs Julie Pragnell (Jubilee) along with experienced therapy team and skilled plaster room practitioners, led by Mrs Heather Courtness. There is excellent secretarial support.

5.2 Management

Day to day managerial & operational links are with the Lead Clinician, Mr W Griffiths- Jones and the Interim Service Manager Miss Ellie Carter.

5.3 Departmental Workload

The emergency workload varies a little throughout the year, being busier in the summer months. Overall there has been a small but steady increase over the last few years. Elective workload has remained relatively stable.

<u>Emergency Work</u>		<u>Elective</u>	
New Outpatients	4,067	New Outpatients	2,877
Follow-up Outpatients	6,018	Follow-up Outpatients	4,736
Emergency Inpatients	1,739	Elective Inpatients	1,028
		Elective Day Cases	1,268

5.4 Resources

Inpatient Facilities

Trauma & orthopaedic inpatients are currently accommodated on the orthopaedic unit, spread across Jubilee ward, ring fenced elective orthopaedics and Glossop Ward, dedicated orthopaedic trauma ward. There is a six-bedded intensive care unit with two additional high-dependency beds. Caroline Thorpe ward is the children's ward, with day, inpatient and high dependency facilities.

Operating sessions take place in the main theatre suite, in a laminar flow environment, and in the dedicated Day Surgery Unit.

Outpatient Facilities

There are new outpatient clinic rooms at North Devon District Hospital and we also provide clinics at a number of community hospital sites, including:

- Bideford Hospital
- Stratton Hospital

6. MAIN CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

Appointment is to the NHS Consultant Contract (2003) under the current Terms and Conditions of Service for Hospital Medical and Dental Staff (England and Wales) and the Conditions of Service determined by the General Whitley Council for the Health Services (Great Britain). These are nationally agreed and may be amended or modified from time to time by either national agreement or local negotiation with the BMA local negotiating committee.

The employer is the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The appointee will be professionally accountable to the Chief Medical Officer and managerially accountable to the Chief Executive Officer.

The postholder is required to have full registration with a licence to practice with the General Medical Council and to ensure that such registration is maintained for the duration of the appointment.

Salary Scale

This is as described in the Medical & Dental Terms and Conditions, in line with the Consultant Contract (2003). The current scale is from £93,666 to £126,281 with eight thresholds.

The on-call supplement is Category A and attracts a supplement of 5% of basic salary.

Leave

Annual leave entitlement is as described in Schedule 18 of the Terms and Conditions of Service Consultant (England) 2003. Further details are available in the Senior Medical Staff Leave Policy.

Prospective cover for emergency work is built into the job plans and locum cover for annual and study leave will not normally be provided. It is expected that consultants within the department will coordinate leave to ensure that an appropriate level of service (emergency, urgent & routine) is maintained.

Domicile

Consultants are expected to reside within a reasonable distance of North Devon District Hospital; normally within 10 miles or 30 minutes. Exceptions must be agreed with the Medical Director or Chief Executive.

The appointee must maintain a land telephone connection to the public telephone service at their private residence.

Duty to be contactable.

Subject to the provisions in Schedule 8, consultants must ensure that there are clear and effective arrangements so that the employing organisation can contact a post holder immediately at any time during a period when a post holder is on-call.

Indemnity

The post-holder is not contractually obliged to subscribe to a professional defence organisation but should ensure that they have adequate defence cover for non-NHS work.

Mentoring

New consultants will have access to mentoring and are encouraged to take advantage of this facility. This will be arranged following discussion and mutual agreement between the individual and the medical director.

Professional Performance

The Trust expects all surgeons to work within the guidelines of the GMC Guide to Good Medical Practice and the Royal College of Surgeons Good Surgical Practice. You will work with clinical & managerial colleagues to deliver high quality clinical care, within the management structure of the Trust and are expected to follow Trust policies and procedures, both statutory and local, including participation in the WHO surgical checklist.

You will be expected to take part in personal clinical audit, training, quality assessment and other professional activities, including continuing medical education, annual appraisal, job planning and revalidation. It is expected that you will participate in multi-source feedback from both colleagues and patients. You will undertake administrative work associated with management of your clinical and professional practice.

You will be responsible for leadership of your clinical team within the specialty as agreed in your job plan and will be accountable for the effective and efficient use of any resources under your control.

You will also participate in activities that contribute to the performance of the department and the Trust as a whole, including clinical and academic meetings, supervision of junior staff, departmental management, service development and educational activities. Service developments that require additional resources must have prior agreement from the Trust.

