

# Doctors making a difference

Mersey Care Consultant Psychiatrist Cecil Kullu

How living and working in Merseyside could bring real benefits for doctors and patients.

*“It’s a great place to be a doctor” says Dr David Fearnley Medical Director at Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust. “The work here is incredibly varied. Basically there are no limits to the range of opportunities for psychiatrists to develop and influence their field of practice. And in terms of personal and family wellbeing it’s a great place to live”.*

**D**r Fearnley is speaking as this internationally renowned trust looks to encourage doctors to join it as it goes from strength to strength.

Operating across the North West, with headquarters in Liverpool, Mersey Care provides healthcare for adults with mental health and learning disability issues, acquired brain injury and those with addictions. “We are also one of only three trusts in England to provide high secure mental health services and we’ve unrivalled experience in this area”, he adds.

Experience that the trust is using to expand and create even more clinical opportunities as Dr Fearnley explains. “We have recently added a specialist learning disability division to our portfolio and we’re delighted that was rated as outstanding this year by the CQC, overall the Trust was rated as Good. Added to this is our acquisition of a range of community physical health services. This means that there are now many more leadership and management roles for doctors. We want to help to create the best future medical leaders. In fact we encourage our doctors to develop special interests, and to contribute towards the successful growth of the trust; we want them to be a part of our long term plan”.

A plan enhanced by Mersey Care’s ambitious building programme which includes extensive refurbishment across their estate and the building of a £25million state of the art hospital in Southport.

## Developing Together

Mersey Care has a very well developed appraisal system, ensuring all doctors revalidate and develop professionally through their career. Trust doctors also benefit from:

- **Medical Training** - Mersey Care has a proud track record of providing excellent training to doctors in their undergraduate and postgraduate years, throughout foundation, core and speciality training, and beyond into consultant life.

- **Research** - Mersey Care undertakes a wide range of cutting edge biological, psychological and social research. It has many academic partners - including Stanford University - and is keen to help doctors develop an academic career.

- **Publishing** - Doctors in Mersey Care contribute to national NHS policy and publish regularly in peer reviewed journals, blogs, invited articles and social media.

Find out more: [www.centreforperfectcare.com](http://www.centreforperfectcare.com)



“It’s a great place to be a doctor”

## Real Patient Benefit

Mersey Care Consultant Psychiatrist Cecil Kullu, “HOPE (*Hospital Outpatient Psychotherapy Engagement*) is a service being delivered by Mersey Care staff at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital. It is a service for people presenting with self-harm to Accident and Emergency and it provides brief psychological intervention over four weeks. As a result of this work we’ve cut waiting times and provided more rapid access to treatment. It’s not right that people had a long wait for treatment and we wanted to correct that. Before this there was no such treatment available. We’re now looking at how we scale up the provision of this service as we believe that this is good for the patients as well as for the local health system”.

Find out how you can develop at Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust email: [careers@mersecare.nhs.uk](mailto:careers@mersecare.nhs.uk)

## A great place to live:

Liverpool has been voted as one of the best cities in the UK for work-life balance. The city’s famous waterfront is a designated World Heritage site, retail development Liverpool ONE has more than 150 stores and the city boasts the largest collection of museums and art galleries outside London including Tate Liverpool.

**Housing:** House prices on Merseyside are among the lowest of any city in the UK. Last year semi-detached properties sold for on average £167,399. Terraced properties sold for an average price of £106,173, while detached properties fetched £297,065 (*source Rightmove*).



**Transport:** Merseyside has excellent road and rail links - commuting in from the suburbs is fast and easy with trains every 15 minutes. And there’s a good bus and ferry network. London trains run several times daily and for travel further afield you can fly from Liverpool airport to more than 200 worldwide destinations.

**Education:** The city is home to 149 state-funded schools, 13 independent schools, several further education colleges and three universities. Top schools in the Merseyside area include The Blue Coat School, Wirral Grammar School and Upton Hall School.