

# Ann Sutton

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## Key Skills and Strengths

A skilled, experienced and highly regarded former health service Chief Executive who also held a high profile national role as a director for NHS England. Considerable executive Board experience both as a commissioner and provider of services. An experienced non-executive director at the University of Kent currently building a successful Limited Company.

An exceptional strategic leader whose proven track record of delivery has led to frequent promotions into more challenging and complex roles. An outstanding communicator who builds strong and effective working relationships.

Knowledgeable and resilient with well developed emotional intelligence and political awareness. Recognised for exceptional levels of integrity, working across organisational boundaries and having a strong customer focus.

## Experience

### **Director Ann Sutton Consulting Limited**

**December 2014 – Present**

Started my consultancy company and immediately approached to become a Senior Associate for two companies. Completed a range of Board level assignments for healthcare providers (NHS and private sector) and a University. Building a coaching business and successfully gained a Professional Certificate in Coaching.

### **Director of Commissioning NHS England**

**September 2012 – November 2014**

Setting up the new direct commissioning system for NHS England which included specialised services, primary care, public health, health and justice and services for the armed forces and their families at a value of £29 billion

Achievements include

- Leading the introduction of single operating models for directly commissioned services implemented locally by the 27 NHS England Area Teams
- Earning an excellent reputation for NHS England with a range of Government Departments including the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Justice and Public Health England to achieve shared commissioning objectives
- Establishing strong internal national, regional and local relationships in a new and complex working environment
- Successful programme leadership of a range of England wide initiatives including the future commissioning of UK based proton beam therapy, a review of gender identity services and the cross government department Liaison and Diversion service

**Chief Executive NHS Kent and Medway****April 2011 – September 2012**

Led three Primary Care Trusts with one Board during a period of NHS change. Serving 1.7 million people with a budget of £2.8 billion and a staff of 1000. Fully delivered on financial and performance requirements and made excellent progress on all aspects of NHS reform

Achievements include

- A strong and purposeful partnership between clinicians and managers with eight clinical commissioning groups ready and able to take on their new commissioning responsibilities
- Mature and productive relationships with providers of services and a whole system strategic plan being implemented
- Ensured positive stakeholder, community and local government relations with health and well being boards in place
- Accomplished a strong approach to staff communications and engagement ensuring continued service development during a period of significant change

**Chief Executive NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent****October 2006 – April 2011**

(with a six month break as Chief Executive of NHS Surrey – see below)

Led the merger of five organisations and established a Primary Care Trust which commissioned services and provided community health services for a patient population of 750,000. Gained an excellent reputation for the strategic leadership of local health services, focused on improving health outcomes. Consistently delivered on NHS Constitution standards and financial duties. Earned a regional and national reputation for service improvement and an international profile with the Institute of Healthcare Improvement for reducing health inequalities. Introduced a best practice approach to citizen engagement. Led the transforming community services programme establishing a separate NHS Trust.

**Interim Chief Executive NHS Surrey****March 2010 – October 2010**

Asked by the Strategic Health Authority to move into NHS Surrey to tackle a number of seemingly intractable problems. Demonstrated my ability to rebuild the confidence in an organisation with a number of significant financial, leadership and reputation challenges. Introduced effective governance arrangements and made significant improvements to relationships with GPs, Local Authorities, the public and providers of services.

**Chief Executive****Shepway Primary Care Trust****April 2002 – September 2006**

In addition, I took on **East Kent Coastal Primary Care Trust** in August 2005 and a further organisation **Canterbury and Coastal Primary Care Trust** in April 2006

I set up and developed Shepway as a consistently high performing organisation. Successfully took on the two further PCTs which had separate Boards and addressed a range of financial and organisational challenges. Put in place and consistently delivered high standards for the commissioning and provision of services and developed a reputation for strong clinical managerial partnerships. Gained public support for complex service change and reinvestment of resources from acute to community, social and third sector providers. I was recognised for this work through the Kent County Council award for Partnerships and the Community

### **Skills and Experience Gained in Previous NHS Roles**

**December 1979 – March 2002**

A wide ranging and successful early career in service provision. This included posts working in acute hospitals, mental health, learning disability and community services. 10 years as a Director and Deputy Chief Executive of an NHS Trust including project management of a merger between two large provider Trusts. Seconded to a Health Authority to lead the NHS Plan modernisation programme across 16 health and local government organisations. Managed major capital and service reprovision programmes. Led the health service response to a significant issue of public concern.

### **Qualifications and Development**

Professional Certificate in Coaching	2015
NHS Top Leaders Programme	2014/2015
Merryck & Co Top Business Leaders Mentoring	2009/2010
BT Vital Vision for Leaders of Government Organisations	2006
Kings Fund Top Managers Programme	2000
Common Purpose Leadership Development	1997
Master of Business Administration (with distinction)	1994
Diploma Institute of Health Services Management	1987
HND Hotel, Catering and Institutional Management	1978