

## **Update     2 October 2015**

### **Proposals for Future Services at Townlands Hospital, Henley-on-Thames**

I am pleased to inform you that the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups Governing Body met on Thursday 24 September and agreed to proceed with the proposed model of care for the Townlands Hospital Health Campus.

The Governing Body met on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September to consider a report to provide further assurances on a number of issues relating to the future provision of health services at the Townlands Health Campus, namely:

- Modelling to determine the number beds needed to provide step up and step down care
- The ability of the Orders of St John Care Trust to meet the needs of the new model of care
- The capacity of community health and social care teams to support the new model
- Plans for a transition period until the Orders of St John Care Home is open in the summer of 2016
- Financial modelling.

It listened to representations made by the Chair of the Henley Townlands Steering Group, Councillor Ian Reissmann, and Mayor, Lorraine Hillier.

The Governing Body paid very close attention to the assurances that had been put before them. Some very important points were made by the members on a number of issues.

In agreeing to implement the proposals for Townlands, members were very clear about the need for close monitoring of progress at Townlands. We will work with the Townlands Steering Group to make sure it plays a role in monitoring the implementation of these proposals, the quality of care provided and the outcomes for patients. We are committed to spending the time needed to make sure we keep a close eye on progress.

The Governing Body decision means that plans can move ahead to implement a new ambulatory care model, an increase in diagnostic services and an expansion of outpatient clinics. Patients will also be able to access the full range of services currently provided by the minor injuries unit and the out-of-hours GP service.

Ambulatory care enables patients to be seen earlier and closer to where they live. Patients are assessed, treated and, if needed, provided with rehabilitation support, without having to be admitted to hospital. In the case of Henley, ambulatory care will be provided within patients' own homes and at the Townlands health campus. At the heart of Henley's ambulatory care services will be a Rapid Access Care Unit (RACU), which will be open 8am to 8pm, 365 days a year.

### **Next Steps**

It was agreed that a paper reviewing progress would be brought to the Governing Body in six months' time.

Further information about the proposals and the decision making process can be found on our website, along with a short film of the discussion held at the Governing Body meeting.

<http://www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/about-us/work-programmes/townlands-hospital-consultation/governance-and-hosc/>

**David Smith, Chief Executive of the Clinical Commissioning Group**