

PRESS RELEASE

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Independent chairs appointed to lead next stages of acute hospital services review

Five independent Chairs have been appointed to oversee the next stages of the 'Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire' programme.

The Chairs have been appointed as part of the governance process for the programme and will lead a range of sub-groups, each looking at different areas of the next phase of work.

The appointed Chairs are:

- **Mr David Williams**, Performance and Delivery Director for NHS England for Arden, Herefordshire and Worcestershire – Interim Chair of the Programme Board. David will oversee the programme on behalf of the NHS bodies in Worcestershire.
- **Mr Brian Hanford**, Finance Director for NHS England for Arden, Herefordshire and Worcestershire – Chair of the Finance Sub-Committee. Brian will oversee the bringing together the finance work in assessing the currently proposed options.
- **Mr Nigel Beasley**, Co-Chair of the East Midlands Clinical Senate and Consultant ENT Surgeon at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust. His role will be lead the new Independent Clinical Review Panel which is responsible for reviewing work that has taken so far, and what the next steps will be.
- **Mr Colin Beardwood**, OBE, who was formerly a member of Worcestershire County Council for 12 years and Vice Chairman of the Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust. His role will be to oversee public, patient and stakeholder engagement.
- **Mrs Margaret Jackson**, who previously held the position of Non-Executive Director at Worcestershire Primary Care Trust. Margaret will lead on programme delivery and ensure equality and access throughout the process.

The Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire programme was set up in September 2013, with the purpose of taking forward the work of the Joint Services Review (JSR). The work is being led jointly by the three Worcestershire CCGs (NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG, NHS South Worcestershire CCG and NHS Wyre Forest CCG), Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, NHS England and the NHS Trust Development Authority.

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In a joint statement Simon Hairsnape, Chief Officer for NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG and NHS Wyre Forest CCG and Dr Carl Elson, Chief Clinical Officer for NHS South Worcestershire CCG, said:

“We look forward to working with the new Chairs to take forward the next phase of the work to review acute hospital services in Worcestershire. We remain committed to working together with all NHS partners, stakeholders and the public and patients to ensure we secure the best possible healthcare for local people.”

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Notes for Editors

- The ‘Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire’ programme was established in September 2013, with the purpose of taking forwards the work of the Joint Services Review (JSR) and is being led jointly by the three Worcestershire CCGs (NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG, NHS South Worcestershire CCG and NHS Wyre Forest CCG), Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, NHS England and the NHS Trust Development Authority.
- The Joint Services Review was initiated in January 2012 to look at how high quality, safe and affordable acute hospital services by Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust could be sustained into the future. At the end of this project, in March 2013, a clinical model for how future services could be provided was recommended to NHS Worcestershire by Worcestershire’s Clinical Senate. Under the proposals the vast majority of health care services would continue to be delivered locally. Some services would be centralised to improve patient treatments and outcomes, in particular some A&E, complex consultant led maternity services and inpatient children’s services.

Media enquiries

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