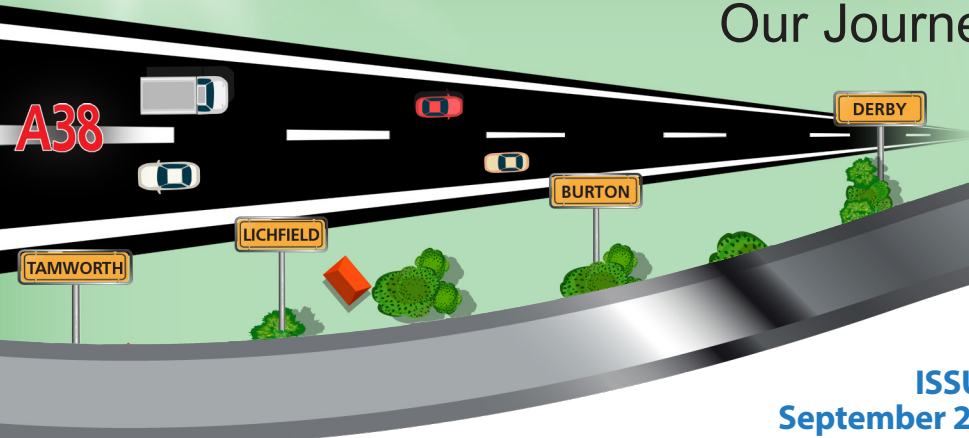


Burton & Derby Collaboration Update

Our Journey Towards Outstanding



ISSUE 6
September 2017



Welcome to the sixth issue of our newsletter aiming to keep you informed about how Burton Hospitals and Derby Teaching Hospitals are planning to work more closely together. The boards of Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust have approved the Outline Business Case for a proposed merger between the two organisations. Our Outline Business Case is available at: www.burtonderbycollaboration.co.uk

The Full Business Case is now being developed, with engagement and input from staff, governors, patients and the public, over the coming months. So, your views are very important to us. This Full Business Case will then be considered by both Trust boards later this year.

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Prospective Chair and Chief Executive appointments

A message from John Rivers, Chair of Derby Teaching Hospitals and Burton Hospitals

Our two Trusts have reached a significant milestone in our journey towards a proposed merger. We are currently developing a Full Business Case (FBC) which will be considered by both our Trust Boards later in the year.

Our aim is to deliver outstanding care to the patients we serve in Derbyshire and Staffordshire and we are fully committed to our key principles of retaining a vibrant general hospital in Burton, securing specialist services in Derby for a wider population, and ensuring appropriate and effective use of our community hospitals in Tamworth, Lichfield and Derby.

As part of the approval process needed to create a new organisation, we are required to identify a prospective Board which would be responsible for the running of the newly created organisation if both Trust Boards approve the Full Business Case.

I am pleased to announce that both Burton and Derby Council of Governors' have approved my appointment as Prospective Chairman of the new organisation.

I am also delighted to announce the appointment of Gavin Boyle as the Prospective Chief Executive of the new organisation. Gavin's appointment has been made jointly by the Nominations and Remuneration Committees of both Trusts who met together to make this important decision. Their decision has also been approved by both Burton and Derby Councils of Governors.

Burton Hospitals' Chief Executive, Helen Scott-South chose not to put herself forward for this role and she has decided, after a lengthy and distinguished NHS career, that she will be retiring when a new organisation comes into being next year.

I want to thank Helen for her enormous contribution over a 42 year career and for her tireless work as Chief Executive of Burton Hospitals where she will continue as Chief Executive until such a time as a new organisation is created.

I also want to congratulate Gavin on his prospective appointment, which was roundly endorsed by both Trusts. I am confident that he will provide the strong leadership and clear vision which will be needed as we come together in a newly created organisation.



Both our Trusts will continue to have strong leadership from Gavin and Helen in the months ahead to maintain our performance and to give stability to both Boards whilst going through the process of identifying other prospective Executive and Non-Executive Directors for the new Board.

Further news of these prospective appointments will be made in future editions of this newsletter.

John Rivers, Chair

In the Hot Seat at Radio Derby

As we progress together on our journey to outstanding care we are fully committed to transparency and are continuing to look at ways of ensuring that everyone has a direct say in helping us to shape the future.

Listening to the views of local people is pivotal and one of the ways to do this was to take the hot seat on Ian Skye's Breakfast Show at Radio Derby.

Helen Scott-South, Chief Executive of Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and Gavin Boyle, Chief Executive at Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust took the hot seat in the BBC studio to answer questions from listeners in Derbyshire and East Staffordshire.

Presenter, Ian Skye, invited local people to contact the station and said, "This is your chance to put your questions about anything that springs to mind to the two NHS bosses behind the merger."

Answering a question on why the two Trusts were merging Gavin explained that there were three reasons. "The first one is all about securing and sustaining local, general hospital services in Burton," said Gavin. "The second reason is about how we can use the community hospitals in Lichfield, Tamworth and London Road, Derby as well as we possibly can. The third reason is as a teaching hospital we also deliver a range of specialist services and it helps us to secure those services if we deliver them across a wider population. So, by joining with Burton we can serve a wider population and help to keep those services local in Derby."

Gavin stressed that this wasn't a takeover. "This is about two hospitals coming together because we want to," he said.

Helen talked about the difference that the merger will bring to Burton. "We will have the opportunity to improve particularly the numbers of consultants that we can continue to appoint over a period of time. Some of our services are quite vulnerable and this isn't about today, it is about a longer term. If we are working with Derby we know there is a significant opportunity to develop services at Burton by taking advantage of their scale and expertise. This is all about developing services at Burton."

