

DATE: 11 June 2024

TITLE OF REPORT: The re-provision of CNTW inpatient services to St Nicholas Hospital, Gosforth

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SUMMARY

This report sets out CNTW plans for the transfer of services from the Campus of Ageing and Vitality (CAV) in Newcastle to St Nicholas Hospital, Gosforth.

Purpose of Report

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PAPER IS TO INFORM MEMBERS OF THE GATESHEAD CARE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ABOUT THE RE-PROVISION OF CNTW SERVICES FROM THE CAV SITE TO ST NICHOLAS HOSPITAL SITE.

1. Background and Wider Context

In 2023, Cumbria Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS FT (CNTW) published its updated Strategy [‘With You in Mind’](#) which sets out the commitments and strategic ambitions for the future while also supporting the delivery of key national policy requirements.

Linked to the strategy, CNTW have been looking at the overarching model of care, including the shape of inpatient services across the Trust’s footprint. At a national level, there have been a number of key policy documents published which require consideration at a Trust and North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) level, these include; the Commissioning Framework for Mental Health Inpatient Services and the Inpatient Quality Transformation Programme. Key features of these policies will help shape our provision of services in the medium to long term.

In addition, the ICB have led a piece of work highlighting the number and location of inpatient beds across the NENC geographical area. This bed census involved mental health Trusts, acute Trusts, and the independent sector in order that we could obtain a full picture of provision.

Across Newcastle and Gateshead, the [Deciding Together Delivering Together](#) programme previously led by the Newcastle and Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) involved asking people who use mental health services, their families,

carers, mental health professionals and service providers for their views on improving the way specialist mental health services are provided in Gateshead and Newcastle. This consisted of a listening exercise held over 2014/15, and the decision was published in April 2015. It is important to reference this work in the context of provision of inpatient services within Newcastle and Gateshead, and the changes we are progressing with over the coming 15 months.

2. Local Context

CNTW have been working with local colleagues and stakeholders on the further development of plans for the re-provision of services from the Campus of Ageing and Vitality (CAV) in Newcastle to St Nicholas Hospital, Gosforth. Newcastle University (owners of the site) and Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust are looking to create a new Health Innovation Neighbourhood (NIN) at CAV. The development of this new facility means CNTW services will need to vacate the site by Summer 2025.

This re-provision impacts on both adult and older adult services. From a Gateshead perspective the adult mental health services are primarily provided from Hadrian clinic, Newcastle on the former Newcastle General Hospital site.

It is widely recognised by our regulators, the CQC, that the accommodation we are currently using on the CAV site is no longer fit for purpose. In addition, demolition of disused buildings will commence while CNTW continue to provide services from that facility.

The Trust has continually worked towards the Deciding Together Delivering Together recommendations, and in December 2023 reviewed the clinical model for our older person's services to make sure our current plans are in line with best clinical practice. The Trust concluded the need to continue to provide a Centre of Excellence in Newcastle, which co-locates all older person's services to achieve the best possible outcomes for patients and their families.

3. Proposal

CNTW adult acute in-patient services are planned to move to the St Nicholas Hospital site in the Spring/Summer 2025 as per previously agreed plans.

In May 2024, the Trust's Board of Directors at CNTW, agreed that older people's inpatient and community services in Newcastle will move to the St Nicholas Hospital site to establish a centre of excellence for all older persons. To accommodate this move, one of the currently closed adult acute wards on the St Nicholas Hospital site (Bede Ward) will instead be repurposed to provide older persons in-patient beds.

The co-location of adults and older adult mental health services onto the St Nicholas Hospital site will enhance the offer to residents of Gateshead and Newcastle due to the range of services and support offered on one site.

4. Impact and Benefits

Adult Pathway

Although these plans remain in line with the Deciding Together Delivering Together recommendations in terms of service relocations, there will be a change in the number of adult acute inpatient beds in the immediate Newcastle/Gateshead locality.

