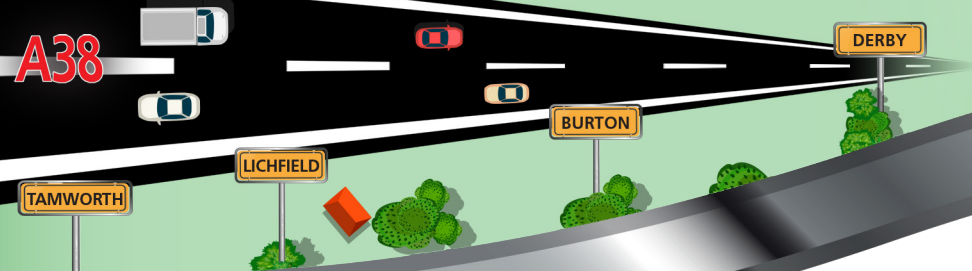


Burton & Derby Collaboration Update

Our Journey Towards Outstanding



ISSUE 7
October 2017

Welcome to the seventh 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

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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.

Local people have their say



People in Burton hear about the proposed merger benefits from John Rivers, Chairman

Over 120 people had the opportunity to have their say on our proposed merger at the annual members' meetings that were held at Burton Queen's Hospital on 25 September and Royal Derby Hospital on 28 September.

Everyone who attended heard how both patients and staff will benefit from improved care with opportunities for staff to develop and thrive in their healthcare careers. The proposed merger is an exciting opportunity to improve and enhance local services.

For Queen's Hospital in Burton, our fundamental principle is that we will retain a vibrant district general hospital in the town, keeping and improving the core services we offer as part of that, including our A&E.

In Lichfield and Tamworth, there will be an opportunity for our community hospitals facilities to offer some different services that are more relevant locally. For Derby Hospitals, the proposed collaboration means access to a wider population base, enabling us to sustain and extend specialist services, such as cancer surgery and spinal services, with clear benefits to local people across Derbyshire and Staffordshire.

Chief Executives Gavin Boyle and Helen Scott-South shared how the two Trusts coming together as one organisation will help to retain a vibrant district hospital in Burton, secure specialist services in Derby for a wider population, and ensure appropriate and relevant use of our community hospitals facilities.

This is about helping both Hospital Trusts, but especially Burton, to keep offering the services local people rely on.

Two prospective Board appointments for the new organisation were announced at the meetings - John Rivers (Prospective Chairman) and Gavin Boyle (Prospective Chief Executive).

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. Patients and the public were able to put their questions about the proposed merger to the Trusts' leaders.

Here are a selection of questions that were asked at the meeting and the answers that were provided:

If this is a proposed merger, then why is there already a joint chairman?

The chairman's appointment is not 'joint' at this current time. He is employed separately by both organisations and has contracts with both independently.

Will Burton Trust executives be paid more money after the merger? Is this the reason they are so keen on the merger?

John Rivers, chairman, answered: "Money has never arisen in any debate that I have been invited to. You are looking at a group of people in both Trusts who hold public

services as the paramount reason for why they work."

If the Chief Executive in Burton leaves the Trust, what guarantees can we have that services will remain at Burton as she says?

John Rivers answered: "It is good that you place great trust in Helen's judgment and I mean that, because she has great judgment in all matters. You must bear in mind that she is just one of 13 members of the board and all the plans that the Derby and Burton Trusts make and finalise will be continued in the Full Business Case, which will be a public document.

Our proposed merger is all about improving and enhancing local services and this is what we will focus on as the work goes forward. For Queen's Hospital in Burton, our fundamental principle is that we will retain a vibrant district general hospital in the town, keeping and improving the services we offer as part of that, including our A&E."

Trust leaders appear to have spent a lot of time promoting the merger; has this come at the expense of clinical matters, such as the response to sepsis?

