

How we reached this decision

Our doctors, nurses and senior managers have been working with specialist health care planners to decide on the best option of where to locate inpatient head & neck and women & children's services at the Princess Royal Hospital. Before reaching this decision, several factors had to be considered. This included:

- The models of care we will be implementing in the reconfigured service.
- The anticipated numbers of patients and their estimated length of stay (based on best practice in the NHS).
- Decisions about where services need to be located in relation to each other. For example, the labour ward needs to be next to the neonatal unit and the paediatric assessment unit needs to be near A&E.
- Making sure that the plan does not exceed the money we will have available. This includes the *capital* resources that we would need to borrow for the building work, as well as the *revenue* resources that would be needed to pay back this loan.

Based on this information the healthcare planners have identified the space that would be needed for the required number of beds, neonatal cots, assessment bays, etc. and come up with four options. All four options have been carefully considered by doctors, nurses and senior managers. We will be recommending Option P4 (overleaf) to the Trust Board. This is because it provides the best balance between providing the clinical configuration we need, using the space we have, being financially affordable and also looking ahead to how hospital services might continue to develop in future.

At this stage the plan only outlines the physical location and footprint for the services. Over the coming months, we will be working with staff, patients and the public to develop a more detailed plan including the interior of the building, its layout and what facilities will be included.

What is an Outline Business Case?

An Outline Business Case focuses on making the case for the capital investment that will be needed for changes to the configuration of hospital services in Shrewsbury and Telford. It provides information about expectations around finance, staffing, service delivery and building work, among other factors.

What is a Full Business Case?

A Full Business Case reviews and updates the information in the Outline Business Case. It is the final assessment of value for money, achievability and affordability.

What will happen when?

- **25 August** - Outline Business Case submitted to the Trust Board for approval
- **13 September** - Outline Business Case submitted to Primary Care Trust (PCT) Boards for approval
- **27 September** - Outline Business Case submitted to Strategic Health Authority Board for approval
- **February/March 2012** - Full Business Case submitted to Trust, PCT & Strategic Health Authority boards
- **From April 2012** - Begin to put the changes in place. Start building work, training and relocation of services. Continue to work with patients and families to design and develop the new service, including publicity.
- **2014** - Reconfigured services in place

Public briefing sessions

We are holding two briefing sessions to update patients and the public on the changes to local hospital services and the timetable for the next few years. They will take place on:

- **15 August at 6pm** in Seminar Room 5 at the Shropshire Education & Conference Centre, Royal Shrewsbury Hospital
- **17 August at 6pm** in the Lecture Theatre, Education Centre, Princess Royal Hospital

Places are limited so please call the Foundation Trust Office on 01743 261473 or email members@sath.nhs.uk to register your interest.

How to get involved

Remember to let us know if you would like to be involved in any focus groups or workshops to help shape the future of surgery, children's services, maternity services, children's cancer services and gynaecology services. Please email your contact details and the service area you are interested in to cath.mcomb@sath.nhs.uk. We will update you on the progress of our focus groups in our next issue.



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LOOKING TO THE FUTURE