

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Questions? future@hhft.nhs.uk

Q. What are the plans for the hospitals at Basingstoke, Andover and Winchester?

A. We believe care should be local where possible and central where necessary for patient safety. The hospitals in Basingstoke and Winchester will continue to provide the majority of care for their communities. This will include operations (planned surgery), outpatient appointments, x-rays, blood tests and scans, elderly care and rehabilitation and chemotherapy. The A & E departments at Basingstoke and Winchester will continue to treat patients who are either brought there or who present themselves, and just as they can now, women can choose to have a midwife-led birth at Andover, Basingstoke or Winchester.

We will also continue to deliver much-needed local services at Andover War Memorial Hospital including the midwife led maternity centre, minor injuries unit, outpatient appointments, diagnostics (scans, x-rays and blood tests) and we will continue to provide some services such as consulting, minor treatment and diagnostics in Alton and Eastleigh.

Q. Why does HHFT want to create a Critical Treatment Hospital? (CTH)

A. Our proposal to create a critical treatment hospital is to make services even safer for the sickest or most at risk patient such as those with heart attacks, strokes and major trauma. It is based on the need for consultant-delivered treatment on site 24/7, which is not the model in the NHS at the moment. This model can only be achieved by delivering these services in one place. It's also why we are proposing to centralise obstetric care (medical care during labour) at the CTH so we can make the service safer for women who need medical help with their baby's birth or whose babies need specialist medical care when new born, while we continue to support midwife-led births in our local hospitals in Andover, Winchester and Basingstoke.

Q. How will the proposed development of a CTH improve patient care?

A. While the Foundation Trust provides good services it believes these could be even safer for its sickest and most at-risk patients in the future by developing a critical treatment hospital. There are not enough consultants in all acute specialties to ensure they are present 24 hours a day, seven days a week on both sites. Bringing together the services for our sickest patients into a critical treatment hospital will ensure that consultants can provide treatment 24/7 for the sickest patients. This is not the model in the NHS at the moment. It also allows us to be able to improve the care we can provide in the local hospitals in Andover, Basingstoke and Winchester so that they continue to meet the needs of their local communities. We centralised our stroke service in Winchester hospital and our cardiac service in Basingstoke hospital when we became Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in 2012. This has demonstrated that centralising is safer and better for patients.

Q. Who developed the proposals for the new model?

A. The national recommendation from leading doctors and nurses is to centralise services for the sickest and most at risk and locally it is our own doctors, senior clinical staff, GP leaders and the ambulance service who support the model and have developed these proposals.

Q. Where is the intended site for the CTH and why is it your preferred location?

A. The preferred location is a site north of the A30 near J7 of the M3. The reason we prefer this location is because of its closeness to the major road network, giving fast access for ambulances. South Central Ambulance Service have told us this is the best location for all our population who are spread from Eastleigh in the south to Newbury in the north and from Andover in the west to Hook in the east. Building on a new site is the most cost-effective option and provides us with the rare chance to create a modern hospital where the design of the building itself helps speed emergency patients to the right place and the right doctors.

Q. How will people get to the CTH?

A. Most patients will arrive by ambulance at the CTH. We are considering travel and transport for their families and for staff by looking at a range of transport options and talking to local transport providers. We will be making sure there are many opportunities for people to express their views on this and any other questions as we go through the planning application process.

Q. How will you pay for the CTH?

A. A loan will be sought from the Independent Trust Financing Facility which is a form of low interest loan within the NHS as well as from other potential loan sources. We are not looking at a PFI (Private Finance Initiative) for this development.

Q. What will the new Cancer Treatment Centre do?

A. The new cancer treatment centre, which will be a centre of excellence for our area, would be located on the same site as the CTH. Our plan is to provide cancer treatment and support under one roof, in a patient-focused state-of-the-art cancer treatment centre for north and mid Hampshire. The recently opened radiotherapy unit on the Basingstoke hospital site will transfer to the new cancer treatment centre and will be expanded to serve local people and reduce travelling times for those needing radiotherapy. The cancer treatment centre will make a significant difference to the many local people living with cancer, often for many years. It will mean that our patients don't have to travel long distances or to multiple centres to receive their care at a time when they are already feeling unwell and vulnerable. They and their families will have access to a range of associated support and therapies all in one place. We intend it to be a well-designed, attractive and peaceful place so that the centre itself creates a healing environment.

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Q. What happens next?

A. HHFT is undertaking surveys and developing its plans with a view to submitting a planning application in spring 2015. To support this process we are sharing plans with staff and local communities to seek feedback. We will take this feedback into account before submitting a planning application for the scheme. The exhibitions have been advertised widely.

Q. Why are you progressing with a planning application before the NHS formal public consultation?

A. The clinical commissioning groups will lead a formal public consultation on behalf of the NHS. Submitting the planning application will help us establish if this is a viable site before the NHS formal public consultation.

Q. When will the NHS formal public consultation take place?

A. The proposal to build the hospital is subject to scrutiny from NHS and local authority bodies and, importantly, the public must be consulted before it can go ahead. This formal public consultation would be led for the NHS by our clinical commissioners and we expect it to take place sometime in 2015. This consultation will ensure that everyone has an opportunity to express their views on the proposal, which will be considered before any final decisions are made. Our clinical commissioners are North Hampshire CCG www.northhampshireccg.com, West Hampshire CCG www.westhampshireccg.nhs.uk and the Wessex Area Team of NHS England <http://www.england.nhs.uk/south/south/w-at/>

Q. How have you involved the public, patients and staff in the plans for the future?

A. We have always shared our future plans with our members and the public. Our plans to be central where necessary and local where possible have formed a part of our conversations since we planned to become Hampshire Hospitals NHS FT in 2012 and before. The feedback we've received has helped shape our plans. In August 2013 we ran a series of focus groups and during October to December 2013 we ran an online survey to ask local people about what is important to them when accessing hospital services. We went out into our community with information stands in leisure centres and shopping centres, supermarkets and children's centres in all of the towns we serve. In 2014 we have held a number of public meetings and we have been invited to talk to local organisations and groups, such as the Maternity Services Liaison Committee and the Rotary Clubs. Local MP, Steve Brine has also invited us to speak at his public meetings. We have published lots of information too: our quarterly FT Newsletter includes regular updates on our future plans; we have spoken to the media and written letters for publication, and we have many internal publications through which we have kept our staff informed and involved. Our engagement activities will continue and we encourage comments via future@hhft.nhs.uk. For more details please see our website: <http://www.hampshirehospitals.nhs.uk/about-us/fit-for-the-future/your-views.aspx>

Q. How can I find out more information?

A. You can find more information on our website www.hampshirehospitals.nhs.uk, see the Fit For the Future section. If you have any comments or feedback, we would like to hear from you to help us shape our plans. Please do not hesitate to contact us on future@hhft.nhs.uk.

3 February 2015