Building a sustainable future – consultation update

DATES for two further Friarage consultation events have been announced for the New Year.

The consultation, launched on 13 September by NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), in partnership with South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, aims to shape the future of key services at the Friarage.

It follows the urgent temporary changes that were introduced at the Friarage from 27 March 2019, as a result of significant gaps in the critical care and anaesthetic workforce.

The CCG is consulting on a new vision for the Friarage that would safeguard services and ensure local people continue to have access to high quality and safe urgent and emergency care and contains two preferred options for urgent and emergency care provision:

**Option 1: 24/7 Urgent Treatment Centre**
A 24 hour, 7 days a week Urgent Treatment Centre for adults and children with minor injuries and minor illnesses

**Option 2: 16/7 Urgent Treatment Centre**
8am to midnight, 7 days a week Urgent Treatment Centre for adults and children with minor injuries and minor illnesses

The consultation has already had feedback via 11 public events across Hambleton and Richmondshire through focus groups and the completion of approximately 1,200 surveys.

But there is still time to have your say as the consultation has been extended to 17 January 2020 due to the general election. In the light of the extension the following events are taking place in January:

- **Saturday 11 January - Northallerton Town Hall**
  Drop in from 10am to noon (stay as long as you like)

- **Friday 17 January - Northallerton Town Hall**
  Consultation meeting from 10.15am to 12.15pm (two hour meeting)

Information about the consultation, including how to get involved and provide feedback, is available from the CCG website [www.hambletonrichmondshireandwhitbyccg.nhs.uk/friarageconsultation](http://www.hambletonrichmondshireandwhitbyccg.nhs.uk/friarageconsultation)
Top marks for clinical decisions unit

THE clinical decisions unit at the Friarage has been rated top of the class when it comes to treating patients safely and efficiently.

The unit scored 100% across the board during a recent benchmark audit by the Society of Acute Medicine, making it the best performing in the country.

The clinical decisions unit (CDU) is part of the acute medical unit at the Friarage which sees 15 to 20 new referrals a day.

It cares for patients who require additional tests, treatment or observations and therefore need to stay longer than a typical emergency or urgent care visit. This type of care, referred to as ambulatory care, means that patients can be seen and assessed and discharged to recover at home quicker, as long as it is safe to do so.

The national audit assessed units against three key performance targets:

- Time to patients having physiological measurements recorded such as blood pressure, respiratory rate and consciousness levels (maximum 30 minutes)
- Time to patients being seen by a doctor (maximum 4 hours)
- Time to be reviewed by a consultant (maximum 12 hours)

In total 127 units were assessed across the country. The Friarage CDU was the only unit to achieve 100% for all admissions.

The CDU is an important part of the future vision for the Friarage and many patients receive their care at the Friarage following assessment in the CDU, when they have attended the Friarage by ambulance or visit the Urgent Treatment Centre.

Going green

RECYCLING has been introduced at the Friarage and is already proving a great success.

More than 13 tonnes of dry mixed recycling - cardboard, paper, tins, cans and plastic – has already been collected.

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is also using anaerobic digestion to deal with food waste which has already provided enough energy to heat a small home for five months, and the residue goes to farmers for fertiliser.

In this first six weeks of operation we have saved nearly 29 tonnes of carbon – the equivalent of powering 17 homes for a year, or keeping 11 cars off the road. We’ve already rolled out recycling to 25 wards and departments, with plans to reach the whole of the Friarage by the end of January 2020.

For more information contact
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The novel pain control method has been introduced at the Friarage and has completely eliminated the need for anaesthetic or intravenous drugs for patients using it.

Commonly known as a green whistle, the Penthrox inhaler contains a small amount of Methoxyflurane gas which patients self-administer by breathing through the device.

**The green whistle has a number of benefits as it:**

- enables patients to instantly control the level of pain relief they receive;
- causes no after side effects and therefore speeds up recovery;
- means patients are not exposed to dangerous drugs and do not need a cannula;
- reduces cost by freeing up an anaesthetist to treat other patients and reducing the amount of time patients need to spend in a hospital bed.

The device, which has been used extensively in Australia and New Zealand in pre-hospital emergencies as a very effective painkiller, has been introduced at the Friarage by anaesthetist Gareth Kessell and plastic surgeon Tobian Muir.

It is mainly used for painful procedures that can be carried out in under an hour and has already benefited more than 170 patients undergoing either Bleomycin treatment for vascular birthmarks or electro-chemotherapy treatment for cancer.

Mr Muir said: “The success rate is phenomenal at 98% and the feedback from patients has been really positive. It is fantastic that the Friarage has become one of the first hospitals in the country to use this for procedures on such a big scale.”
The programme will see six students working alongside doctors and healthcare professionals, over the next year, delivering care to patients within the community, as well as at the Friarage.

The fourth year students are on a Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (LIC). This is one of the first of its kind in England, providing medical students with the opportunity to follow selected patients on their healthcare journeys, from GP to hospital clinic and admissions.

The students spend three days per week in a primary care setting at a rural or semi-rural GP surgery, and one to two days per week at the Friarage.

James Dunbar, clinical director at the Friarage said: “We are delighted to welcome our first Hull York medical students to the Friarage Hospital. Health services in North Yorkshire face some particularly difficult workforce challenges and therefore it is great to see students experiencing the provision of care in a rural setting.

“I know from personal experience that locally trained doctors are more likely to stay in the areas where they have trained and hope that in the future, we’ll be able to welcome back some of the students to work with us at the Friarage.”

Dr Kevin Anderson, director of primary care education at Hull York Medical School and a GP himself, believes the LIC will provide students with a first class learning experience. He said: “The arrival of the students in this part of North Yorkshire marks a milestone in the development and expansion of our medical programme.

“We hope the LIC year will provide a great opportunity for these pioneering students to be immersed in the whole patient journey on their clinical placements and follow the same patients over time in a variety of clinical settings.

“The LIC placements offer one solution to the GP and wider medical recruitment difficulties that many parts of the country face, particularly in rural areas like North Yorkshire. Evidence suggests that students undertaking this type of placements are more likely to return to work in their area of training.”

The plan is to increase the number of students to around 50 over the next few years.