

Response to IRP Recommendation 3 – Vision for the Existing Monklands Site

1. Introduction

It is anticipated that the site of the current University Hospital Monklands (UHM) will be vacated by around 2027/8, with all acute hospital services moving onto a new hospital campus.

It is proposed that the former hospital site will then be made available for redevelopment by a Partnership comprising NHS Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire Council, Strathclyde University and Community Planning Partners with the purpose of improving the health and wellbeing of the people of the local area, reducing health inequalities within that population and providing opportunity for economic regeneration within the area.

These ambitions are in accord with the healthcare strategy “Achieving Excellence” and the North Lanarkshire Council strategy “We Aspire”, using the methodologies set out in the Place-based Approach to joint planning as recommended by the Independent Review Panel (IRP).

2. Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment

NHS Lanarkshire’s assessment against the Fairer Scotland Duty (FSD) considered the impact of the transfer of acute healthcare services from the current site to a new location.

The conclusions from the FSD assessment were:

- The proposal to rebuild University Hospital Monklands (UHM) will have positive impacts on the Lanarkshire population including socio-economic outcomes such as employment during the build phase, and improved acute healthcare through the provision of an optimal clinical model based on 21st century accommodation standards;
- Moving the hospital from its current site will have a negative impact on some members of the local community, particularly those on low incomes who have to travel to acute hospital services and who do not have access to a car;
- Mitigation measures would need to be put in place to:
 - a) Provide innovative, enhanced community and public transport links to the new hospital for the catchment area population;
 - b) Facilitate lower paid staff to maintain employment at the new hospital, ensuring that they are not disadvantaged by cost of travel and minimise the impact of travelling time; and
 - c) Facilitate training opportunities for those in the most socio-economically disadvantaged areas to allow them to benefit from new construction jobs and jobs in the new hospital.

There is recognition within the FSD report that there might be some value in considering that the newly developed buildings within the current site, such as the Lanarkshire Beatson and Maggie’s Centre, form part of a wider plan to develop a range of appropriate community services located at the current site to address health inequalities within the local area. This will be explored further through the proposed Partnership.

Appendix 3

3. The Partnership

It is proposed that the 12 hectares of land which will be vacated when UHM transfers to its new location be redeveloped by a strategic Partnership involving, as a minimum, NHS Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire Council, Health & Social Care North Lanarkshire (H&SCNL) and the University of Strathclyde. Although it will be strategically led by the aforementioned partners, it is anticipated that North Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership will be a key role in the development.

NHS Lanarkshire has already entered into a unique partnership with the University of Strathclyde to contribute to making Lanarkshire a healthier, fairer and socially cohesive community. It has resulted in an ambitious proposal: Lanarkshire Social Innovation Programme for Health and Wellbeing to improve healthcare systems and reduce inequalities.

Utilising the Place-based Approach and the University of Strathclyde/NHS Lanarkshire Social Innovation Programme for Health and Wellbeing, we will work together with the local community to ensure that when the hospital moves, any new development at the vacated site benefits the community and seeks not just to mitigate the loss of the local asset but to decrease socio-economic inequalities through community development and regeneration opportunities. Effectively we shall aim to reduce health inequalities and enhance health and wellbeing outcomes across the population as a whole.

Actions in Response to Recommendation 3.

In response to Recommendation 3, the NHS Lanarkshire will:

- accept all of the FSD recommendations (by September 2019);
- establish a formal Partnership between the University of Strathclyde, H&SCNL and North Lanarkshire Council to improve health care in Lanarkshire and reduce health inequalities with the existing Monklands site being central to this strategy (by November 2019);
- demonstrate its commitment by making the former hospital site available to the new Partnership on the understanding it should only be redeveloped for initiatives that aim to decrease socio-economic inequalities through community development and regeneration opportunities (by November 2019); and
- take this work forward under the principles of a Place-based Approach to joint planning resourcing and delivery as recommended by the Independent Review Panel (ongoing).