Media information

New Year’s honour for former Employee Director

NHS Ayrshire & Arran’s former Employee Director, John Callaghan, is to be appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in the New Year 2016 Honours List. Mr Callaghan is to be recognised for services to partnership working.

John Callaghan joined NHS Ayrshire & Arran in 1976 as a podiatrist within the community, before being seconded to the position of Partnership Facilitator in 1996, a role he enjoyed until 2001. It was at this time that he was appointed as Employee Director – the first in NHS Ayrshire & Arran. As Employee Director, John was also a non-executive member of Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board. When he resigned from this role in 2015, he was the longest serving Employee Director in NHSScotland.

John explained: “I have worked within NHS Ayrshire & Arran for nearly 40 years, and half of that time has been spent promoting the benefits of partnership working.

“Partnership working is vital in ensuring that our staff are involved in decisions which affect them, and I have enjoyed this immensely over all these years.”

While in the role of Employee Director, John has seen many changes over the years, and has worked under three different Chairs of Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board. Current Chairman, Dr Martin Cheyne, said: “John has been instrumental in embedding partnership working within the culture of NHS Ayrshire & Arran, and for him to be recognised with a MBE is truly deserved.

“On behalf of Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board, I would like to congratulate John on his MBE, and also to wish him a long and happy retirement.”

John added: “I resigned from the role of Employee Director at the end of September, and will retire from the organisation on 1 February 2016.

“When I heard I was to be appointed a MBE, I was genuinely shocked. I have no idea who put me forward, and I am truly humbled. To be recognised for my services to partnership working is a real honour, and I would like to thank all those wonderful colleagues who have helped me over the years to do this.”

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Media information

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John Callaghan

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