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## **RUH Director helps with development of the new NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol**

One of the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Trust's executive team has been using his expertise to lead the Estates and Facilities team at the new NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol.

Brian Johnson, the RUH's Director of Estates and Facilities, has spent the last three weeks on site at the new Nightingale Hospital, which serves the Severn region from Gloucester to Yeovil and Swindon to Taunton. Based at University of West of England Frenchay campus, it will provide up to 300 intensive care beds for coronavirus patients, if local services need them.

Brian, a Chartered Engineer, said: "It's been a real honour to have been part of such an incredible project, which is at the heart of the NHS' efforts to tackle the coronavirus pandemic in the south west.

"It's been a tremendous effort by everyone involved to create this facility in just 24 days. We have installed some seven miles of copper piping for the medical gas, oxygen and vacuum systems and some 25 miles of data cabling.

"Ordinarily, this sort of project would take around 18 months to complete, so this has been a truly Herculean achievement. It is testament to the hard work of the NHS staff, our contractors and armed forces colleagues all working together for a common goal.

"The RUH has been actively supporting this project and many of our clinical staff who have asked to work there have now arrived for induction and training. It's an impressive model for the future of what we can achieve in a time of crisis – but obviously what we really hope for is that we will never need to use it."

Brian joined the RUH in September 2018 as Director of Estates and Facilities. Before that, he was Regional Operations Director at Capita Health Partners. He has held numerous senior engineering leadership roles within consultancy businesses, delivering projects nationally and internationally.

## Ends

### Notes to Editor:

The World Health Organization has announced that 2020 will be the Year of the Nurse and Midwife to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Our nurses and midwives are a big part of the RUH family and throughout the year we will be celebrating the work they do, going above and beyond every day to give our patients compassionate care.

The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust provides acute treatment and care for a catchment population of around 500,000 people in Bath, and the surrounding towns and villages in North East Somerset and Western Wiltshire. The hospital provides healthcare to the population served by four Clinical Commissioning Groups: Bath & North East Somerset CCG, Wiltshire CCG, Somerset CCG and South Gloucestershire CCG.

The Trust provides 759 beds and a comprehensive range of acute services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

In 2015 The Royal United Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust acquired the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD) NHS Foundation Trust. The RNHRD treats patients from across the country offering services in rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME, cancer related fatigue and fatigue linked to other long term conditions such as multiple sclerosis.

The RUH is changing - we have an exciting programme of redevelopment underway transforming our site and further improving the services we provide. The Trust has opened the purpose-built RNHRD and Brownsword Therapies Centre and is now working towards the new Dyson Cancer Centre. For more details visit: [www.ruh.nhs.uk/about/fit\\_for\\_the\\_future](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk/about/fit_for_the_future)

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: [www.ruh.nhs.uk](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk)