

Announcement from Surrey Heartlands Clinical Commissioning Group:

**Green light for £500m investment for Epsom and St Helier hospitals and brand new specialist hospital in Sutton**

Today the Committees in Common (CiC) for NHS South West London and NHS Surrey Heartlands CCGs met to decide on the way forward for the Improving Healthcare Together programme and the £500 million investment to our improve hospitals.

After reviewing the evidence presented, including the decision-making business case and the feedback from a 12-week public consultation which ran earlier this year, the Committee have approved the £500m investment for Epsom and St Helier hospitals and brand new specialist hospital in Sutton.

The decision will see a brand new, emergency care hospital built in Sutton to treat the sickest patients and modernise Epsom and St Helier hospitals. This means people can get the care they need in refurbished buildings locally, with a brand new specialist hospital nearby if they need it. This will give our residents the quality of care they need in the buildings and facilities our NHS staff deserve.

A range of measures to address issues around transport and travel, bed numbers and services for older residents and more deprived communities, which were raised during the recent public consultation were also announced, including:

- extending the H1 Epsom and St Helier hospital bus route into Merton and further south into Surrey beyond Epsom and increasing the frequency between the three hospital sites
- reviewing car parking on all three sites to make sure there's enough for patients, visitors and staff
- increased bed capacity to care for an extra 1,300 inpatients a year, plus advances in technology, treatment and closer working with community services so fewer patients will need an overnight stay and will get home sooner
- exploring opportunities for primary care services at Epsom and St Helier hospitals, and expanding child and adolescent mental health services on the St Helier site.

Under the proposals, around 85% of current services will stay put at Epsom and St Helier, with six major services being brought together in the new specialist emergency care hospital, including A&E, critical care, and emergency surgery.

We would like to say thank you to everyone who shared their views with us. We have listened and are already taking action on issues the public raised during the consultation. This will mean extending bus travel, more car parking at all three sites and exploring a wider range of services based around Epsom and St Helier hospitals.

Our plans will deliver local and specialist hospitals with the facilities, flexibility, and expertise to provide modern healthcare and manage any future pandemics. Today's decision falls on the weekend of the NHS's 72nd birthday and is a very welcome gift. This investment means we can move forward with confidence and build hospitals fit for the next generation.