



# Travel and Transport Focus Group

## 28 September 2023

# Introduction

# Introduction

- Welcome to this HTP Travel and Transport Focus Group Meeting.
- This will be the first of several planned focus group sessions on travel and transport.
- Further sessions are expected to be organised regularly. One of these sessions will focus on accessing the Princess Royal Hospital. Today's session is on Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.
- For today's session we have invited representatives from
  - Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital (SaTH) NHS Trust
  - local authority officers
  - transport operators
  - community transport operators
  - sustainable transport groups
  - RSH patient and staff representatives and others
  - Members of public

# Objectives

- The primary objective of today's session is to better understand the travel and transport matters in respect of our sites and identify possible next steps to address these.
- The aim of this session is to review all transport modes to our sites and the uses of site transport infrastructure. All modes will be considered i.e., bus, rail, walking, cycling, and parking.
- One party can't fix all the transport concerns alone, but by working together, with multiple stakeholders, we can improve the patient and community experience of visiting our sites.

# Developing two thriving hospitals at our sites

- Engagement planned for PRH to discuss HTP
- Attendance at community meetings to explain HTP
- Outlining benefits to patients of HTP



# Princess Royal Hospital dedicated planned care hub – aligned with HTP

Work is progressing on our £24million Planned Care Hub at PRH with the first beds expected to open to patients in autumn 2023. This purpose-built facility will consist of four theatres and a dedicated recovery area for elective care

The hub will enable us to deliver day case operations all year round which means that:

- Our patients will face **fewer delays** for treatment, improving outcomes
- We are not likely to **postpone procedures** due to winter and bed pressures

The hub is a key part of our long-term plans to deliver improvements in care for the population and create two thriving hospitals. We expect the first beds to open in the Autumn and it is expected to be fully complete in early 2024.

Work is also progressing on the multi-million pound transformation of the main entrance at PRH which is expected to be completed later this year.



# Latest developments: Royal Shrewsbury Hospital

- We are working with Shropshire Council as part of the planning process for the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital site.
- This supports our developing plans to ensure, if approved, we have full implementation by late 2026 and can provide improved care for everyone across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and mid Wales.
- We are working through the design and planning to ensure our facilities will deliver the clinical model and core outcomes of the Future Fit consultation in the most effective and efficient way within the investment.
- We'll continue to work with staff, patients and communities to inform plans at every step of this improvement journey.



# Latest developments: Royal Shrewsbury Hospital





# The Royal Shrewsbury Hospital proposals

The plans for RSH include approximately 30,000 sq. m of accommodation to provide:

- New 3,200 sq. m emergency department and emergency care facilities including an Urgent Treatment Centre and a Critical Care Unit
- Emergency Medicine including Acute Medicine
- Consultant-led Maternity Care
- 3,200 sq. m of new children's centre accommodation including children's inpatient and surgery services, including day case surgery
- Gynaecological Services
- Consultant Neonatal Services
- New 1,500 sq m Oncology and Haematology ward

# The Royal Shrewsbury Hospital proposals

- New entrance, reception and hospitality offer as well as enhanced patient drop off facilities to cater across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, and mid-Wales
- Two new front doors
  - One to the Emergency Department
  - One to the new Main Entrance
- Large new reception and triage areas, with dedicated waiting for adults and children
- An expanded provision for 10 ambulances, with a protective canopy
- Relocated Helipad



# What we will cover today

- Existing travel and transport conditions, and matters discussed to date
  - Bus Access
  - Rail Access
  - Parking On Site
  - Cycling Access
- Pedestrian Access
  