One question asked about the merger was if it was all about saving money. "It's not primarily about saving money," said Gavin. "The main focus is about improving the equality and sustainability of clinical services, but like all parts of the public sector we are under pressure financially as well. So, we do have to look towards if we can make some efficiencies out of this and we think there are some. But I don't think you would do it just for that."

Helen spoke of the improvements that can be achieved for patients and said, "One of the benefits actually from working with Derby is that you start to look at the way services are run and take the best from both Trusts. This is a significant step to improving and sustaining local services in Burton, Tamworth and Lichfield."



Helen Scott-South and Gavin Boyle at BBC Radio Derby



**BBC
RADIO DERBY**



Engaging Communities in our Future Plans



Patients are at the heart of everything we do and your views are pivotal in helping us to develop the Full Business Case which will be published later this year. To help us do this, Engaging Communities Staffordshire are now working with us to ensure that we hear the views, opinions and concerns from local people, especially those in our traditionally hard to reach communities.

Engaging Communities (ECS) is an independent, community interest group that works to give the public a voice in the way that health and social care services are delivered. They bring together public engagement, consultation and consumer advice services within a central organisation. ECS delivers Healthwatch Staffordshire, and through this service they have developed a network of members, volunteers and organisational champions throughout Staffordshire, supporting their work in reaching, listening to, and representing the public voice. ECS also has close links with Healthwatch Derby and Derbyshire.

We spoke to Jan Sensier, Engaging Communities Staffordshire's Chief Executive, about the work that is progressing to ensure patients have a strong say in our future plans.

Jan Sensier – “excited about developments.”

What have you been commissioned to do for the Burton & Derby collaboration?

“ECS have been commissioned to work with some experienced patients from across Staffordshire and Derbyshire who can help with an in-depth exercise looking at eight clinical specialities: stroke, cardiology, A&E, acute medicine, orthopaedics, radiology, urology and renal. The volunteers have taken part in an appointment process and will be matched with the areas they will be helping us review using a skills matrix that ECS have developed to match people to the most appropriate group, but also to make sure we utilise them in the most effective way.

We are currently planning another event for the volunteers to give them a really good background so that they can really understand how their work slots in to the work that is being done on the merger.

ECS is also running focus groups with seldom heard voices by targeting specific communities or groups.”

What are the challenges and opportunities?

“ECS are passionate advocates of the voice of the patient. We are excited to take the project forward and to capture the views of public and to shape those clinical pathways.

One of the challenges will be ensuring that patients and clinicians can effectively work together. Mostly it's around the practicalities and logistics of doing this. For example, matching a clinician's availability with patients.

It's important to use a variety of engagement methods. We are keen to reach out to those people that are not always engaged with to ensure their views are captured. This could be due to cultural, issues, or time constraints, or just simply that people have not had the opportunity to engage previously.”

ECS currently covers Staffordshire so how will you manage covering Derbyshire?

“ECS already work closely with Healthwatch Derbyshire and Healthwatch Derby. We are keen to continue to do so and to use their networks as well as our own.”

Finally, what are your views on our proposed merger?

“I absolutely understand the rationale for the joint working in terms of future sustainability and am also excited to be part of this patient and clinical collaboration to ensure we get the best possible of care outcomes for patients. The merger could bring some very exciting developments, I think it is really important that patients are at the heart of the changes.”

Bringing the Best Together for Patients

Patients and the public can be assured that our proposed merger is about bringing the best of both worlds together in terms of how each of our organisations can contribute to our future success. Both Boards are very clear that each organisation brings its own strengths to the potential collaboration.

We wanted to explain more about the route we will need to take in order to achieve this partnership, as there are some important factors that influence how we want to merge.

If we decide to go ahead with the proposed merger, the actual route we will need to follow is an acquisition process due to regulatory requirements, rather than the traditional method of merging. Specifically, if we want to preserve our Foundation Trust status (both Trusts have this) and Teaching Trust status (Derby has this) for any new organisation we may form together - which would bring considerable benefits for both staff and patients - then the only route open to us is for one Trust to acquire the other. This is because dissolving the two Trusts in order to merge (which is the traditional way) would mean we could lose these important characteristics, which help shape how we run and how we can attract high quality staff to our new organisation.

This would mean Derby being the acquiring organisation due to its Teaching Trust status and a few other factors such as Care Quality Commission (CQC) status. However, the spirit of the collaboration would still and always be to merge as partners bringing the best that both Trusts have to offer for the benefit of our patients.

Have your say today

We really welcome people's comments, opinions and questions on our plans for the proposed merger as we want to make sure that we reflect local views as we move forward. The Trust are inviting the public to two meetings in October 2017 to discuss our plans. The events are on:

- Tuesday 24 October, 6:00pm - 7:30pm at the Royal Derby Teaching Hospital, Uttoxeter Road, Derby, DE22 3NE
 - Thursday 26 October, 6:00pm - 7:30pm at the Medical Education Centre, Queen's Hospital, Burton on Trent, DE13 0RB
- If you wish to attend one of the above events, please email communications@burtonft.nhs.uk or call 01283 511511 ext: 5907

Please help us by completing our online questionnaire at <http://www.burtonderbycollaboration.co.uk/getting-involved/> Questionnaire closes on 1st October.

Find out more from website

You can get the latest news on our collaboration and find out more about the benefits at our new website at <http://www.burtonderbycollaboration.co.uk/>. Here, you can watch an animated video which shows how our developing partnership is good news for patients. You can also download a copy of the Outline Business Case, read more about the case for change and be reassured our answers to frequently asked questions.

Next steps

A Full Business Case is now being developed, with engagement and input from staff, governors, patients and the public, over the coming months. The Full Business Case will then be considered by both Trust boards later this year.

The Trusts are seeking to form a new organisation together that will provide sustainable hospital services of outstanding quality for patients and their families.

