OCTOBER 2021
EDITION 7

Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust

Project News

DARTMOUTH HEALTH & WELLBEING CENTRE

Working with you, for you.

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Progress since last update:

Since the last update, we have been busy trying to complete the ground floor. Once the concrete floor slab had been poured, we were able to start building the ground floor walls and putting in place the support steels. You will see from the picture below that the building is now really starting to take shape.

Significant news / updates:

The water connection works are currently being finalised, which means traffic control on the A3122 should be removed very soon. The next step is to complete the drainage connection between the new building and the existing infrastructure. To do this, the contractor will need to dig across the coach park and the Park & Ride car park. We are working closely with Stagecoach and South Hams Council to ensure that disruption is minimised, and also working to avoid busy times such as the half term and the food festival.

We are expecting to start this work during October, and as soon as dates are confirmed, we will publicise these widely, along with further details of what is involved and the impact to local traffic movements.

What is next?

Over the next month we will continue the building of the external ground floor walls and also start works for the car park base and paths.

SDH INNOVATIONS PARTNERSHIP

gb partnerships DEVELOP

Planning for occupancy!

As the building progresses, we are starting to work with all the different occupants and users to plan for how the centre can meet their needs. As well as considering functional requirements such as power sockets and signage, we are starting to think about how we can make best use of the space, across all our teams. We hope that flexible spaces will encourage new relationships and new ways of working.

Bidding for a new link worker

We are currently exploring possible funding for a new link worker, who will initially focus on the Dartmouth Health and Wellbeing Centre (HWBC) development in partnership with local neighbourhoods, community groups and statutory health and social care staff. Our aim is for the HWBC offer to reflect the needs of as many of the local community as possible.

We would want the link worker to work directly with neighbourhoods and community groups to develop wider connections and identify any gaps where further development of support / advice and services may be required. If you are interested to find out more or have any ideas to share about this, please contact Emily West (Community Services Manager Moor to Sea) via emily.west@nhs.net

Former cottage hospital site

Now that construction on the Health and Wellbeing Centre is well underway, Dartmouth Town Council and Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust are working together to explore the feasibility of a community bid for the former cottage hospital site in the town.

Adrien Cooper, Interim Director of Environment at Torbay and South Devon said: “As an NHS organisation, we are required to achieve open market value for any property sale. We appreciate the significance of this prime, waterfront site for the town and are very keen to support a community bid, if we can, because it would give local people a real say in how the site could be developed in future. We have also offered to work with the town council to seek local people's views if they decide to progress with a community bid.”

Councillor Ged Yardy, Chair of Health and Wellbeing Working Group at Dartmouth Town Council added: “The Town Council is very keen to put forward a community bid for the site, and is in detailed discussions with the Trust and possible partners about what this would involve and how to make it happen. We have to be realistic about what can be achieved, of course. There would need to be some commercial development, as this would help to fund the community aspect of any development on the site. We will report back to our residents as soon as we have a clearer picture of what we may be able to achieve.”

If the Town Council is unable to secure funding to support a community bid for the site, the Trust will advertise it for sale on the open market during 2022 in order to honour its commitment to make a significant financial contribution to the Dartmouth Health and Wellbeing Centre, which is currently under construction.

The details of a community bid will need to be developed in time for consideration by the Trust Board Meeting in January 2022.