

# Briefing

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**Embargoed until 10.00 am on 15 June 2017**

## **Green light for new mental health hospital**

TEWV's Board of Directors has given the go ahead to progress plans for York's new mental health hospital.

The preferred site is Haxby Road and the purpose-designed hospital, which is expected to be completed in 2019, will have 72 beds (four 18-bed wards).

Local people deserve access to the best possible mental health care and this includes having a state-of-the-art inpatient facility. The Haxby Road site has the space and layout we need to build a purpose designed hospital – one that will support 21<sup>st</sup> century care.

We are committed to building a new hospital for people in the Vale of York and the Board's agreement to develop the full business case is a significant milestone towards achieving that goal.

## **How the preferred site was chosen**

The feedback gathered during the public consultation helped inform the assessment of the three possible sites (Bootham Park, Haxby Road and Clifton Park) against a number of criteria including:

- Accessibility (how easy is it to get to the hospital by public or private transport)
- Availability of land
- Achievability (is there space to build a hospital that's designed to support high quality health care and can this be done within required timescales?)

The Haxby Road site came out on top when scored against all the criteria. The brown field site will accommodate the purpose designed hospital and has scope for future development. The site has been discussed in detail with City of York Council and with Historic England but remains subject to a formal planning approval process.

During the consultation process 181 people preferred the Bootham Park Hospital site, 117 chose the Haxby Road site and 69 voted for Clifton Park.

We understand that some people will be disappointed that we are not able to build the new hospital at Bootham Park. However, we want to assure you that prior to a decision being made we worked closely with Historic England and City of York



Council to explore a comprehensive range of options for the Bootham Park Hospital site. These discussions highlighted significant challenges in developing a new hospital on the site.

Developing to the front of the existing building would significantly impact on its architecturally and historically significant facade (a view that was purposefully designed when the building was originally constructed).

A number of options for refurbishing, redesigning or replacing the existing hospital buildings were reviewed. All of these proved extremely challenging and Historic England concluded that all of the options would result in substantial harm to the heritage significance of the site.

Historic England and the City of York Council have agreed that the Trust should consider alternative sites which may be more achievable and would provide the necessary facilities.

### **Review of number and configuration of beds**

We also reviewed the proposed number of configuration of beds, which were outlined as part of the consultation.

We remain committed to doing all we can to make sure that people are able to receive the care and treatment they need at home whenever possible. However, it's also important that people are able to access a bed when they need one.

During the consultation people raised concerns about the number of beds. Some people were worried about the ageing population and the impact this would have on inpatient services; others were concerned that people would need to travel out of the York area if no hospital beds were available.

We responded to these concerns and reviewed our proposals. As a result we have agreed to provide 12 more beds which will put us in a much stronger position to meet current and future needs.

The new hospital will have four 18-bed wards (instead of the proposed four 15-bed wards). As originally proposed there will be two adult, single sex wards and two older people's wards (one for people with dementia and one for people with mental health problems such as psychosis, severe depression or anxiety).

### **What happens next?**

Work will now continue to finalise plans for the new hospital. This includes submitting a formal planning application to City of York Council, purchasing the land and appointing a construction partner.

The full business case is expected to be signed off by the Trust's Board of Directors in the new year.



The Trust has also recently approved a £2 million investment to provide a community resource centre at Huntington House, near Monk's Cross and the community services currently located at Bootham Park Hospital will transfer to their improved accommodation later in 2017.

The Bootham Park Hospital site remains under the ownership of NHS Property Services who are responsible for any future developments of the site.

We're delighted to have reached this significant milestone in the development of the new hospital. We're now looking forward to working with partners, service users, carers and staff to make the new hospital a reality.

I hope you've found this briefing helpful but if you have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch with me or Ruth Hill, director of operations for York and Selby (email [ruth.hill6@nhs.net](mailto:ruth.hill6@nhs.net) or tel. 07920581337)

Best wishes



**Colin Martin**  
**Chief Executive.**  
[colinmartin@nhs.net](mailto:colinmartin@nhs.net)

