

## **Update about the new community hospital in Berwick**

Northumbria Healthcare has been asked to inform committee members about the new hospital planned for Berwick where there will be a short presentation during the meeting on 3 September 2019 to update on progress.

In May, Northumbria Healthcare - in partnership with NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) - announced that the £25 million investment in a new stand-alone hospital for Berwick would be located on the site of the current Infirmary.

This decision was made after both the Trust and Northumberland CCG listened to, and reflected on, local views on previous proposals to develop a joint site with the Swan leisure centre. Following this feedback, and a review of the alternative options, a conclusion was reached to develop a new hospital on the existing site.

The Trust has committed to providing all current services, with a view to incorporating more where safe to do so, as well as reducing the need to travel for minor or routine appointments. The design of the new hospital will focus on flexibility, embracing new technology and be 'future proofed' to provide a first class health facility for the people of Berwick.

There is a project group in place, which is meeting monthly, to progress with the plans for the new hospital and conversations are taking place with key partners to identify those who would like to be part of the new development.

We are keen to progress with the build as quickly as possible and work is ongoing to identify the build partner and to develop specific plans. We will share these plans with committee members, key stakeholders and the local community as soon as possible.