Magnus Harrison, Chief Medical Director at Queen's Hospital, answered: "It is right that we are spending a lot time on our proposed merger and ensuring that our clinical strategy and services are fit for the future. We have continued to invest in frontline services at Burton with a significant programme of ward refurbishment in

the last eight months, and new service offerings launched over winter. There have been major improvements to sepsis care and other services."

How can you be sure that the Staffordshire and Derbyshire STP [sustainability and transformation partnership] will not move funds away from acute care?

Helen Scott-South answered: "There is going to be money that will be transferred into more community based care which will better support the frail and elderly and those in end of life care. The merger actually helps us provide those services."

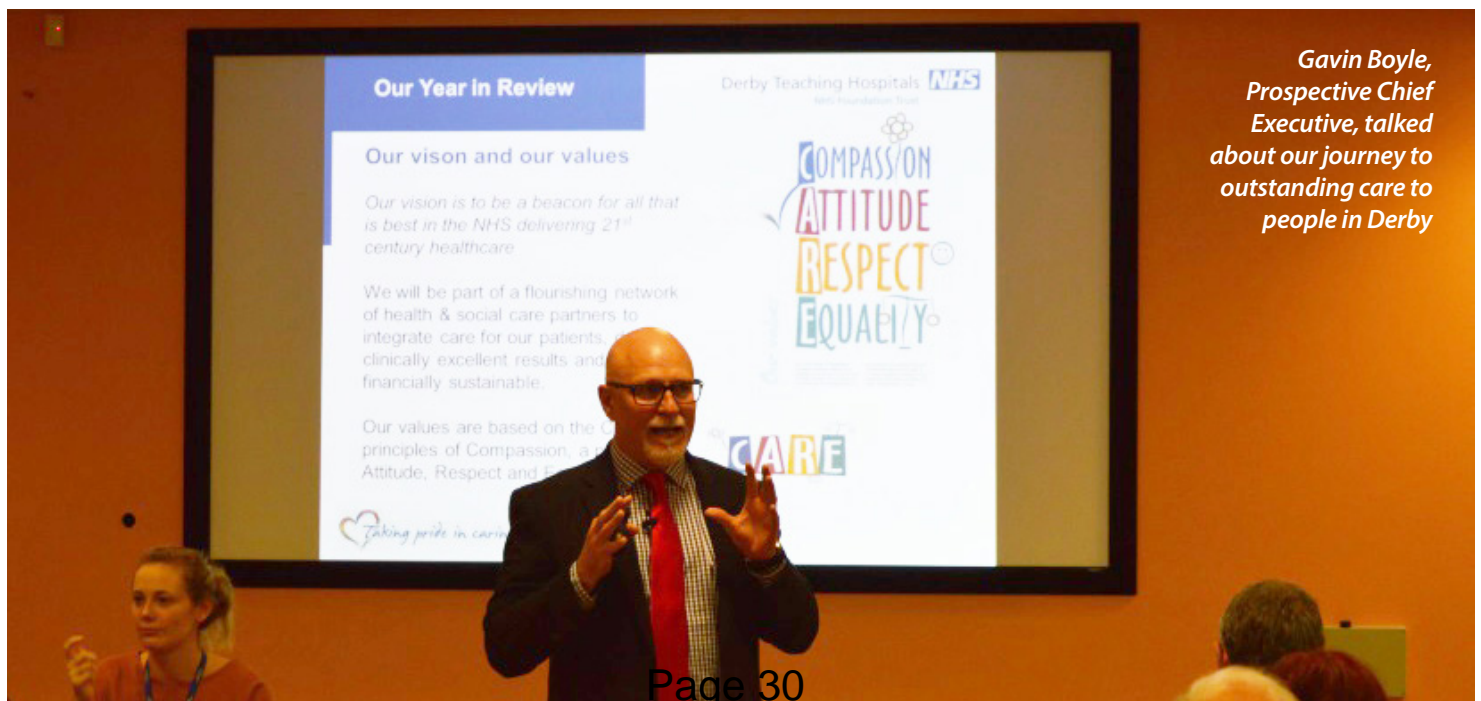
Will funds from Burton Hospitals Trust be used to pay off Derby's PFI debt?

