

Epsom Hospital - what's really happening



I and our staff have spent the last four years listening to the 'fake news' and misinformation about your local hospital. I thought I should tell you the facts about what is happening to improve your local hospital so that it remains a treasured part of the Epsom community for decades to come.

I hope you find the information in this leaflet useful. Please feel free to contact me by email on daniel.elkeles@nhs.net if you have any questions.

Daniel
Chief Executive

THE FACTS

1. There are no plans to close Epsom Hospital now or in the future, whatever happens.
2. We are investing over £30m in improving it between 2018-2020.
3. We sold land on Epsom Hospital site last year to the highest credible bidder - all the proceeds are being invested in improving Epsom Hospital.
4. We need a new 500 bed hospital building to treat Epsom and St Helier's sickest 15% of patients. It will save lives. It will cost £500m. It will be at Epsom, St Helier or Sutton hospital. Our local commissioners hope to consult the public on the preferred location in the Autumn.
5. Wherever the new hospital building is built, Epsom Hospital will remain open treating at least 85% of the patients it does today.
6. We have more staff, are safer, and provide more services than we ever have.



Investing £30m+ in Epsom Hospital

- New paediatric and maternity outpatients 2018
- Expanded A&E department opened December 2018
- New therapy centre opened February 2019
- New outpatient department will open June 2019
- New clinical administration building opens June 2019
- Replacing lifts, windows, floors 2019
- Replacing steam powered boilers 2019-2020
- Repairing the exterior of Wells Wing starts 2019
- New deck car park 2020
- Extending Langley Wing to bring New Epsom and Ewell Community Hospital on site in 2021

Everything we are investing in will be used by the residents of Epsom and surrounding areas for decades to come.

Selling surplus land

We did sell land on the hospital site last year that we were not using for clinical purposes and buildings that are in a very poor state of repair. We secured a sale price of £18m which was £3m more than our 'estate agent' thought we could achieve. We achieved the objective of selling it for social care purposes. It was the best deliverable bid, there were higher bids but they were for exclusive high end residential blocks of flats that had significant planning risks that we were asked to bear. We got the best deal for the NHS. All the proceeds are being invested in Epsom Hospital.

The long term future

We do need to solve the issues that Epsom and St Helier hospitals face - poor buildings, not enough staff and a big financial deficit. The best way to do this is to build a major new hospital facility for the sickest patients who use Epsom and St Helier hospitals. It will be c500 beds and cost £500m. By building this our clinicians will be able to provide better care for our sickest patients and they will save more lives as a result. It will be built at either Epsom, St Helier or Sutton hospital sites depending on the outcome of a public consultation which our local clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) hope to conduct in the Autumn. It would be one of the biggest investments the NHS will make anywhere in the country. If we don't do this we can't guarantee that everything will be able to carry on as it currently does for ever.