

Updates for you and your community

This is the first in a series of newsletters, which we will be providing for our local partners and stakeholders regarding our exciting Clinical Futures Programme and the progress we are making.

We will be sending you these updates twice a month as we lead up to the early opening of The Grange University Hospital on 17th November 2020 (date subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

We have called this update 'News for your Community' as we hope you will share the content with the communities you are part of, or represent. As our NHS services are changing across Gwent, it is vitally important that residents understand how they will access these services in the future.

Thank you in advance for helping us to share these important messages.

A Reminder about Clinical Futures

Clinical Futures is the Health Board's plan for sustainable health and care services across the Gwent area and also for services we provide for the people of South Powys.



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Our aim is to provide safe, high quality care and deliver as much of this at home, or as close to home as possible and also through our network of hospital and community based services and care.

As a Health Board, we also aim to improve the health and wellbeing of the population we serve, reduce health inequalities, and ensure the sustainability of our NHS health care system.

We have already made some major changes to the way we deliver our services – and you may have already seen that we have been delivering health care in different ways, from one of our new facilities or in the community. We have moved a number of services closer to where people live and we will continue to change the way we deliver our services, making

sure that patients and service users are at the centre of everything we do and every decision we make.

The opening of The Grange University Hospital is a significant element in our Clinical Futures Programme and will be the catalyst for a series of other changes in our hospital system across Gwent from mid-November this year.

The Grange University Hospital to Open Early

At the end of August, Vaughan Gething MS, the Minister for Health and Social Services, announced that The Grange University Hospital will open four months ahead of schedule. The Grange is a key component of our Clinical Futures Programme and has been in the planning for many years. It will provide a specialist and critical care centre for local people. The Grange will now open in mid-November this year, instead of the original planned date in March 2021.



There has been a wide variety of activities taking place to support the opening, which is now just a matter of weeks away. Health Board teams and wider NHS teams are working closely together to ensure our new facility can open on time, as well as the other changes that will happen throughout the Health Board area.

The new facility based in Llanfrechfa, Cwmbran has received over £360m Welsh Government funding. The 60 acre site will have a 471 bed capacity and feature a 24 hour specialist assessment facility,

intensive care facilities, and comprehensive diagnostic facilities, inpatient beds for major emergencies and complex surgery and theatres.

The finalisation and commissioning of the new Hospital has been progressing successfully, and thanks to our construction partners, Laing O'Rourke, we were able to accelerate the completion of the Hospital ahead of schedule to support our response the COVID-19 Pandemic and to support the provision of services during the winter.

Wider Changes to our Services

It is important to remember that our Clinical Futures Programme is not only about The Grange University Hospital, it is also changing the way all healthcare is delivered in Gwent. A consolidated range of services will remain at the Royal Gwent and Nevill Hall hospitals, with inpatient and outpatient care, including diagnostic tests, therapies, minor injuries treatment, and midwifery-led birthing services available across the Health Board. The Royal Gwent and Nevill Hall will join Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr, Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan, St Woolos, Chepstow and County Hospitals to provide a network of hospitals able to provide the majority of hospital based care for our local communities.

We have developed dedicated pages on our website to reflect the changes taking place and what will be available on each site.

Please follow this link to view these pages: https://abuhb.nhs.wales/clinical-futures1

Communications and Engagement are key

A range of work is focusing on engaging people in and informing them about the opening of The Grange and what it means for our wider services. Information will be provided for local people on how to access our services once the new hospital opens, including public transport. We will provide more information in future editions of this newsletter, particularly about transport and access arrangements.

A weekly video will be recorded with lead clinicians who will provide expert knowledge on the area of change to be discussed. We will also be hosting a series of Facebook Live sessions to talk about different services and sites to provide more information and answer the questions local people might have about services.

The Clinical Futures pages on our website have been updated with new content. They contain comprehensive information on services and where and how they will be provided. We will also provide regular updates via our range of social media platforms.

A leaflet will also be developed for all households in Gwent and we will provide more information on this in future updates, but this will be delivered prior to the opening of The Grange and as the wider changes in the system take effect.



We are continuing to attend virtual meetings

with our partners across Gwent. In addition to the virtual meetings, all stakeholders will continue to receive information via newsletters and update emails, such as this.

We are also working with our partners to produce the Clinical Futures information in the top 10 languages spoken in Gwent, as well as surveys and continuing to road test information with the public and our community-based champions.

We will continue to work with our partners to engage with our hardest to reach communities to ensure they are receiving the information they need about our services and how to access them.

If you would like any additional information or have any questions, please contact us via ABHB.enguiries@wales.nhs.uk

Our Social Media accounts and our Health Board website are continually updated with the latest information, so please look out for these online updates and share them with others in your community. Please follow us on:



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