



# A New Specialist Hospital Building at the Royal Victoria Infirmary



# Hello from Newcastle Hospitals

We are developing plans to build a new five storey unit for specialist clinical services at the Royal Victoria Infirmary and we want to give local people the chance to give us their views on the building we're proposing.

We are still in the early stages of the project. We have applied to the Government's New Hospital Programme for funding to pay for the new building and in the coming weeks we will start the process of applying for permission to build it. That way we'll be ready to start work as soon as funding is agreed.

This new building will be a purpose-built home for many of the highly specialist services needed each year by thousands of patients from across our region and further afield, including Adult Critical Care, Burn Care, the North East Assisted Ventilation Service, specialist maternity services, and services for patients living with Cystic Fibrosis.

These services operate best when they are close together. At the moment they are provided from a range of older buildings that are not good enough to help us care for patients well and also cost a lot to maintain. Some of the facilities need to be replaced, refurbished or upgraded urgently, because they don't meet the standards we expect.

The new specialist hospital building is one part of a ten-year building programme to address those issues. That programme includes a new day surgery treatment centre at the Freeman Hospital and plans for a new Children's Heart Services unit next to the Great North Children's Hospital.

The proposed new building would be the most environmentally-friendly we've ever built. And it will give us more ward and theatre capacity to help our plan to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Read on to find out more about our plans for the new building and how to share your views with us.



Aerial view of proposed site

## The site

We're proposing to build the new building on ground (the site) at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, off Richardson Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The site sits between the Leazes Wing and Crawford House, though Crawford House itself will be unaffected. It has existing hospital buildings on three sides (north, east and west). Richardson Road is on the site's southern side with Leazes Park across the road.

There are temporary cabins on the site at the moment which are used for clinical training and office space. These would be removed for this development.

## Proposed development

The new building we're planning would have four floors and a basement. A two-level plant centre for heating, power and other machinery and equipment would sit on top of the building.

At ground-level the main entrance will lead patients and visitors to a reception area, patient information, coffee shop and seating area. There will be a separate entrance for Fetal Medicine and the Women's Health Unit. We're proposing to link the levels in the new building to those in the existing Leazes Wing with a bridge, making it easy to move between buildings.

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Inside there would be a central 'street' which will make it easy for people to find where they need to go and easily get there. Three internal courtyards will bring natural light and interest into the building. Up on the roof, we propose to create a space for staff to take patients outside to enjoy fresh air and landscaped spaces.

Right from the start of this project, we've thought about how to make this new building as environmentally friendly as possible, helping us to deliver our Climate Emergency Strategy, and become a net zero carbon organisation by 2040. It would be the most environmentally -friendly and sustainable building we've ever built.

## Have your say

We want to make it easy for you to share your views about our plans. You can find out more at <https://www.newcastle-hospitals.nhs.uk/about/ambitions/estate-strategy/specialist-hospital-building-plans/>

And you can get in touch by:



Emailing your comments to: [NewcastleNHS@dppukltd.com](mailto:NewcastleNHS@dppukltd.com)



And writing to:

DPP, Studio 012, Haylofts, St Thomas' Street,  
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4LE.

**Closing date for responses: 12pm on 26 November 2021**

Development partners



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