Reporting Concerns

The Trust is committed to providing safe and effective care for patients. There is an agreed procedure that enables staff to report “quickly and confidentially, concerns about the conduct, performance or health of medical colleagues”, as recommended by the Chief Medical Officer (December 1996). All medical staff practising in the Trust must ensure that they are familiar with the procedure and apply it if necessary.

Serious Untoward Incidents

It is expected that you will report all risks, incidents and near misses in accordance with the Trust governance structure. You will be required, on occasion, to lead or assist with investigation of incidents and implementation of risk reducing measures to safeguard patients, visitors and staff. You must comply with the Duty of Candour legislation.

Research & Audit

Audit is supported by the Clinical Audit & Effectiveness Department. The orthopaedic department participates in a number of national audits, including submission to the National Joint Registry (NJR) and the National Hip Fracture Database (NHFD).

Research within the Trust is managed in accordance with the requirements of the Research Governance Framework. You must observe all reporting requirement systems and duties of action put in place by the Trust to deliver research governance.

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults

The Trust is committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and you will be required to act at all times to protect patients.

The appointees may have substantial access to children under the provisions of Joint Circular No HC (88) 9 HOC 8.88 WHC (88) 10. Therefore, applicants are advised that, in the event that your appointment is recommended, you will be asked to complete a form disclosing any convictions, bind-over orders or cautions and to give permission in writing for a police check to be carried out. Refusal to do so could prevent further consideration of the application.

Rehabilitation of Offenders

Attention is drawn to the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 as amended by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendment) Order 1986, which allow convictions that are spent to be disclosed for this purpose by the police and to be taken into account in deciding whether to engage an applicant.

This post is not protected by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, 1974. You must disclose all information about all convictions (if any) in a Court of Law, no matter when they occurred. This information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Health & Safety

Employees are required to take reasonable care to avoid injury or accident while carrying out their duties, in compliance with the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974, various statutory regulations, Trust & departmental guidelines, policies and procedures. This will be supported by provision of appropriate training and specialist advice.

Infection Prevention & Control

The Trust is committed to reducing hospital-acquired infections. All staff are expected to ensure that infection risks are minimised in line with national and Trust policies and best practice. They are supported in this by the Infection Prevention and Control team.

Our Approach to Inclusion and Diversity

Inclusion is fundamental to our approach to organisational development, culture, service improvement, and public and patient engagement.

It is one of our core values and we have an inclusion lead to provide strategic oversight to the inclusion agenda. Our inclusion steering group is chaired by our CEO, Sam Higginson, and reports its progress to the Board of Directors.

Our aim is to create a positive sense of belonging for everyone, regardless of their background or identity, and to value visible and invisible differences, so everybody is respected and valued, and everyone feels comfortable bringing their whole selves to work and able to reach their full potential.

We have staff inclusion champions who provide information to colleagues and promote inclusion opportunities. We also have a range of networks which colleagues can join, including:

- Disability network
- LGBTQ+ network
- Ethnic minority network
- Neurodiversity Network

Once colleagues join us, we can share with them more information, including how to join any of these groups.

6.1 The Acute Hospital

North Devon District Hospital serves the local population of around 160,000. It is estimated that the population will rise to 186,000 by 2030.

The hospital has approximately 250 inpatient beds, intensive care and cardiac care facilities.

We employ more than 90 consultants, in all major specialties. In addition, we work closely with other local Trusts to provide combined services in smaller specialties and robust clinical networks for major trauma, cancer, vascular surgery and neonatal services. There are nine operating theatres, an accredited endoscopy suite and a new chemotherapy unit, with plans for further development.

6.2 Academic Facilities

The Medical Education Centre is independently funded by the Peninsula Institute and its primary purpose is the provision of facilities, equipment and financial support to enable a wide range of medical professionals to continue their education and training.

There is a 70-seat lecture theatre, a clinical skills centre and several classrooms. Recently a new simulation suite has opened, creating a facility for multi-professional training, including trauma team training.

Dual-flatscreen, video-conference facilities, linked to other units in the region are available for clinical meetings, including regional MDTs, as well as training events.

The comprehensive healthcare library is accessible to registered users 24 hours a day. The library is staffed between 8.30 and 17.30 Monday to Friday. Services include book and journal loan, interlibrary loans, PC access, literature searching, information skills training, printing and photocopying.