No.

Will the bigger of the two "equal partners" in the proposed merger inevitably have a greater say on the use and disposition of what will then be joint resources?

The new organisation will have a new Board appointed from the two existing Boards who will be responsible for delivering the Strategic Directions set out in the Full Business Case. The allocation of resources will be governed by a scheme of delegation which will ensure openness and transparency.

You can find more answers on a whole range of questions about our proposed merger on our website at www.burtonderbycollaboration.co.uk/faqs/



Gavin Boyle, Prospective Chief Executive, talked about our journey to outstanding care to people in Derby

Patients help shape the future

Our work with patients took a major step forward when we held a special event on 20 September.

In last month's issue we told you how we are now working to ensure that we hear the views, opinions and concerns from local people, especially those in our traditionally hard to reach communities.

In March 2017 we held two workshops for patients who are interested in becoming patient representatives on the clinical overview areas. As part of the recruitment process they were asked to complete a form outlining the skills and experience they would bring to the role; details of any wider

community networks which they are part of; and which particular clinical review they had an interest in, and/or experience of as a patient or carer.

We reviewed the applications and matched patients to the six clinical overviews which we are currently looking to involve patients. These areas are Cardiology; Orthopaedics, Stroke; Radiology; Acute Medicine and A&E.

The patient representatives were then invited to attend a special event on 20 September 2017 which was held at Burton Town Hall, 5-7pm. Over 20 patients attended which enabled them to take part in discussions and hear more about each

overview area from clinicians

The aim of the discussions was to look at the vision for the service and patient benefits and to give representatives an insight into the process. There was also an opportunity for people to give their views and to talk about their future involvement as patient representatives. Finally, everyone was able to put questions to the panel of Chief Executives, Medical Directors and Chief Nurses.

We will be following up with another event in November which will focus on the role of the patient representatives and their involvement in the months ahead.



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.

For the latest news....

Visit www.burtonderbycollaboration.co.uk for the latest updates on our proposed merger.

In the next issue....

We will feature the results of our patient questionnaire, which has received hundreds of responses, in our next newsletter.

Our Journey Towards Outstanding
Our Five Pledges



on our proposed
merger to strengthen
and sustain services

OUR PLEDGES

- 1. We will retain a vibrant district general hospital in Burton including our A&E.**
For Queen's Hospital in Burton, our fundamental principle is that we will retain a vibrant district general hospital in the town, keeping and improving the core services we offer as part of that, including our A&E. With just one or two exceptions, our plans do not involve services moving.
- 2. We will sustain and develop existing specialised services in Derby.**
We will have access to a wider population base, enabling us to sustain and extend specialist services, such as cancer surgery and spinal services, with clear benefits to local people across Derbyshire and Staffordshire.
- 3. We will introduce services in our community hospitals at Lichfield and Tamworth that recognise the changing needs of the two populations.**
There will be an opportunity for our community hospitals facilities to offer some different services that are more relevant locally. These services would be heavily aligned with the local GPs and will offer more diagnostic work and specialist outpatients, as well as potentially more day case procedures (including specialist clinics such as spine, from Derby consultants) and more locally-focused end of life care.
- 4. We will retain patient choice**
Patient choice is at the heart of the NHS and patients will continue to be able to choose whether they access services at Burton or Derby. Indeed, patients will have more choice in the future as our community hospitals will be offering some different services that are more relevant locally. These services will result in us working more closely than ever with our local GPs.
- 5. We will only make changes that will improve services and there are no plans to privatise them or make wholesale staff redundancies.**
Our key aims are to improve the quality of the services we offer patients, and to improve the health of our local populations by dealing effectively with the challenges we face on a daily basis. Patients and the public can be assured that the proposed merger is not about privatisation at all and we have no plans to privatise services or make wholesale staff redundancies.

For more information please visit
www.burtonderbycollaboration.co.uk