



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Securing the future of hospital services in Shrewsbury and Telford

NHS

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Keeping you up to date on work to secure the future of hospital services in Shrewsbury and Telford

Help us to shape the future of your hospital services

I am delighted to say that our plans for maintaining safe and sustainable local health services have been approved by the Board of the regional Strategic Health Authority.

This is great news as it enables us to move forward with our plans which will ensure that we continue to provide high quality, safe hospital services whenever you or your family need them.

During the consultation on these changes we explained that for the majority of patients, they will continue to go to the same hospital as they do now. Out of the almost 700,000 contacts we have with patients each year, over 98% will still be delivered in the same hospital as now. For the patients where there will be a change of hospital, we understand that this can cause worry and concern. Before any changes take place we will work hard to make sure that everyone is informed about where they should go and when.

In this issue of [Looking to the Future](#), we've included details of what services will stay the same, what will change and when. There's also feedback from a recent Transport and Access focus group which we held with parents and families of the children's cancer and haematology service. We've also separated the myths from the facts to make it clear about the changes and what this will mean for you.

I am keen that as many people as possible are involved in shaping the future of our local hospital services, whether by attending one of our public briefing sessions or taking part in a specific focus group. Find out in this newsletter the ways in which you can get involved.

The plans and all supporting information are available on our website www.sath.nhs.uk/future

I really would welcome your comments, suggestions and feedback, so please contact me at consultation@sath.nhs.uk

Adam Cairns,
Chief Executive of The Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Trust



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In this edition of Looking To The Future we bring you news about:

- The next steps in the ongoing work to keep services in the county
- How patients and their families are helping us to shape our plans
- How the local NHS will be engaging with its communities in the coming months

The Changes

Hospital Services	What will change?	What will stay the same?	When will this happen?
Accident and Emergency Services	No change.	Our 24 hour A&E departments will continue at both hospitals	
Outpatient Services	The majority of outpatient appointments will remain unchanged. Children with cancer will be seen in the new children's unit in Telford.	Outpatient appointments, day assessments and day case procedures (where you don't have to stay overnight) will continue to be provided at both hospitals.	
Children's Services	Children's inpatient services (for children who need to stay in hospital overnight) will merge to become one unit based at PRH. A new unit will be built for children's cancer services at PRH. The Children's Assessment Unit at RSH will be moved next to A&E.	Children's general outpatient appointments will continue to be at both hospital sites. A Children's Assessment Unit (PAU) will continue to assess and treat children at both hospitals.	Changes are expected to be in place during 2014.
Maternity Services	Any woman who needs a consultant-led delivery will give birth at PRH. This includes women who are expecting twins, women with diabetes, women who have had previous caesareans, women whose babies are in the breech position or women whose babies are premature.	Women will still be able to receive antenatal care and choose to give birth at our midwifery-led units at RSH and PRH or at one of our three community midwifery-led units at Bridgnorth, Ludlow and Oswestry. Women can also still choose to have their baby at home.	Changes are expected to be in place during 2014.
Gynaecology Services	Gynaecology inpatient services will move to PRH to be alongside women's and children's services.	Outpatient appointments and day cases will remain at both hospitals.	Changes are expected to be in place during 2014.
Surgery	All general surgery requiring an overnight stay, including vascular, colorectal and upper gastro-intestinal surgery, will be carried out at RSH. Treatment for life threatening trauma will be strengthened when RSH becomes a designated trauma unit in the regional Trauma Network. Inpatient breast and gynaecological surgery requiring an overnight stay will be carried out at the PRH.	Most surgery takes place as a "day case" and does not require overnight stay. Most day case surgery will continue to be provided in the same place as now. Most surgery for life threatening trauma will continue to be carried out at RSH.	Changes to inpatient vascular service expected late 2011/ early 2012. Other changes to surgery are expected to take place in 2014.
Head & Neck Inpatient Services	The Head and Neck service will move to PRH. As the majority of ENT procedures (800 a year) are carried out on children, this will move to be alongside children's services.	Head and neck outpatients appointments will remain at both hospitals.	Changes are expected to be in place during 2014.



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The next steps...

- October 2011 - March 2012:** Work with doctors, nurses, patients, carers and the public to put together a detailed plan called a Full Business Case. We plan to complete this by March 2012. It is effectively our "loan application" to apply to borrow the money we will need for building and improvement work at our hospitals. Develop more detailed plans for the new Women and Children's Centre at PRH.
- April 2012 onwards:** Start work on delivering these changes to our hospitals. This includes building, refurbishment, training staff, and moving services.
- 2014:** New services expected to be in place.