- Next Steps and Actions

# Existing travel and transport conditions

## - Bus Access

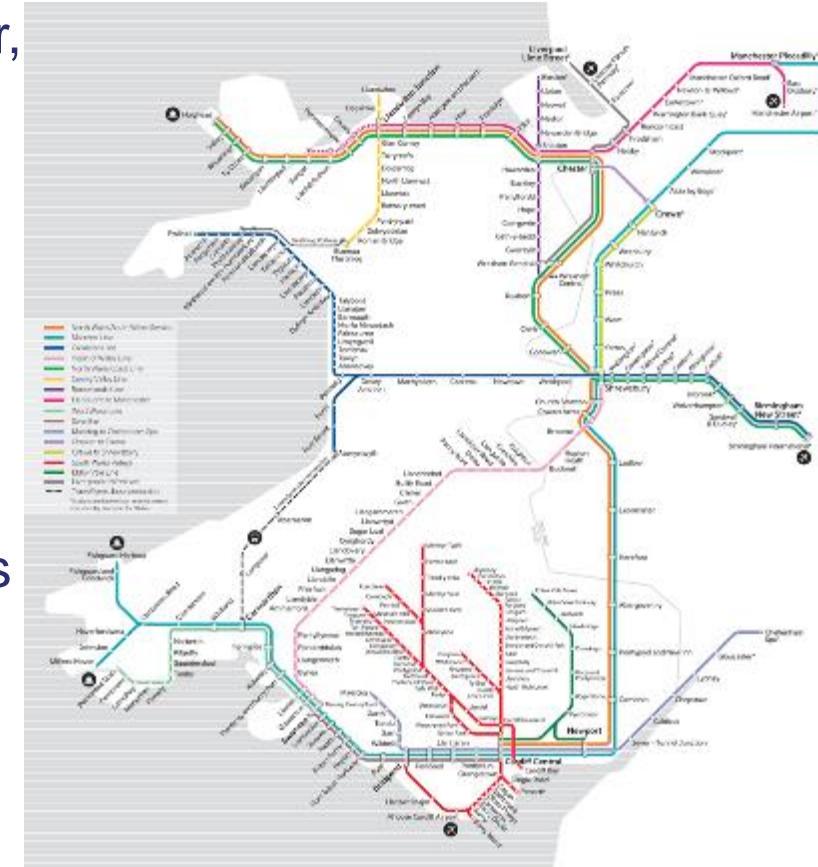
- Services 11, 74, 552/553 and 558 directly access the RSH site.
- Services X5, X75 stop on Welshpool Road and bus service 12 stops on Swiss Farm Road requiring walk time of between 6 and 15 minutes to access the RSH site.
- Most frequent route is service 11 from Bicton to Shrewsbury Station, weekday services 3 per hour in each direction, Saturdays 2 per hour.
- All services access Shrewsbury bus station, which is a circa three- minute walk from Shrewsbury train station.
- Wait time from bus station to RSH, no longer then 20 minutes, typically less.
- One sheltered bus stop on site, outside Main Outpatients Entrance

ROUTE	OPERATOR	OPERATION HOURS	DAYTIME FREQUENCY	EVENING SERVICES
11 – Shrewsbury bus station to Gains Park/Bicton Heath	Arriva Midlands North <sup>1</sup>	Weekdays - 06:35-20:10 Saturdays – 07:30-20:22 Sundays – no service	Weekdays - 3 phr Saturdays - 2 phr	Bicton last service 20:10 Shrewsbury last service 19:55.
74 – Shrewsbury bus station to Llanfyllin	Tanat Valley Coaches <sup>2</sup>	Mon – Sat – 09:10–16:27 Sundays – no service	3 services per day	No evening services
552/553 – Shrewsbury bus station to Stiperstones / Bishops Castle	Minsterley Motors <sup>3</sup>	Weekdays - 06:50-18:50 Saturdays – 07:05–18:40 Sunday – no services.	Varies, service between Plox Green – Shrewsbury typically 2 phr.	No evening services
558 - Shrewsbury bus station to Montgomery	Tanat Valley Coaches	Mon – Sat – 07:30-18:57 Sunday – no services.	4 services per day	No evening services
X5 – Oswestry to Shrewsbury bus station	Arriva Midlands North	Weekdays - 06:25-19:25 Sat – 06:35-19:25	1 p/hr	No evening services
X75 Shrewsbury bus station to Rhayadar	Celtic Travel <sup>4</sup>	Mon-Sat - 06:30-19:56	6 services	No evening services
12 – Shrewsbury bus station to Shelton	Arriva Midlands North	Weekdays – 09:25-17:55 Sat – 09:25-15:55	1 p/hr	No evening services

