

# Re-development of Berwick Infirmary

Health & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee – 4 September 2018

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# Catchment area

- South of the Scottish border, West to Cornhill and South to Wooler – including Belford and Bamburgh.
- Also includes some people living in Scotland with a Northumberland GP.

Berwick-upon-Tweed (inc. Spittal, East Ord & Tweedmouth)



- 5 GP practices in the North (Cheviot Medical Group, Glendale Surgery, Well Close, Union Brae and Belford)
- Approx. 25,000 patients on their lists
- 27% of these patients are aged over 65
- 12% are aged over 75
- Berwick one of the highest concentrations of older people in the North East



# Berwick Infirmary Overview

Services provided	Description
<b>Inpatient beds</b>	Step down, consultant led rehabilitation and palliative care beds. Some step up provision limited to palliative care and done via a nurse to nurse pathway.
<b>Outpatients</b>	Outpatients is a overall term for a number of clinics, day case treatments and diagnostics. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Day case treatments</li><li>• Outpatient clinics (led by both NHCFT and NUTH)</li><li>• Specialist areas for example minor procedures, oncology, audiology and radiology</li></ul>
<b>Minor Injuries</b>	A minor injuries service is provided 24 hours a day 7 days per week.
<b>Maternity</b>	Maternity provides midwife support for some low risk births. This is within a separate building on the Berwick infirmary site.
<b>Physiotherapy</b>	A gym and individual bays are used to provide assessment, treatment and rehabilitation.
<b>Offices</b>	A number of community and hospital based staff have offices available within the site.



# Commissioning process to date

- A project group reviewed past plans
- The group comprised clinicians and operational and commissioning managers from the CCG and NHCFT
- Analysis of activity over the previous 3 years informed future commissioning intentions for services
- Thinking was also informed by national healthcare direction of travel, potential future medical advances and the need to deliver sustainable/future proofed services for local people
- The vast majority of the previous services needed to be retained
- All potential opportunities were fully explored



# Current and proposed services

Service	Current	previous plans	2018 proposal
Endoscopy	X (Alnwick)	✓	X (Alnwick)
Gynaecology	X	✓	✓
Dental/Oral Surgery	✓	✓	✓
Plastic Surgery (lumps and bumps)	✓	✓	✓
Gastroenterology	✓	✓	✓
Haematology	✓	✓	✓
Minor procedures	✓	✓	✓
Oncology	✓	✓	✓
Radiology	✓	✓	✓
Maternity	✓	✓	✓
Physiotherapy	✓	✓	✓
Primary Care	X	✓	✓
Minor injuries	✓	✓	✓
Inpatient beds	✓ (20 + 4 escalation)	✓ (30)	✓ (16)

# Current and proposed services

Service	Current	previous plans	2018 proposal
<b>Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals Outpatients</b>			
<b>Dermatology</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>ENT</b>	✓ (Union Brae)	✓	✓
<b>Ophthalmology</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Audiology</b>	✓ (Union Brae)	✓	✓



# Proposed changes

- Number of inpatient beds
- Endoscopy



# Inpatient beds

## Occupied bed days - Modelling

Year	Occupied bed days (per annum)	LOS (mean)	Change in LOS from previous year	Beds needed (93% occupancy)	Actual occupancy
Mar-13	8207	33.6	NO data	24	71.6%
Mar-14	7790	31.9	-1.7	23	72.7%
Mar-15	7920	29.5	-2.4	23	72.3%
Mar-16	7110	28.1	-1.4	20	73.1%
Mar-17	6625	27.7	-0.4	20	75.4%
Mar-18	6929	27.2	-0.5	20	79.1%

- 75.8% Average occupancy since 2016 (20 beds)
- Based on the above, 16 beds would be sufficient to comfortably meet demand.
- Future care models will further reduce Lengths of Stay (LOS) and therefore free up additional bed capacity
- Considered that future bed use profiling will allow for spare capacity in times of surge





# Endoscopy

- Recent demand from the Berwick population has dropped significantly – linked to improved clinical assessments and referral processes.  
2015/16 – **119 cases**   2016/17 – **72 cases**   2017/18 – **30 cases**
- Berwick service suspended in 2017 due to equipment decommissioning
- No increases in waiting times and all patients moved to Alnwick or Wansbeck General Hospital (WGH) based on patient choice
- Pre-assessments for colonoscopy will continue in Berwick
- Complex patients will only be able to access the procedure at WGH
- Alnwick provides full pathway resulting in one appointment and procedure rather than two and closer proximity to other services if required
- Current review of options for people where transport is a challenge, as appointments are early, for example – accommodation near WGH, visitor and patient transport scheme from Berwick to Wansbeck and The Northumbria.



# Benefits

## General

- Modern innovative design / flexible and efficient use of space.
- Design principles will include colour schemes to support visual impaired and ensure dementia friendly approach.
- A new building enables the use of virtual / digital clinics to be further developed following the success of virtual fracture clinic.
- Increase to number of pre assessment clinics

## Integrated development

- Physical activity benefits people's health and well being.
  - Reduces risk of falls, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, breast and colon cancer, depression and anxiety.
- Patients maybe more likely to use facilities supported by hospital staff
- Staff may use services, healthier happier staff provide better care for patients.



# Summary

- This is new investment for Berwick, providing an innovative and sustainable model of healthcare.
- All services currently provided will continue to be provided – so no significant service variation.
- In addition one primary care practice have indicated that they would like to move into the new development.
- The development will have a positive impact on recruitment and retention of staff.
- Integrated model enables economies of scale, back office/corporate services which allows more investment in frontline services.



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**Northumberland**  
Clinical Commissioning Group

# Thank you

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