At a Glance

- University Hospital Monklands has provided fantastic care and treatment for more than 40 years.
- But the building is no longer fit for purpose – it contains asbestos, doesn’t meet fire safety regulations, floods regularly and has an old infrastructure that breaks down. It’s very difficult and disruptive for patients and staff to keep maintaining it.
- Full refurbishment of the hospital would be extremely challenging and would take about 23 years.
- Building a new hospital on the current site would be highly disruptive – and would take around 13 years.
- Patients and staff would have to put up with noise and dust, and hundreds of parking spaces would be lost when car parks were built on or used for construction compounds and builders’ vehicles.
- Crucially, refurbishing Monklands or building on the current site wouldn’t allow us to properly put in place our plan for treating patients in the best possible way in the future, when there will be more older people requiring more care.
- The current site doesn’t have the space and flexibility to let us fully implement this plan, which needs a hospital with a very large ground floor so that key services can be close together. These include A&E, outpatients, assessment areas, a cancer unit, radiology and laboratories.
- During an appraisal of options to stay or move, participants recognised the challenges with the current site and scored the option to go to a new location highest. Participants then compared the current site with two alternative locations – Gartcosh and Glenmavis. Gartcosh scored highest because it has better road links and, unlike Glenmavis, it has a train station.
- Moving to Gartcosh would give us space to build a state-of-the-art hospital, which would include an A&E. It would be big enough to put in place our blueprint for healthcare and could be expanded by up to 20 per cent in future.
- If the hospital moves, suitable bus services would be put in place – this is a standard planning requirement. Staff who incur additional costs getting to the new hospital would be able to have their excess travel costs reimbursed for four years.
- The Lanarkshire Beatson and Maggie’s Lanarkshire would move to the new location and the existing Monklands site would be declared surplus to requirements and sold – there’s no legal restriction on the land being used for purposes other than healthcare.
- A public consultation on the replacement or refurbishment of University Hospital Monklands is being held from 16 July to 15 October 2018. We’d like you to take part – you can find out how to at www.monklands.scot.nhs.uk.