# Existing travel and transport conditions

## – Rail access

- Shrewsbury acts as a rail hub, with lines from Aberystwyth, Chester, Crewe, Wolverhampton, Cardiff and Swansea converging in the town. There are a total of 16 rail stations in the County of Shropshire. From a rail perspective Shrewsbury Station has good connectivity.
- Shrewsbury to Telford services – 2 per hour in each direction, journey time of 22 minutes.
- Rail interchange, short walk connects both rail and bus stations.
- Bus services 11, 74, 552/553 and 558 all leave from the nearby bus station and then directly access the RSH site. Wait times should be no more than 20 minutes.
- Bus journey time from bus station to RSH approximately 10 minutes.
- Cycle journey times from train station to RSH approximately 15 minutes.



# Existing travel and transport conditions by transport mode - Rail Access

## Matters discussed to date

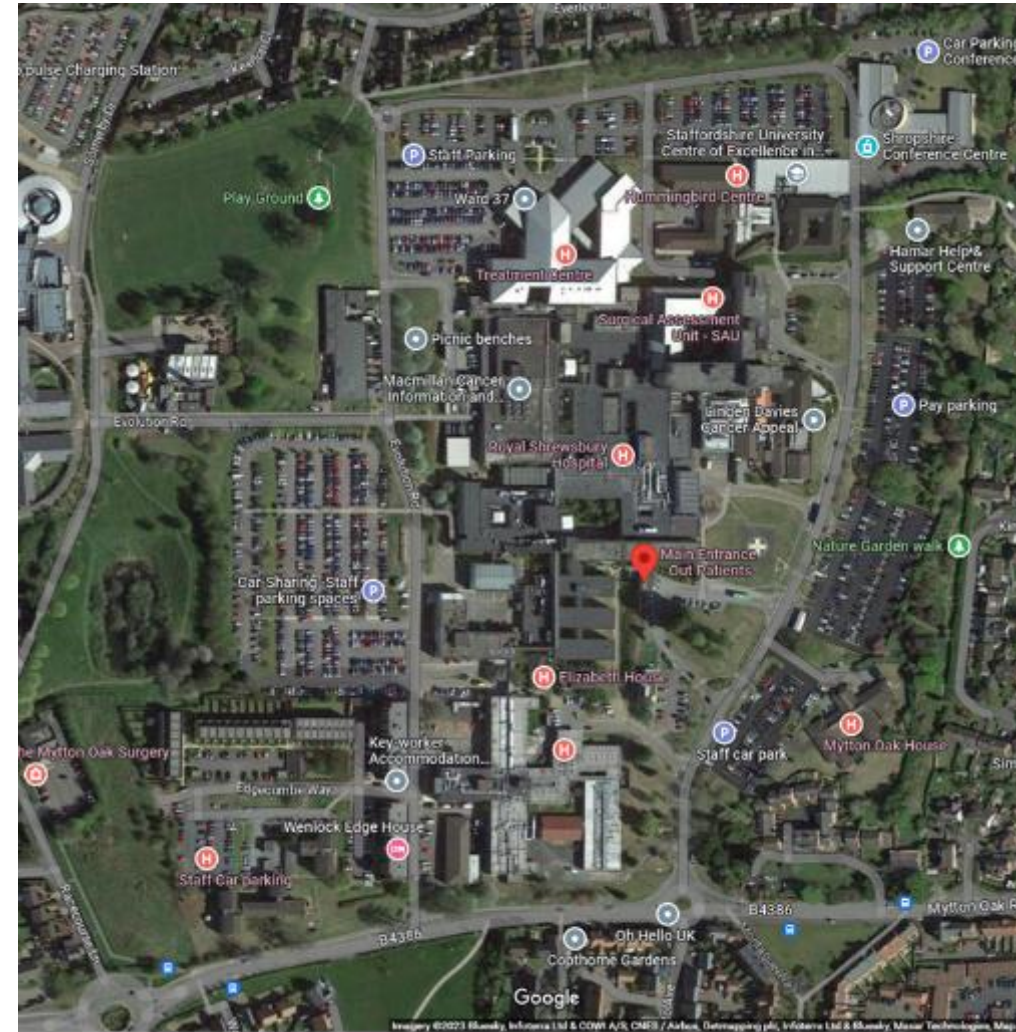
- Onward journey from Shrewsbury train station
- Rail interchange, rail and bus stations are not integrated, three-minute walk time between both stations.
- Majority of rail services to and from Shrewsbury station are long distance services as opposed to commuter services.
- Route between rail and bus stations not well signposted.
- Rail journey time reliability.
- Rail service frequency.