The Facts

Rumour	Fact
These changes will cost too much in this economic climate.	<p>These changes are driven by the need to keep safe and sustainable services in the county, not to save money. During the consultation we said that the developments at PRH would cost around £28m and this remains the case. We also said that we would need to spend some money at RSH for refurbishment and service moves. This will cost between £5m and £7m.</p> <p>These costs are affordable compared to the alternatives which were considered, including the option of doing nothing as it will cost a lot of money to keep service in the maternity building at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. We are working hard to make these changes happen within our budget and are hopeful that these costs may even go down.</p>
I will have to travel further for my appointment.	<p>The main reason that people visit hospital is to attend an outpatient appointment. Both hospitals will continue to provide outpatients appointments. There are about 500,000 patient appointments and inpatient stays in our hospitals each year. Of these, about 98% will stay exactly where they are now.</p> <p>We are planning a new shuttle bus which will take patients, carers and visitors between hospital sites. We are also working closely with ambulance services in England and Wales.</p>
My child will be turned away when the Paediatric Assessment Unit (PAU) at RSH is closed.	<p>No child will be turned away from our hospitals. Out of hours, most children access our services via their GP or by ambulance. In future, when the PAU at Shrewsbury is closed, you will be directed or taken to the best place to provide the right care. This may be the children's unit at PRH or, as now, children with the most serious illnesses and injuries are taken straight to regional specialist hospitals such as Birmingham Children's Hospital.</p> <p>But, if the PAU is closed and you do arrive at Shrewsbury then your child will be quickly seen by staff in A&E and either treated and sent home or, if they need an inpatient stay, safely transferred to Telford .</p>
We will never be able to better the Rainbow Unit.	<p>We are working with parents and families of the Rainbow Unit to ensure that the new facilities in Telford will be even better.</p> <p>We will also ensure that a personalised care plan is put in place for all children and their families who use these specialist services, so that they have information and confidence during then period when the change take place.</p>
I need to know everything now about the changes that will happen.	<p>This article includes the most up-to-date information for you. You are also welcome to read our Outline Business Case at www.sath.nhs.uk/future</p> <p>As we get nearer to the changes happening, we will be widely publicising the details of where you need to go if the changes affect you. Despite these changes, most patients will continue to go to the same hospital as they do now.</p>

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Listening to you...

Focus groups, community meetings, children's groups, mother and baby classes... we have been out and about listening to your views, concerns and ideas around the future of our hospital services.

We recently met with parents and families of the children's cancer and haematology service to talk about their concerns and ideas around transport and access when the service moves to Telford.

We will be meeting them again soon where they will have the opportunity to meet the architects and view the plans for the new unit at PRH.

We also held a focus group which looked at the changes around surgery and are planning lots more over the coming months which will be looking at gynaecology, children's, children's cancer, maternity and surgical services.

If you are interested in getting involved then please call Niki McGrath on 01952 641222 extension 4827 or email niki.mcgrath@sath.nhs.uk

Alongside these quarterly editions of Looking To The Future, we publish occasional "special edition" updates. We have published two special editions this summer, one focusing on the outline site plans for new services at PRH and a second discussing children's services. These are available on our website at www.sath.nhs.uk/future.

Our regular public and patient briefing sessions are another great way to find out the latest news and ask questions. The next sessions are at:

- 6pm on Tuesday, 8 November, in Seminar Room 5, Shropshire Education and Conference Centre (SECC), at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital
- 6pm on Thursday, 10 November, in the Lecture Theatre, Education Centre, at the Princess Royal Hospital

If you would like to attend a session, please register your interest with our Foundation Trust Membership Office on 01743 261473 or email members@sath.nhs.uk



Talking Transport - focus group update

At a recent focus group with parents and families of the children's cancer and haematology unit, we listened to people's views and concerns about transport and access once the service moves to PRH. Below are some of their concerns and our answers to these concerns:

What if it's an emergency and I get stuck in traffic driving my child to PRH?

Our advice would be the same as it is now – pull onto the side of the road and call 999 and either the police and/ or the ambulance service will come and get you.

I don't have access to a car and rely on hospital transport.

The existing Patients First transport system will continue when the service moves to Telford. We are also looking into the option of having a shuttle bus to take patients, carers and visitors from one hospital site to the other.

I am worried about parking at PRH and the time that will take.

We are exploring the idea of a drop-off area outside the entrance for the women's and children's centre at PRH where people can quickly park. We will also be increasing the amount of parking spaces at PRH.

There will be lots more opportunities to discuss the issue of transport and access in the future. If you have any questions or concerns please come along to our next Patient and Public Briefing session or email consultation@sath.nhs.uk



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