****

**Briefing – St George’s Health and Wellbeing Hub**

**Summary**

Early works have started to make way for a new health and wellbeing centre in Hornchurch.

The St George’s Health and Wellbeing Hub will bring together a range of health, social care and community services under one roof within a brand-new, purpose-built premises.

Works have now begun on the proposed construction site, off Suttons Lane, in readiness for final government approval for the new centre which is expected in the coming weeks. Contractors are currently carrying out clearance works including site surveys and other minor works and parts of the old St George’s Hospital building will also be demolished.

Health and care partners across north east London have been working together for a number of years to design the hub, which secured detailed planning approval this year.

The centre will give people in Havering and its neighbouring boroughs easy access to a combination of primary care, mental health and prevention services, along with some early diagnostic services for cancer.

**Planned communications**

To ensure local residents are informed about the progress on site we will be publicising that early clearance works have started via:

* Local media outlets
* NHS North East London website, social media channels, and those of our partners
* Letter drop to local residents in close proximity to the site

We would appreciate your support with informing and reassuring local residents about the work taking place on site. To assist with this, we have provided a short FAQ below.

**Frequently asked questions**

**What work is being carried out on the site?**

Contractors are currently carrying out clearance works including site surveys and asbestos removal from the existing building on the site. Once this is complete, parts of the old St George’s Hospital building will also be demolished and the grounds will be levelled to prepare the site for the new centre.

**Who do I contact if I have concerns about the work taking place on site?**

If you have any questions about the work happening on the site, contact Mark Jones, Project Manager at McLaren Construction, on 03330168247 or via email [Mark.Jones@mclarengroup.com](mailto:Mark.Jones@mclarengroup.com)

**When will the new centre actually start to be built?**

We are currently waiting on final government approval for the new health and wellbeing centre which we expect to receive in the coming weeks. Once approved, construction work can begin on the new centre and we hope this will be able to start before the end of 2022.

**When will the new centre finally be complete?**

We are currently waiting on final government approval for the new health and wellbeing centre which we expect to receive in the coming weeks. Current plans are for the centre to complete by March 2024.

**What services will be available at the hub?**

The hub will provide a range of services including primary care, outpatient and community services. There will also be a community café. At the moment the full list of services is being finalised with providers and will be published shortly in the full business case document which will be available to view [here](https://www.nelft.nhs.uk/st-georges-health-and-wellbeing-hub/).

**How easy is it to get to the Health and Wellbeing Hub site?**

The site is well served by public transport, with direct bus routes from around Havering (including Romford town centre, Harold Hill, Harold Wood, Rainham, and Collier Row). It is also a 10-minute walk (or a short bus ride) from Hornchurch station. There will also be parking for visitors available on the site.

**How much car parking will there be?**

110 car spaces, including disabled and electric vehicle charging points and a large number of cycle spaces.

**Which GP practices are going to move into this new building?**

We are in discussion with a couple of our local GP practices regarding their intention to relocate to the Hub. These are practices who are in buildings that are too small for the growing local population. In the coming months, these practices will look to engage with their registered patients to discuss the potential of the relocation.

**Will this just be for the people of Hornchurch – or just Havering residents?**

The Hub will provide services and facilities for the people of Havering and from our neighbouring areas including Redbridge and Barking and Dagenham.

**What sort of voluntary and community organisations will be able to use the space?**

This is being confirmed as part of the services list and will be published shortly.

**Do you have all the staff you need to work at this new hub?**

We have most of the staff we need already employed in roles in local services. We will be recruiting more staff, so there will be great training and career opportunities for local people.

**How many beds are you planning on having at this new hub?**

There are no inpatient facilities planned for the Hub, so no beds.

**Will the new hub have an Accident and Emergency service(A&E)? If not, why not?**

No. The nearest A&E is at Queen’s Hospital and there is an urgent treatment centre at Harold Wood Polyclinic.

**How much will it cost to build?**

The redevelopment of the former St George’s Hospital site has been identified as a priority for capital investment by health and social care partners across North East London. The Government has allocated £17million of national funding, and the North East London Integrated Care Partnership has agreed to fund the remaining costs as part of its capital investment programme into health and care facilities in North East

London.