Local, regional and national electronic library resources are made available across the Trust and for staff to access from home.

6.3 University of Exeter Medical School

The University of Exeter is high-ranking in both UK and global standings and is a member of the Russell Group of leading research-based institutions. It has ambitious plans for the future and has invested heavily in its facilities in recent years.

The Medical School's cutting-edge research is driven by important clinical questions. It focuses on translational and applied research in areas of greatest health burden and greatest opportunity for scientific advance, principally: diabetes, cardiovascular risk and ageing; neurological disorders and mental health; environment and human health; and health services research. It spans basic through clinical science to clinical trials and health policy.

UEMS delivers two highly-regarded and innovative undergraduate degrees: the BSc in Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (BMBS). In addition, the Medical School offers a range of postgraduate programmes and courses. The curriculum reflects today's evolving models of care and patient experience in acute, primary and community care settings.

Building on the excellent educational reputation of the Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry and using problem-based learning in small groups, the BMBS programme reflects the belief that doctors need to adopt a socially accountable approach to their work and to understand the human and societal impact of disease as well as the community-wide context of contemporary healthcare provision.

UEMS graduates will be both capable and confident, whether they are clinicians, managers, educators or researchers and will be committed to life-long scholarship. Years one and two of the BMBS programme are based at the St Luke's Campus in Exeter and lay the scientific foundations for the future years of the course. There is clinical contact from year one and students begin acquisition of a range of transferable skills, learning science within a clinical context.

UEMS students spend years three and four of their programme at the Royal Devon and Exeter (Wonford) Hospital and North Devon District Hospital, as well as at the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro and in their surrounding general practices and community health environments.

7. ABOUT ROYAL DEVON UNIVERSITY HEALTHCARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Our core services support a population of over 615,000 people and cover more than 2,000 square miles across Devon. This makes us one of the largest providers of integrated health care in the UK, and the biggest employer in Devon, with more than 15,000 staff.

We have two acute hospitals, 20 community locations, outpatient clinics and community teams who care for people within their own homes. We also provide primary care and a range of specialist services which extends our reach throughout the South West Peninsula as far as Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

As a newly formed Foundation Trust in April 2022, We are embracing change, innovation and technology in our ambitions to be a digitally-enabled, clinically-led teaching organisation. We are developing new ways of working and investing in new infrastructure, equipment and facilities. There has never been a better time to join us.

The Royal Devon is committed to supporting the personal and professional development of our consultant staff and in turn improving the care offered to our patients. This might include developing or introducing innovative care models and bringing these to rural patients, teaching the doctors of tomorrow or undertaking award-winning clinical research. Examples include our specialist nurses, who were recognised in the British Journal of Nursing Awards for their innovations during the COVID pandemic, our inflammatory bowel disease research team who were recognised with the national team award for their contribution to the NIHR portfolio, and our recent launch of a world-first national genetic testing service from our labs, which can rapidly test DNA samples of babies and children, so we can provide life-saving treatment.

You'll find more information about the role and the Trust in this pack. Further information is also available on our website www.royaldevon.nhs.uk.

8. LIVING IN DEVON

Devon offers a quality of life few other English counties can match. Where else will you find such a unique landscape that encompasses over 450 miles of dramatic coastline, rugged moorland and gently winding rivers?

Interspersed with vibrant market towns, chocolate-box villages and sleepy hamlets, it is easy to see why we are consistently voted as one of the top places to live in the country.

Devon's outdoor lifestyle is its biggest draw. This natural playground is unsurpassed with over a third of the county designated as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. You'll have over 5,000 km of footpaths and 250km of off-road cycle paths to explore, not to mention endless opportunities to surf along the vast stretch of Atlantic coastline or paddleboard across tidal estuaries.

There are good transport links to the rest of Devon, including the M5 and regular trains to Exeter with its art galleries, museum and theatres. Your taste buds will find plenty to savour here too - Devon is rightly proud of the farmers and producers who make the South West one of the best regions in the UK to enjoy locally produced food and drink. Northern Devon also benefits from an excellent range of community, private schools and colleges for further education.

Whether you fancy surfing or fishing, cycling or climbing, fine dining or hearty pub fare, the county really does have it all.

9. CONTACTS

The Trust welcomes informal enquiries; contact names are detailed below:

Chief Executive Officer

Sam Higginson

Email: penny.manley@nhs.net (PA to Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive)

Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Chris Tidman

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Chief Medical Officer

Prof Adrian Harris

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Medical Director – Northern services

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