ROUTE	DAYTIME FREQUENCY	EVENING FREQUENCY
Shrewsbury – Aberystwyth via Welshpool	1 every 1-2 hours	1 p/h
Shrewsbury – Cardiff via Ludlow	1-2 p/h	1-2 p/h
Shrewsbury – Carmarthen	1 every 2 hours	No evening services
Shrewsbury – Crewe via Whitchurch	1-2 p/h	1-2 p/h
Shrewsbury – Holyhead via Wrexham	1p/h	1-2 p/h
Shrewsbury – Manchester via Crewe	1 p/h	1 p/h
Shrewsbury – Swansea via Craven Arms	1 every 30 – 90 minutes	No evening services
Shrewsbury – Birmingham via Telford	2 p/h	2 p/h

# Existing travel and transport conditions

## - RSH On Site Parking

- Major car parks surround the hospital to the east, west and north with access via the internal orbital road.
- All on-site parking is surface level.
- Staff parking capacity in excess of 1,100 spaces and circa 500 patient / visitor parking spaces.
- Drop off & pick up, with limited 20-minute wait time, provided including outside Main Outpatients, Ward 11 and the Treatment Centre.
- There are 83 accessible parking spaces on site.
- Some electric vehicle charging spaces, less than 10, but expected to expand as demand expands.
- Parking charges for patients and visitors.
- Waiting time restrictions, staff only parking and parking for blue badge holders.



# Existing travel and transport conditions by transport mode - RSH On Site Parking

## Matters discussed to date

- On site parking capacity.
- Vehicles parked on internal parking access roads.
- Vehicles parked on internal RSH site highways, potentially causing congestion / inhibiting free flow traffic movement.
- Site enforcement and parking management.
- People parking on nearby residential roads.
- Contractors not abiding by parking rules and regulations.
- Possibility of intelligent / digital guidance systems for parking users.



# Existing travel and transport conditions - Cycle Access

- RSH has 16 sets of bicycle racks, located around the site and these are all Sheffield stands. Nine of the bike racks are covered providing shelter for 90 cycles of which 56 spaces are secure spaces.
- Cycle parking spread out across the site to facilitate easy access to RSH wards and facilities.
- Showers & changing rooms available at multiple locations: Maternity, Theatres, Endoscopy and Treatment Centre. They are also provided at the Staff Gym.
- Cycle access from the south via Falcons Way with vehicle restrictions in place at either end and toucan crossing on Mytton Oak Road opposite RSH.
- Cycle access from the west via Racecourse Lane & Somerby Drive, both have traffic restrictions to minimise through traffic.
- Cycle access from the north via Starcross Close and Everley Close. Stepped access from Everley Close.
- Cycle access from the east via Westhope Avenue however route to Westhope Avenue is via narrow footpath with no lighting and no tarmac surface.
- National Cycle Route 81 is located to the east of the hospital.

# Existing travel and transport conditions by transport mode- Cycle Access

## Matters discussed to date

- Visibility of on-site cycle parking.
- Risk of cycle theft.
- Charging facilities for electric bikes.
- Onsite cycle lanes.
- No direct connection to National Cycle Route 81.
- Options set out in the Shropshire Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan, e.g. cycle route connecting RSH with the town centre and major transport hubs, the rail and bus stations.
- Road space – and ability to accommodate cycle lanes.
- Speed limits which can deter further uptake of cycling.
- Local Traffic Note 1/20 compliance.



