

04.09.2020

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Media Release

Changes at the RUH ahead of preparations for the new Dyson Cancer Centre

Work is beginning very soon to demolish old buildings at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust (RUH) to prepare the ground for the new Dyson Cancer Centre.

Brian Johnson, RUH Director of Estates, said: "We're approaching a really significant milestone in our journey towards building the new Dyson Cancer Centre. We'll be clearing away the old Therapies building and many of the empty older buildings on the North of our site, freeing up space so we can start building our new Centre in 2021, ready for patients in 2023."

This will mean some changes for staff, patients and visitors to the RUH site:

From Monday 7 September:

- The small public car park P1b will be permanently closed from 7 September. Patients and visitors are asked to use the main P1 public park and other sign posted public car parks.
- Blue Badge car park P1a will remain open.

From Monday 14 September:

- Patients and visitors will only be able to access Endocrinology and Diabetes from P1a. There will be no direct access to other services in Zone A.

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Interim Chief Executive:
Libby Walters



- Access to Zone A for Oncology Outpatients, Radiotherapy, Chemotherapy, Day Case and William Budd ward will be via the RUH main entrance.

Brian says “We’re sorry for any inconvenience while this work takes place, particularly for those who are used to visiting services on the North of our site. The site will look a little different however there will be clear signposting in place to direct you to your location and extra wheelchairs will be available in the Atrium. We are reminding those who park at P1 to follow the pedestrian route to the main entrance, and not walk along the road.”

The new Centre will be located next to the main entrance of the RUH and will bring the majority of the RUH’s cancer services, including research teams, under one roof.

Cancer charity Macmillan Cancer Support is investing £1.5million to create a new patient support centre, the Macmillan Wellbeing Hub, which will be at the heart of the Dyson Cancer Centre.

Caroline Gilleece, RUH Matron and Cancer Lead Nurse, said: “We are really excited by what the future holds. This will be more than just a building, it will be a therapeutic environment centred on patient care and experience, which will also provide a fantastic place to work, so we can retain our dedicated staff and attract the very best to join us.”

Ends

Notes to Editor:

The World Health Organization has designated 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Our nurses and midwives are a big part of the RUH family and throughout the year we are 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.

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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

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk

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