

20 August 2019

Dear colleague

Fit for the Future engagement: a new hospital for the Forest of Dean

We are writing to inform you that during the next two months, the NHS in Gloucestershire will be continuing an open discussion with the public on a range of ideas and potential solutions for how community urgent 'same day' care and specialist hospital services could be provided across the county in the future.

As part of this, we are also asking people who live or work in the Forest of Dean, as well as others who have an interest in the future provision of services there, to continue to help us to develop ideas for the services to be provided in the new community hospital.

This follows extensive engagement and consultation with Forest of Dean residents between September 2015 and July 2018, after which the NHS supported the recommendations of a Citizen's Jury to build the new hospital in the Cinderford area.

We would like to make it clear that no decisions have yet been made about what services will be provided in the hospital or how many beds there will be and that the views of residents of the Forest of Dean will continue to shape the way plans are developed.

Two booklets are enclosed with this letter:

- **Fit for the Future: Developing urgent and hospital care in Gloucestershire**
- **Fit for the Future: A new hospital for the Forest of Dean**

We encourage people in the Forest of Dean to look at both engagement booklets and to think about developing hospital services in the Forest of Dean in the wider context of all of the services that are provided in the local area and countywide. We would be grateful if you could make the booklets available in public areas.

To help people to think about this and to give everyone the opportunity to give us their views, we will be holding a number of public engagement information sessions as well as workshops in the Forest of Dean.

The workshops will allow people to find out more detailed information about possible planning assumptions and provide an opportunity to make suggestions, including what services should be provided in the new hospital. They will also cover other important considerations of the Fit for the Future engagement, including how to ensure access to urgent care and a discussion about creating two Centres of Excellence on our main hospital sites in Gloucester and Cheltenham.

To express an interest in attending a workshop, people should email GLCCG.participation@nhs.net by 6 September 2019 – everyone is welcome.



There are a number of ways in which local people can have their say and take part in the engagement:

- Complete the FREEPOST survey in the engagement booklet and return it by 14 October 2019 using the freepost address. The booklets will be available in local pharmacies, local GP surgeries, community hospitals, libraries and District Council buildings
- Read the booklet and complete the survey on-line at: www.fodhealth.nhs.uk
- Visit NHS staff at local drop-in events (details in the local press or online at www.fodhealth.nhs.uk)
- Participate in a Locality Development Workshop, which will be held on various dates. To express an interest in attending, people should email GLCCG.participation@nhs.net by 6 September 2019

All feedback will be included in an Outcome of Engagement Report, which will be published at www.fodhealth.nhs.uk.

Please do get involved and help us by sharing information about this important engagement process.

Yours sincerely

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