# Existing travel and transport conditions - Pedestrian Access

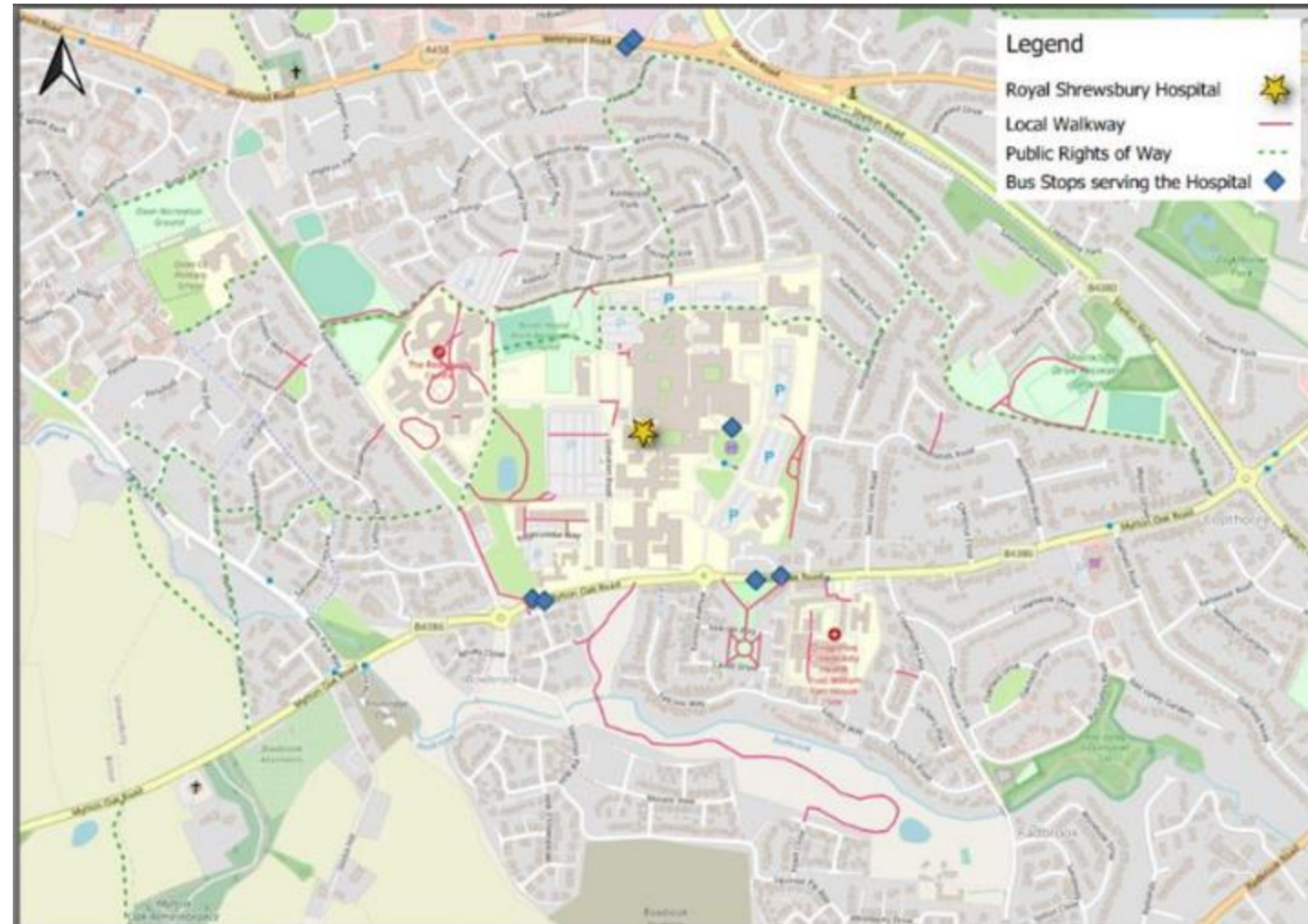
## Baseline conditions

- The orbital internal road within the RSH site has a continuous footpath on the side adjacent to the main hospital facilities. The opposite side of the highway has a footpath in places.
- Dropped kerbs and tactile paving is in place at the majority of road crossing points, especially where there is high pedestrian footfall and the need to facilitate safe and convenient access for all users.
- There are multiple zebra crossings to facilitate crossing of the internal highways, especially from the routes connecting the car parks with the hospital facilities.
- Access from the south via Mytton Oak Road which has footpaths either side. Toucan crossing provides access across the road.
- Access from the west - Racecourse Lane has a footpath on its eastern side and then connects to Wellwood Close which has no footpaths but is low traffic. Evolution Road has bollards restricting vehicle access.
- Access from the north via Starcross Close, Everley Close – footpaths from these roads located on the residential area to the north connect to the RSH internal highway. The footpath via Everley Close provides stepped access.
- Access from the east – Westhope Avenue – a narrow footpath lined with hedges on either side provides access to the internal RSH highway. Route has no lighting and has no tarmac surface.
- Public Right of Way passes through the RSH site to the north from Westhope Avenue in the east to Racecourse Lane in the west.

# Existing travel and transport conditions by transport mode - Pedestrian Access

## Matters discussed to date

- On site infrastructure.
- On site speed limits.
- Enforcement of speed limits.
- Road Crossings.
- Lack of ramped access.
- Wayfinding and signage.
- Parked cars can restrict pedestrian access.
- Surrounding pedestrian access points
  - Street Lighting
  - All weather surfaces
  - Signage to external transport network



# Proposed travel and transport improvements

- Increase in on-site parking of just over 100 parking spaces (107 spaces).
- Use of Oxon Park and Ride – circa 250 spaces provided with new regular bus service connecting Oxon Park and Ride with Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.
- Doubling the number of on-site car sharing spaces – an additional 24 spaces.
- New bus stopping facilities will be provided adjacent to the new A&E entrance.
- Plans to improve bus connectivity between RSH and Princess Royal Hospital.
- Commitment to upgrade on site pedestrian infrastructure.
- Commitment to upgrade wayfinding and signage across the site.
