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## Media Release

### Dyson Cancer Centre to open in Spring 2024 at the RUH

As work continues at the Royal United Hospitals (RUH) Bath NHS Foundation Trust to build the new Dyson Cancer Centre, the RUH has provided an update on progress, including a revised opening date. The centre is expected to welcome patients in spring 2024 rather than at the end of 2023.

Construction has progressed well since the RUH broke ground in 2021 but a shortage of engineers to complete some of the complex internal engineering work means completion of the centre will take a little longer than originally planned.

Libby Walters, RUH Chief Financial Officer, said: "We know how disappointing this will be for our patients, staff and our wider community and we are very sorry.

"We are maintaining the highest quality build whilst also allowing enough time to safely equip the new building, deep clean it and ensure our staff are familiar with their new working environment.

"We'll be ready to welcome patients in spring 2024 and will confirm an exact opening date as soon as possible."

Once open, the Dyson Cancer Centre will bring together the majority of the RUH's cancer services, including research, under one roof. It will provide oncology, chemotherapy and radiotherapy services and a 22-bed inpatient ward as well as a Macmillan Wellbeing Hub.

The centre will provide a nurturing and therapeutic environment, with a 'land, water, sky' theme, making extensive use of natural light and external spaces as well as the work of local artists and designers.

Ros Helps, RUH Lead Cancer Nurse said: “Anyone who has been to the RUH recently will have seen the impressive three storey Dyson Cancer Centre. The exterior is complete and all the activity is focused on finishing the interior, including the light filled atrium that will provide such a welcoming space for our patients and their loved ones. In the New Year we’ll take possession of the building and start fitting it out with all the equipment we need to care for patients.

“We’re really excited about the incredible new facility we are creating, and the difference it will make to our community. As we enter this final phase there will be no disruption to our cancer services and we will continue to provide high quality care from our current facilities at the RUH until the new centre is ready.”

A summary of construction progress can be seen here [https://youtu.be/aE4GaEK\\_SpM](https://youtu.be/aE4GaEK_SpM)

The £50m Dyson Cancer Centre is backed by over £40m in Government funding and supported in part by a £4m donation from The James Dyson Foundation to create a cancer services hub for half a million people in the South West of England.

A further £1m was donated by the Medlock Charitable Trust, £1.5m by Macmillan Cancer Support and £5m was also raised by RUHX (formerly known as The Forever Friends Appeal), the official charity of the Trust, thanks to the kindness and compassion of thousands of supporters.

**Ends**

#### **Notes to Editor:**

#### **RUH**

At the RUH we're proud to put people at the heart of what we do, striving to create an environment where everyone matters. Everyone means the people we care for, the people we work with and the people in our community.

We provide a wide range of services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

We also provide specialist services for rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME via the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases which we acquired in 2015.

In 2021, we acquired Sulis Hospital Bath, an independent hospital that provides care for both private and NHS patients. This has enabled us to provide more care for NHS patients, as well as continuing to provide private care to those who choose it. Any additional income earned through private care is reinvested in services for the benefit of the people we care for at both Sulis and the RUH.

We're currently building a new Cancer Centre at the RUH. The Dyson Cancer Centre, which is set to open in spring 2024, will help transform the care we provide for patients, families and carers.

We work closely with other health and care organisations as members of the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board. We strive to improve the health and wellbeing of the people in our community by working together build one of the healthiest places to live and work.

We are rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

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

## **James Dyson Foundation:**

Founded in 2002, the [James Dyson Foundation](#) is an international charity that inspires aspiring engineers, supports engineering education and invests in medical research, donating more than £145m to charitable causes to date.

The Foundation has funded inspiring engineering spaces at universities across the world including a £12m donation to Imperial College to build the Dyson School of Design Engineering, £5m to the Royal College of Art to fund the Dyson Building which hosts over 70 startups in its incubator hub, and £8m to the University of Cambridge to build The James Dyson Building for PhD research and the Dyson Centre for Engineering Design. In 2022 the Foundation opened the Dyson-SUTD Innovation Studios in Singapore providing a space for cross-disciplinary engineering education and a hub to engage local school students.

The [James Dyson Award](#), the Foundation's annual design competition, is open to current and recent design and engineering students. Since 2005, the Award has supported more than 400 inventions worldwide, providing funds to support their commercialisation; 70% of James Dyson Award past global winners are commercialising and pursuing their inventions full time.

## **Macmillan Cancer Support**

At Macmillan, we give people with cancer everything we've got. If you're diagnosed, your worries are our worries. We will do whatever it takes to help you live life as fully as you can. And we don't stop there. We're going all out to find ever better ways to help people with cancer, helping to bring forward the day when everyone gets life-transforming support from day one.

As cancer is evolving, so must we. Macmillan will not settle for anything other than the best possible support for people living with cancer. As a charity, we can't afford to stand still. Now more than ever, we need to take every chance to make a difference.

But we cannot do it alone. We have been working with others for over 100 years and will continue to do so.

So, we're working to create a vision of Macmillan that is shaped side by side with the people and communities we exist to support. To find out more about how Macmillan is doing this visit [Transforming Macmillan together | Macmillan Cancer Support](#)

## **RUHX**

RUHX is the official NHS charity of the Royal United Hospitals Bath. We're here to make our place healthier, happier, and stronger for the future. And we do that by supporting the extra extraordinary work that leads to exceptional care for everyone.

RUHX is dedicated to putting the 'extra' in extraordinary care for everyone who needs it – whether that means funding innovative new technologies or collaborating with groups tackling health inequalities. We're supporting our staff to do what they do best, taking care of the people who take care of you. We're helping more people to live healthier, happier lives, reducing the pressure on our hospitals by empowering positive change. And we're working closely with community partners to ensure the most positive future for Bath and beyond.