The original bed model was to maintain 14 beds on Bede Ward, St Nicholas Hospital which in addition to the 54 beds proposed for Bamburgh clinic, St Nicholas Hospital would offer 68 beds in total. However, in light of the proposed reduction of adult acute beds on Bede Ward, the number of adult acute beds in Newcastle will be limited to the 54 beds within Bamburgh Clinic.

	Starting Position Feb '24	Initial Temp Closure March '24	Bamburgh completion Summer '25	Movement Feb '24 to Summer '25
Hadrian Clinic - CAV	48	48	0	-48
Bede	14	0	0	-14
Bamburgh	0	0	54	+54
Total	62	48	54	-8

Sustaining the proposed Adult Bed Model

CNTW adopt a Trust wide in-patient service provision, which is overseen by the Enhanced Bed Management service. This helps ensure patients can be admitted quickly into the next appropriate bed across the Trust, rather than necessarily needing to wait until a bed becomes vacant in their respective locality.

The reduced reliance on in-patient beds is a long term change which the Trust has committed to as part of the transformational programmes of work. There are various other supporting factors, which will help ensure this adult acute bed model is sustainable, including:

- **Alternatives to Admissions** – Coalway Lane (crisis alternative in Gateshead), development of Safe Haven's / Crisis Cafés across Newcastle and Gateshead
- **Bed Flow discussions** – Daily patient meetings to support discharge and admissions for those with greatest need.
- **Clinically Ready for Discharge** – development of case workers to support timely discharge for complex patients.
- **Community Transformation** – Development of multi-agency hubs, like The Space, which will support patients and prevent crisis intervention.
- **Avoid Out of Area placements** – CNTW have managed to maintain a zero inappropriate placements position for a number of months, even with the reduced bed capacity.

Older Adults Pathway

The proposal for Older Adult Services will consist of the following:

- 1 x 10 bedded ward on Lennox Ward
- 1 x 10 bedded ward on Bede Ward (including ECT Suite)

In addition to the In-Patient services, Community services, Day Hospital Services and ECT will also be provided from St Nicholas Hospital.

The main benefits of re-providing the full range of Older Adult services at St Nicholas Hospital include:

- **Provision of a Centre for excellence** – co-location of staff and expertise.
- **Co-location of services across the pathway** ensuring seamless transition through services.
- **Maintains positive partnership / system working** by retaining close links with other services across Newcastle and Gateshead.
- **Ensures patients receive treatment as close to home as possible** and supports visitors to in-patient wards.
- **Co-location of in-patient wards across Older Adult and Adult pathways** – provides natural staff cross cover and supports swift deployment of resources as required.

5. Service User and Carer

As referenced previously, there was a comprehensive service user and carer consultation around the plans to move services from the CAV site, notably through Deciding Together / Delivering Together. The outcome of this public consultation in 2016, supported by the CCG Governing Body, was that Newcastle Older Adult Services should be consolidated on the St Nicholas Hospital site.

With that in mind, it was felt that as the current proposals do not detract from the original public consultation or systems agreement, it would not necessitate any further formal consultation.

CNTW are now commencing a period of engagement with service users, carers and stakeholders from Gateshead and Newcastle to share our plans and provide the opportunity to contribute to the future shape of our services, and to ensure services continually provide high quality, safe care.

6. Timescales

The summary below provides a high level of overview of the construction / refurbishment timescales associated with each scheme of work. It is important to note that whilst the construction work appears to complete at different dates, from an operational perspective, inpatient services for both adults and older persons services will transfer from the CAV site to St Nicholas Hospital in Gosforth within a seamless timeframe. This will help avoid any services becoming isolated on a single site.

Scheme	Start	Complete
Construction work on Bamburgh Clinic – Adult In-Patient	Jan-24	Spring-25
Construction work on Older Adults Pathway: In-Patient, Day Services and Community	Jun-24	Summer-25

7. Recommendations

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the content of this report.

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