- New additional capacity for cycle storage alongside more showers, changing rooms and lockers.
- Financial contribution towards additional active travel measures.
- Travel Plan Co-ordinator to promote use of sustainable transport.

# Questions

# Next steps

## Travel / transport

# Agreeing actions

# How can you remain involved in wider HTP Programme?

**Julia Clarke**



# Get involved

- There will be a range of ways to get involved over the next few years
- You can help us develop these plans in the best way for the future of local healthcare services
- Talk to your colleagues, friends and family about the programme
- Let us know your thoughts on our plans
- Take part in future sessions and workshops – help us to design services that better meet local needs
- We need to understand your perspectives
- We want to ensure that anyone who is interested can get involved in some way.
- If you would like us to attend a meeting to update your group/organisation or to register for a focus group, email us on [sath.engagement@nhs.net](mailto:sath.engagement@nhs.net)
- Keep looking at our website for more information: [www.sath.nhs.uk/about-us/hospitals-transformation-programme/](http://www.sath.nhs.uk/about-us/hospitals-transformation-programme/)

If you want to hear more about what's happening at our hospitals and how to get involved, email [sath.engagement@nhs.net](mailto:sath.engagement@nhs.net)

# HTP Focus groups

We are entering an exciting phase for the programme as we design the detailed patient pathways. We are committed to engaging and working closely with our local communities, patients and colleagues to ensure we improve the experience for all the communities we serve.

- The next Travel and Transport MS Teams focus group – these will be held regularly
- We are also identifying opportunities to involve our wider communities and those directly identified following the EQHIA process.
- Our next HTP About Health event will be held on MS Teams on **7 November at 6.30pm**

If you would like us to attend an existing meeting or join you at an event, please email:  
[sath.engagement@nhs.net](mailto:sath.engagement@nhs.net)

# Thank you for joining us...

- We will upload the presentation and Q&As on our website: [www.sath.nhs.uk](http://www.sath.nhs.uk)
- If you sign up to become a community member [sath.engagement@nhs.net](mailto:sath.engagement@nhs.net) we will keep you updated on how you can get involved and updated on the programme through our monthly update.
- Any further questions, please email: [sath.engagement@nhs.net](mailto:sath.engagement@nhs.net)

# Thank you



The Shrewsbury and  
Telford Hospital  
NHS Trust