Hythe Hospital news

NHS Hampshire

Welcome to the first edition of Hythe War Memorial Hospital News.

Further to your interest in the development of health services in the Hythe area, this newsletter is designed to keep you informed and updated. Every quarter it will bring you the latest news on plans and progress being made to local services and developments at Hythe War Memorial Hospital and Medical Centre.

What are we trying to achieve?

We want to be sure the right health services are in place for the people of Hythe and the surrounding areas.

At the end of 2010, we asked local people and local GPs what health services they would like at Hythe War Memorial Hospital. We also looked at both the present and future health needs of people living in the area.

This information was used by local GPs and health and social services teams to develop more detailed proposals for local health care.

Project team

The team taking this work forward includes a wide range of local representatives, alongside NHS Hampshire, West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Hampshire County Council colleagues, to ensure local input and knowledge is driving these plans forward. Team members include:

- Dr Philipp Gregory, Local GP
- Councillor Brian Dash, County Councillor
- John Carr, Hythe Hospital League of Friends
- Caroline Coats, Age Concern New Forest East
- Martin Cox, Hampshire LINk
- Councillor Maureen Robinson, New Forest District Council
- David Shimpe, Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Local beds for local people

Feedback from our ongoing engagement with local people showed us that:

- local bed-based care is wanted
- the right level of medical and nursing support is the main concern
- support to get home quickly is important
- the distance to travel to the bed-based care is important

These matters were discussed with local representatives to determine if the 'reablement' model of care would deliver these needs for local people.

What are reablement beds?

Reablement beds are beds in local nursing homes designed to provide a six-week period of support to older patients who are ready to leave hospital but not quite ready to go home.

Hampshire County Council has found that 65-70% of patients are able to return home after a period of reablement, rather than having to move into a nursing home or long-term residential care.

A tour of existing reablement facilities took place to allow local representatives to experience and review the type of care this service would provide for local people.

It was agreed that this approach would provide patients with dedicated nursing support in local beds to help them get home quickly. Therefore, alongside the ten beds at Forest Court Nursing Home in Calmore, Hampshire County Council has identified six further beds at Little Haven Nursing Home in Hythe. These beds will replace the 16 beds that were previously at Hythe War Memorial Hospital.

Keeping services local

Using your feedback and a review of the health needs of the local population now and in the future, the following list of outpatient services will be delivered from Hythe Hospital and Hythe Medical Centre site:

• Phlebotomy (blood taking) • Leg ulcer clinic • Diagnostics e.g. x-ray and ultrasound • Orthopaedics e.g. arthritis • Rheumatology • Therapies e.g. physio • Urology ('Waterworks' Clinics) • Dental • Ear, Nose & Throat services	• Opthamology (eye clinics) • General medicine e.g. chest, kidney, heart clinics • Diabetic clinic • Dermatology (skin clinics) • Paediatrics (e.g. pre-school vision checks) • Gynaecology • Dietician • Continence	• Podiatry (feet clinics) • Colostomy services • Maternity e.g. anti-natal/post-natal clinics (all births at Ashurst Hospital) • Pulmonary rehabilitation e.g. keep healthy programmes for chest conditions • Health education groups • Contraception and sexual health services • Child & adolescent mental health services • Audiology e.g. hearing aid clinic

The new ultrasound scanner, which came to Hythe War Memorial Hospital in June 2011, thanks to the League of Friends, has already seen very good usage leading to plans to add a further full day scanning in the New Year.

A minor injuries service is also being provided through local GP practices including Waterfront, Forestside and Red & Green practices. Please contact the practices for more information.

To allow us to deliver all of these services we have been looking at the buildings and space on the site including a review of the estate, parking facilities and access.

As a result, the following options are being discussed by the project team to determine the best way forward for local people:

1. Do nothing – leave the site and buildings as they are

2. Do minimum – bring the current buildings up to modern standards

3. Refurbishment – refurbish the original Hythe War Memorial Hospital building to use for all services

4. Build a new facility – demolish the existing hospital and medical centre buildings and build a new facility. This would involve some areas of the site being sold off to fund the new facility.

Any new build or refurbishment option would ensure the protection and maintenance of Hythe Hospital's War Memorial status.

The project team are discussing and reviewing these options with local input and we will update you on progress in the next edition. If you would like to let us know your thoughts please send us your comments and feedback via the link below.

Support our Community Hospitals

We regularly attend the Support our Community Hospitals group with Julian Lewis MP, Caroline Nokes MP and Desmond Swayne MP to ensure they remain fully updated and involved in work taking place in the Hythe area.

Feedback/comments

Do you have any feedback or comments? If you do please do get in touch by emailing yourviewscount@hampshire.nhs.uk or by writing to us at FREEPOST, NHS Hampshire.